PHILOSOPHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT IN SALZBURG

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Good people or good laws - Philosophy and the fight against corruption in Kenya

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18 Uhr c.t.

Hörsaal 302 im Wallistrakt, Franziskanergasse 1, 4. Stock

Abstract

If you asked most children in Kenya today what they want to be when they grow up, the most likely answer will be 'rich with lots of money'! Of course, there is nothing inherently wrong with dreaming of having lots of money. The problem is that we have become a society that treats with the least regard people of good character and treat with the highest esteem people who are devoid of character provided they are wealthy enough to warrant our standing ovation regardless of the source of wealth. It is also ironical that the more we craft good rules as is illustrated by Chapter Six in the new constitution on leadership and integrity, the more we have bad people spending sleepless nights devising ways and means of violating these rules. It is therefore time we realized that the current crises are not rules based, but people based. What we need are good people, not good laws.

Personal details

Dr. Jacinta Mwende Maweu is a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy and Media Studies at the University of Nairobi in Kenya. She holds a Bachelors in Philosophy, M.A in Philosophy and M.A in communication from the University of Nairobi and a PhD in Media Ethics from Rhodes University, South Africa