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A REFLECTION ON CODE OF ETHICS IN THE NIGERIAN PUBLIC SERVICE

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ABSTRACT

Code of ethics is expected to guide the behaviours of people in any organization. In the past decades, however code of ethics meant to guide the conduct of public servants in Nigeria has seen a systematic destruction of public institutions and the promotion of a total regard in the conduct of government business. This study therefore, attempted to reflect on the code of ethics in the Nigerian public service. The data were obtained mainly from the Nigerian Public Service Rules as revised in January 1, 2000 and the report of the Public Service Review Commissions. The study revealed that a substantial number of public officers in Nigeria behave as if there are no rules and regulations that govern their official conduct. It was therefore recommended that the code of ethics in the Service should be sincerely enforced to earn public confidence.

KEYWORDS: Code of Ethics, Public Officials, Transparency, Accountability, Public Service