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### CORRELATION BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONAL JUSTICE AND ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT OF THE EMPLOYEES IN A COMPANY

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#### ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND:** Every company must have employees who are committed to their works. The organizational commitment of the employees, however, tends to fluctuate, depending on certain conditions, for example, company conflict or organizational justice of the company. These circumstances, in consequence, can cause the worse performance of the employees.

**Aim:** This study aims to pore over whether there is a correlation between organizational justice and organizational commitment of the employees in a company.

**METHOD:** This study applies the correlational quantitative research design. The participants are all 30 employees of the support and monitoring center division of a company in Indonesia. The independent variable is the organizational justice, while the dependent variable is the organizational commitment. The data are collected through a survey and questionnaire. The collected data regarding organizational justice are measured by the Organizational Justice Survey (OJS). Meanwhile, the organizational commitment is regulated by the favorable and unfavorable items. Spearman's Rho correlation test completes the statistical analysis.

**RESULTS:** It is obtained that the correlation value between two variables is 0.513, with the *p*-value of 0.004, which implies that there is a significant correlation between the variables, particularly the procedural justice and the normative commitment.

**CONCLUSION:** This study concludes that there is a correlation between organizational justice and organizational commitment of the employees in a company.

## INTRODUCTION

A company consists of a group of people who are structured, where these people have the desire to achieve the same goal. The most crucial element in a company is the human resources (hereafter, HR) involved. HR, which includes the employees, is a significant contributor that makes a company grow and develop. Employees in a company are required to establish cooperation and commitment or a binding agreement that is also known as organizational commitment. To be further described, organizational commitment is one of the essential aspects of a company (Yuki and Schug, 2019). Also, loyalty is an unbinding commitment but is required to have (Hartini *et al.*, 2017).

Spanuth (2017) argued that even though organizational commitment is an old concept, the effect of the idea is still to be made as a research topic regarding organizational behaviors. Fu (2013) added that organizational commitment has a significant influence on employee performance. Amarneh and Abualrub (2010) further claimed that the employees with excellent performance could carry out their job under the standard settled by the company. In contrast, the employees whose performance is not impressive are considered a loss for the company, since they are seen not to be able to solve any problems at work.

Gallup (2012) disclosed that 52% of the employees in America do not have an emotional relationship with their job (Crabtree, 2017). In 2015, Adkins further carried out research that concluded if more than 68% of the workers in America are not engaged with their company (Bonds, 2017). According to Ponnu and Chuah (2010), commitment brings a significant effect on employees' behaviors. Based on the interview with the employees of the support and monitoring center division, besides the issues on the organizational commitment, organizational justice also brings its problems, such as the employees feel unfairly treated because they often get a reprimand from the operational manager. However, they have done their works per the standard.

Other than commitment, employees also demand to be fairly treated by the company. Johnson (2006) argued that organizational justice is highlighted due to many important aspects of the company that is related to the employees' perception of the judgment they receive in an organization (Moghimi, S. M., Kazemi, M., & Samiie, 2013). Colquitt (2001) added that employees would have those kinds of perceptions based on four dimensions: the distributive justice dimension, the procedural justice dimension, the interpersonal justice dimension, and the informational justice dimension. The distributive justice dimension is the employee's perception of the results he/she receives from the company for what he/she has done. Furthermore, this justice refers to the suitability between the business and achievement the employee has sacrificed for the company. Meanwhile, the procedural justice dimension points out to the perception of justice that encompasses the policy rules and procedures behind the decision-making.

Referring to Greenberg (1990), the interpersonal justice dimension is a degree of treatment received by employees, which includes the employee's thoughts of whether he/she has been treated with courtesy, respect, and dignity. Within the context of the organization, interpersonal justice is related to the perception shaped during the communication process between a superordinate and the

subordinates or among the employees. The informational justice dimension, additionally, is the perception of whether the decision-maker, which in this case, the company, has given a thorough explanation regarding the rules and policies that impact the employees. Furthermore, the employee who receives a decision, be it good or bad, is rightful to know the background behind the decision (Colquitt, 2001). The elucidation implies that there is a specific correlation between one dimension and other dimensions. Therefore, through this study, the writer aims to prove the correlation between the organizational justice of a company, particularly in the support and monitoring center division that has the lowest employee turnover, and the organizational commitment of the employees.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### ***Place***

The study was carried out to the employees of the support and monitoring center division in a company in Tangerang, Indonesia. Based on the preliminary research, the company is suitable as the location of the study because of the problems arise regarding the organizational commitment in the before-mentioned division.

## **RESEARCH DESIGN**

This study is a correlational study, which aim is to identify the correlation strength between the variations of a variable and the variations of the other variable, based on the correlation coefficient (Azwar, 2011). From the correlation test, the information regarding the correlation level is obtained.

### ***Variable***

The independent variable is the organizational justice, while the dependent variable is the organizational commitment.

