

## Clean and dirty graft

**Hugo van Arckel (1630-1706) and Johan van den Bergh (1664-1755), and the corruption of their time**

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## Theoretical discourses

1. Weberian ideal typical
2. Structural functionalist
3. Criminological
4. Institutional economics
5. Rent-seeking and transaction costs
6. Ecological
7. Sociological neo-institutionalism
8. Institutional design
9. System theory
10. Neo-classical (post-modern, cultural, constructivist)

## The Neo-classical approach

*"the abuse, according to the legal or social standards constituting a society's system of public order, of a public role or resource for private benefit"*

(Michael Johnston: 1996)

- 'Corruption' acquires its meaning through interaction, debate and conflict
- Getting a grip on corruption: conflicting values in corruption scandals as venues for explicit debate
- Criticism: neglects 'normal' corruption by focusing on scandals only

## Dutch Republic

- Seven independent states forming a military union
- Ruled by Estates
- Estates consisting of towns and noblemen
- Local administrative and judicial autonomy

## Crisis of 1672

- Republic attacked by four enemies simultaneously
- Schoonhoven at the frontier
- Defenses neglected

## Schoonhoven

- 'Voting town'
- On the border of the province of Utrecht
- 2.500 inhabitants

## A local government

- Burgomasters, aldermen, council and electors
- Bailiff
- Dike warden and dike reeves

## Hugo van Arckel assumes command

- Removes political opponents
- Gets Schoonhoven ready for defense
- Acquires amazing power position as substitute bailiff, burgomaster and dike warden at the same time

## A scandal and a trial

- Normal accusations
- Defense-related accusations

## Local politics

- Rival factions
- 'Contracts of correspondence'
- Personal animosity

## Van Arckel

- Amateurism local government
- Psychological make-up Van Arckel
- No debate on administrative values

## Van den Bergh

- 1747 French invasion
- Tax revolts
- Pamphleteering

### Leiden's town government

- 'Contract of correspondence' 1722-1747
- Large dissatisfied minority
- Lobbying 1725 for position dike warden
- Broken promises

### Schrevelius vs Van den Bergh

- Contract of correspondence unproblematic
- Broken promises highly problematic
- Completely new discourse in pamphlets that same year