

MAKING A CASE FOR COMPULSORY VOTING IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Making a case for compulsory voting in Nigeria is a debate that arose from the fact that Nigerian eligible voters are not actively involved in the election process. The number of voters on the election days is very much lower than the number of registered voters. The question being asked is in search of a solution to voters' apathy. If we make voting compulsory would that make the turn out on our election days massive? To answer the above question, one sought to know why voters do not come out to vote. The low turnout is not peculiar to the Nigerian setting; therefore the debate is going global. The conclusion is that rather than making voting compulsory, whatever causes voters apathy should be dealt with primarily. If this is done, it likely that the turn out may improve.

Keywords: Electoral process, Voters card, Registered voters, Independent electoral commission, Democracy, Good governance.