

## *Abstract*

### **REGULATING POLITICAL PARTIES AND CAMPAIGN FINANCING IN JAMAICA**

Tameka Hastings

Representative democracy cannot function without parties and their candidates. Political parties are crucial in aggregating interests, presenting political alternatives, nominating candidates, and creating links between the voters and the elected. However, in the past years, political parties have been placed under the microscope as both local and international bodies have been lobbying for strict regulations to monitor parties.

The purpose of this research is to present a policy proposal for regulating political parties and their finances in Jamaica. The increase of public disillusionment with parties and their candidates, and the undermining of public confidence in the political processes have signaled the need to implement the necessary policies and legislative framework to deal effectively with parties and their processes.

Using Comparative Analysis as a framework for conducting this research, a trajectory of the experiences of democracies such as the United States, Canada and Britain have been examined and used as a guide in creating a policy framework for Jamaica. In addition, the views and insights of some of Jamaica's influential minority have also been taken into consideration.

Keywords: Tameka Hastings; Political Parties and Election Campaigning; Comparative Analysis.