### ***Sampling technique***

The sample of this study was chosen by using the saturation sampling, which belongs to the non-probability sampling technique. This technique is used to determine samples by taking all populations as the subject of a study. Furthermore, the subjects were the permanent employees of PT. X in the support and monitoring center division. From the questionnaire, the writer managed to collect 30 subjects who are following the criteria of this study. The number is following Kerlinger's (1995) theory, which argued that the minimum sample for quantitative research is 30 subjects.

## **RESEARCH INSTRUMENT**

The Organizational Justice Survey developed by Colquitt (2001) was employed to measure organizational justice. The scale consists of 20 items of five Likert scale points. The 20 questions are divided into seven elements to measure the procedural justice dimension; five things to measure the distributive justice dimension, four items to measure the interpersonal justice dimension, and four questions to measure the informational justice dimension. After that, the writer

also employed the measuring instrument formulated by Puspita (2014) to measure organizational commitment. The questionnaire comprises 16 aspects that are divided into favorable and unfavorable elements. The higher the score an employee obtained, the stronger the commitment to the organization. For the questionnaire, the respondents were asked to draw a cross (X) in the scoring column next to every item. The assessment was based on the strongly agree to strongly disagree scales.

### *Data collection*

The data were collected through the survey and questionnaire.

### *Data analysis*

The analysis regarding the correlation strength was carried out by using the Spearman's Rho correlation test for the non-parametric statistic.

## RESULTS

### *Subject Description*

Below is the subject description of the data regarding organizational justice and organizational commitment.

**Table 1.** Group of data on the organizational justice based on sex, age, and years of service

Sex	Organizational Justice	Low	%	Moderate	%	High	%	Total	%
Male	Distributive	7	30.43	7	30.43	9	39.13	23	100
	Procedural	3	13.04	6	26.09	14	60.87	23	100
	Interpersonal	4	17.39	18	78.21	1	4.35	23	100
	Information	5	21.74	18	78.21	0	0	23	100
Female	Distributive	0	0	2	28.57	7	71.43	7	100
	Procedural	3	42.85	0	0	4	57.14	7	100
	Interpersonal	0	0	5	71.43	2	28.57	7	100
	Information	0	0	5	71.43	2	28.57	7	100
Age	<b>Organizational Justice</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>

23-26 years old	Distributive		10.52	6	31.58	11	57.89	19	100
	Procedural		21.05	4	21.05	11	57.89	19	100
	Interpersonal	0	0	16	84.21	3	15.79	19	100
	Information	2	10.52	15	78.95	2	10.53	19	100
27-30 years old	Distributive	4	44.44	4	44.44	1	11.11	9	100
	Procedural	1	11.11	1	11.11	7	77.77	9	100
	Interpersonal	3	33.33	6	66.66	0	0	9	100
	Information	3	33.33	6	66.66	0	0	9	100
>30 years old	Distributive	0	0	1	50	1	50	2	100
	Procedural	1	50	1	50	0	0	2	100
	Interpersonal	1	50	1	50	0	0	2	100
	Information	2	100	0	0	0	0	2	100
Years of Service	<b>Organizational Justice</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
<1 year	Distributive	0	0	6	85.71	1	14.29	7	100
	Procedural	0	0	1	14.29	6	85.71	7	100
	Interpersonal	0	0	5	71.43	2	28.57	7	100
	Information	0	0	5	71.43	2	28.57	7	100
1-2 years	Distributive	1	11.11	2	22.22	6	66.67	9	100
	Procedural	2	22.22	2	22.22	5	55.56	9	100
	Interpersonal	1	11.11	8	88.88	0	0	9	100
	Information	2	22.22	7	77.77	0	0	9	100
>2 years	Distributive	6	42.86	2	14.28	6	42.86	14	100
	Procedural	4	28.57	3	21.42	7	50	14	100

	Interpersonal	3	21.43	10	71.42	1	7.14	14	100
	Information	3	21.42	10	71.42	1	7.14	14	100

Based on **Table 1**, it can be perceived that seen from sex, the male subjects have a high perception of procedural justice, as much as 60.87%. The female subjects, however, have a higher percentage on the same dimension, as much as 71.43%. Seen from the age, moreover, the subjects aged from 23 to 26 years old have the same percentage (57.89%) on the distributive justice and procedural dimensions. Meanwhile, for the subjects whose ages are 27-30 years old, the perception of procedural justice is considered high, as much as 77.77%. Also, the subjects who are above 30 years old have a strong impression of distributive justice.

Seen from the years of service, the subjects who have served for less than one year tend to have a high procedural justice, which is 85.71%. For the group of one until two years of service, on the other hand, distributive justice is the highest one, as much as 66.67%. Furthermore, the subjects who have served for more than two years also have a high perception of procedural justice.

