

More types of whistleblowing

Whistleblowing is a very essential mechanism for reporting and reducing corruption.

Internal whistleblowing is a disclosure of misconduct or malpractice to higher authority within an organisation.

External whistleblowing is the disclosure of misconduct or malpractice when internal disclosure in an organisation proved to be ineffective. That could be due to reasons of fear of victimisation, or facing disciplinary action and/or even being fired from the organisation.

Personal whistleblowing is the disclosure of misconduct or malpractice carried out not against the organisation, but personally against an individual, sometimes due to a personal vendetta that can include revenge.

Impersonal whistleblowing is directly to others inside or outside the organisation and/or to the organisation.

IN GOVERNMENT

Governmental whistleblowing is when public servants, public and political office holders, and/or employees of any office, ministry and/or agency such as State Owned Enterprises, disclose information about unethical conduct. Such disclosure can be to the public service and/or private sector that can include the media, other governmental bodies, e.g. the Anti-Corruption Agency of Namibia, the Ombudsman and the Police.



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Nongovernmental whistleblowing is the disclosure of misconduct or malpractice by employees of either a for-profit or a not-for-profit organisation that can include sport organisations, faith based organisations such as churches and any other community based organisation. The purpose of nongovernmental whistleblowing is to alert the public about products or services of an institution that can or did cause serious and considerable harm (De George). Reporting irresponsible driving behaviour, especially during the festive season can prevent deaths on our Namibian roads. Such reporting (whistleblowing) is essential for reducing corruption, which is in effect a waste of all resources, include the most valuable and irreplaceable resource, the lives of our people.

Different types or manifestations of whistleblowing exist. Those discussed are neither mutually exclusive in terms of its demarcation, nor exhaustive.

• References

De George, R.T. 1999. *Business Ethics*.

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