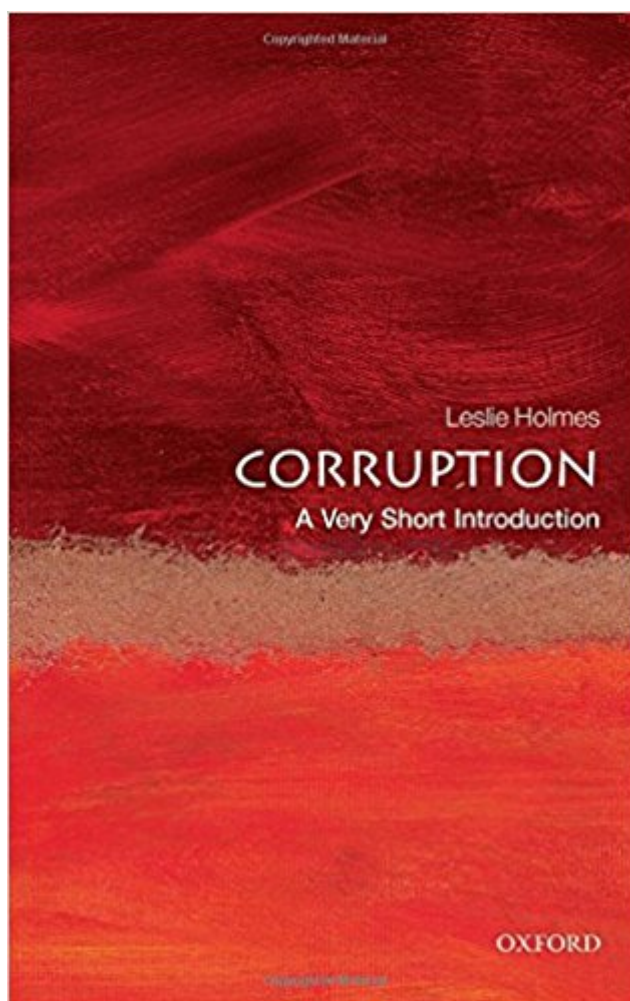




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# Corruption: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)



## Synopsis

Corruption is one of the biggest global issues, ahead of extreme poverty, unemployment, the rising cost of food and energy, climate change, and terrorism. It is thought to be one of the principal causes of poverty around the globe. Its significance in the contemporary world cannot be undervalued. In this Very Short Introduction, Leslie Holmes looks the history of corruption across the millennia and considers why the international community has only highlighted it as a problem in the past two decades. Holmes explores the phenomenon from several different perspectives, from the cultural differences affecting how corruption is defined, its impact, its various causes, and the possible remedies. Providing evidence of corruption and considering ways to address it around the world, this is an important introduction to a significant and serious global issue.

**ABOUT THE SERIES:** The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Here the Australian sociologist Leslie Holmes has done us a huge favour in providing this easy and quick to read short guide to corruption \* Concatenation \* a pithy yet global and comprehensive view of the subject \* New Internationalist \* Holmes, a prolific writer on corruption, provides a wonderfully

comprehensive and accessible introduction to all aspects of corruption ... Summing up: Highly recommended, undergraduates and above; general readers. Essential for all academic and public libraries. \* Gillian Brock, Choice \* sensible [and] serious analysis \* New Statesman, Peter Osborne \*

Leslie Holmes is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Melbourne; and a recurrent visiting professor at the Graduate School of Social Research in Warsaw, the University of Bologna, and the People's University in Beijing. He has also taught at the International Anti-Corruption Academy in Vienna and at intensive workshops on corruption in Belgrade and Sofia. His principal research specializations are corruption, communism, and post-communism. He has either authored or edited 14 books and numerous articles and book chapters. His publications include *Rotten States?* (Duke UP, 2006), *Communism* (OUP, 2009), *Post-Communist Democratization* (co-authored with John Dryzek - CUP, 2002), and two edited collections, *Terrorism, Organised Crime, and Corruption* (Elgar, 2007) and *Trafficking and Human Rights* (Elgar, 2010). He has been a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia since 1995.

Holmes's book covers all relevant aspects of corruption, including topics on definition, measurement, explanation and prevention of corruption. Readers of all levels are able to learn from it. Informative, updated, precise and concise! This little book is a very nice introduction to the complex issue of corruption.

Good intro as the title suggests

Just what I needed!

This series of book is excellent, asking an expert to condense their life's work and knowledge down to a manageable summary for intelligent readers in other walks of life. This particular volume illustrates well the strength of this series of books. The book summarises well the nature of corruption. It covers what corruption is, how we can recognise it, how we can measure it, what its bad effects are and what we can do about it. It's a clear account specifying and defining the problem. The more you read its clear exposition the more you realise how great an injustice the persistence of corruption is. This book shows you exactly why corruption is so bad, and why it should not be tolerated. It's a quick read, but it's also a thorough introduction to the topic. I can readily recommend it to those who want or need to know about corruption.

.When I chose this title from the Vine programme, the evening news was inundated with the news of Fédération Internationale de Football/soccer Association (FIFA) and the ensuing claims of avarice, corruption, bribery, and alleged vote-rigging. This is an organisation, which also has charitable status. This pocket-sized title aims to give the reader a jump start, or primer in subject area of Corruption in a reasonably short, straight forward and concise fashion with an added section for those interested following up matters of interest in the subject. This AVSI edition is done in a very manageable fashion that is readable without getting technical in its approach. Cram packed with a plethora of information, without going into “overload!” any person new to the subject matter will not be daunted with this edition. This is a subject which affects us all, and not (as some would see it a third world problem). There is a useful section on acronyms in use throughout the book, and their various meanings. There is an excellent intro into what is corruption? As there is no definition of corruption “in what the United Nations calls the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument/organelle”, known as UNCAC (United Nations convention against corruption), as the parties that founded it could not agree on an overall definition. The book ends with a further reading and study list for those who wish to explore certain aspects of the topic in more detail. This is rather well done edition, which in its intended purpose, espouses the very ethos of the ‘A Very Short Introduction’ series and one that I recommend..

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