Legislative Fraud: Sonic Therapeutic Intervention Approach

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Abstract

Research on legislative fraud has mainly been quantitative in the management literature. Additionally, congressional fraud investigative inquirers neglect to research sonic therapeutic intervention (STI) for preventing legislative fraud. Although lawmakers have advanced legislation on fraud de-escalation in the anti-fraud battle, the antithesis of some legislators to the laudable efforts for fraud de-escalation is their hypocritical fraudulence: being indicted, prosecuted, and jailed for fraud. These fraudulent legislators not only sacrificed their highprofile congressional jobs to fraud but also subjected the reputation of Congress to public ridicule and shame. When legislators who enact the anti-fraud laws violate the law, it spells hypocritical legislative leadership. Endogenous and exogenous factors contribute to congressional fraud. The egregious tainting of the highly well-thought-of legislature with fraudulent criminality by some legislators calls for definitive, cost-effective, and non-partisan preventive strategies for fraud in Congress. This qualitative phenomenological research grounded on Gottfredson and Hirschi's self-control and Prabhupada's sonic therapeutic intervention (STI) explored the lived experiences of sonic therapeutic intervention practitioners regarding STI as a prevention strategy for legislative fraud. Semi-structured interviews with snowballing purposeful samples and document analysis enabled data generation. STI facilitated high self-regulation, good mental health, sobriety, high self-control, consequentiality mindfulness, post-conventional consciousness, and pro-supramundane value, based on a careful analysis of the interview data transcription. The seven themes that surfaced made it easier for non-involvement in fraud. The study's positive social change implications (PSCI) include sobriety legislative consciousness, a more people-centered non-criminally involved legislature, legislative honesty, stronger relationship between legislators and their constituencies, improvement of legislators' service attitude to the nation, enhanced emotional intelligence of legislators, and legislative social responsibility. This study can potentially fill the lacuna in leadership and organizational change literature.

Keywords: consequentiality mindfulness, high self-control, legislative honesty, legislative emotional intelligence, pro-supramundane values.