

DATE: 11TH November, 2023

TO: Department of MPA

FROM: A prospective applicant

SUBJECT: A position about a significant public problem/policy with which I have had personal experience

Guy Peters (1982) in his work, American public policy, determined three separate levels of policy, defined by the degree to which they make real difference in the lives of citizens. Policy choices-decisions are often made by politicians, civil servants, or other granted authority and directed towards public power to affect the lives of citizens.

Going back to the point of a significant public problem with which I have had a personal experience in my country the Gambia is the public smoking in public vehicles. This has been a public problem that has been disturbing the general public for a while, hence the parliament decided to pass a bill against it. However, since not all policies are documented down, thus this bill became one of those undocumented ones.

Regardless of this bill being passed to condemn the public smoking in public vehicles, the public however never abided by this law. I am strongly with the belief that the public has rubbish this policy into the bin for the fact that it was never documented and sealed. Apparently, it is unfortunate for the general public to sadly continue the inhaling of the smoke from cigarette without or not they are comfortable with it, which undoubtedly affects our (the general public) wellbeing. I being a victim of this public problem, hence I always board in with the public transport to run by daily activities, stand with the position that the most significant output the government or the policy makers should do in addressing this public problem is to lay down actions and written policies which would be used as guidelines in solving this problem that my country's populace is faced with. Thus the desired goal would be achieved. Apparently public policy in its positive form is based on laws and is authoritative which allows for sanctions.

The environment consists of all phenomena-the social and economic system as well the biological setting-which is external to the boundaries of the political system. Therefore analytically one can separate the political system from all other components of a society. The input into the system come from the environment in the form of demands and support for the solutions of problems. Thus if only our policy makers could put our demands into well-articulated one, then this our public problem would of course have been supported by solutions.

Regards