

## **The Relationship between Citizens' Perception of Public Officials' Ethical Performance and Public Trust in the Government in Egypt**

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**Abstract :** The research discusses how Egyptian citizens perceive the performance of public sector officials, particularly the ethical values manifested in their behavior. It aims at answering the question of how Egyptian citizens' perception of public officials affects citizens' trust in the government at large and the process of public service delivery specifically. The hypothesis is that public opinion about civil servants' ethical values would be proportional to citizens' trust in the government, which means that the more citizens regard administrators with high ethical standards, the higher trust in the government they would have and vice versa. The research would focus on the independent variable of trust in the government and the dependent variable of public perception of administrators' ethical performance. The data would be collected through surveys designed to measure the public evaluation of public officials they are interacting with and the quality of services delivered to them. The study concludes that implementing ethical values in public administration has a crucial role in improving citizens' trust in the government based on various case studies of governments that successfully adopted ethical training programs for their civil servants.

**Keywords :** trust, distrust, ethics, performance, integrity, values, public service

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