**Table 2.** Group of data on the organizational commitment based on sex, age, and years of service

Sex	Organizational Commitment	Low	%	Moderate	%	High	%	Total	%
Male	Affective	2	9	19	83	2	9	23	100
	Normative	4	17	14	61	4	17	23	100
	Continuance	0	0	18	78	5	22	23	100
Female	Affective	3	43	0	0	4	57	7	100
	Normative	0	0	5	71	2	29	7	100
	Continuance	0	0	7	100	0	0	7	100
Age	Organizational Commitment	Low	%	Moderate	%	High	%	Total	%
23-26 years old	Affective	5	26	8	42	6	32	19	100
	Normative	2	11	12	63	5	26	19	100
	Continuance	0	0	16	84	3	16	19	100
27-30 years old	Affective	0	0	9	100	0	0	9	100
	Normative	3	33	6	67	0	0	9	100
	Continuance	0	0	8	89	1	11	9	100
>30 years old	Affective	0	0	2	100	0	0	2	100
	Normative	0	0	1	50	1	50	2	100



the low level of organizational justice experienced by employees will eventually influence their organizational commitment. In other words, the more the employees feel unfairly treated by the company, the less they commit to the company. Thus, it can be stated that organizational justice holds an essential role and influence on the quality of the behavior and commitment of the employees.

Likewise, this study also tests the relationship between the two variables in every dimension. Table 3 shows the correlation test results in the presence of a correlation between procedural justice and normative commitment. The argument is supported by the analysis performed by the Spearman's Rho correlation test, which significance level ( $p$ ) is 0.031,  $p < 0.05$ . The results of this study are in line with the prior research regarding the procedural justice and organizational commitment with the focus on the commitment in general (Colquitt, 2001), different from this study that analyzed all three aspects of commitment. Moreover, the previous research used the employees of a health school as the subjects. Thus, it can be argued that even though the subjects are from a different group of workers, the results do not influence the relationship between procedural justice and the normative commitment of the employees. Colquitt (2001) further mentioned that procedural justice would have a stronger influence on the organization's outcome prediction. In other words, an employee will use his/her perception of procedural justice when about to react to the system (Colquitt, 2001). In brief, the procedural justice covers the capacity of an organization in treating the employees fairly; thus, the employees' behavior towards the organization, including the organizational commitment, is also taken into account.

The concept of procedural justice explains that an individual does not only evaluate the allocation nor distribution of the results but also evaluate the procedural justice to determine the allocation itself. However, someone might try to maximize his/her profit and assess the procedure according to his/her effort to obtain a determined benefit. In this case, an employee's judgment about justice is not only influenced by the result he/she gets but also by the process of how the decision is made (Colquitt, 2001). This concept points out that a procedure is considered fair if it can accommodate an individual's interest. The assessment of procedural justice further describes the employees' reactions to the organization through their behaviors, values, and attitudes.

The normative commitment is also known as the moral commitment, due to the reason that employees stay in an organization is that sometimes they feel indebted to the company for what they have been received. According to Wiener (1982, in Meyer and Allen, 1991), normative commitment is a result of the internalization process to the regulations in a company, which is influenced by procedural justice. This matter indicates that the employees' perception of justice in the salary determination or other rewards will lead to the impression that they will be lost if they leave the company. In other words, the clearer the procedure in the decision-making, the more the employees feel at lost to leave the company. This argument is further supported by Meyer and Allen (1991), which argued that normative commitment would develop along with the change of reward given by the company to the employees.

The other hypothesis tested in this study is whether there is also a correlation between each dimension of every variable. The results, however, show that there is no relationship between dimensions and, at the same time, prove that the hypothesis is unaccepted. In further elucidation, the results disclose that the distributive justice does not correlate with affective and continuance commitments, with the significance level ( $p$ ) = 0.639,  $p > 0.05$  for the distributive justice and affective commitment and ( $p$ ) = 0.421,  $p > 0.05$  for the organizational justice and continuance commitment. No correlation is further discovered between procedural justice and the continuance commitment, with a significance level ( $p$ ) = 0.477,  $p > 0.05$ . Furthermore, there is also no correlation between interpersonal justice and the affective, normative, and continuance commitments, with the significance levels of 0.920, 0.453, and 0.400, respectively.

Besides the results as mentioned earlier, this study also discovered that the information justice does not have any correlation with the affective, normative, and continuance commitments. The significance tests of those elements result in the  $p$  of 0.239, 0.312, and 0.402, respectively. These results are following the research carried out by Fatholahi (2011) in Teheran, which concluded that there is no relationship between organizational justice and commitment (Khalej, Hamidi, 2013). However, to be further noted, the difference in results can be caused by the difference in research subjects, along with the policies and regulations made by a company.

Every dimension of organizational justice and organizational commitment were tested as separated variables. Hence, it can be argued that each of the organizational justice dimensions has a different influence on every component of organizational commitment. From a total of 12 hypotheses, only three are proven correct: correlations between the distributive justice and normative commitment, procedural justice, and affective commitment, and procedural justice and normative commitment. However, despite the results, all variables needed to be tested to identify the effect of each variable on every dimension of the organizational commitment.

## CONCLUSION

The results of this study supported the results of the prior research and concluded that there is a significant correlation between organizational justice and organizational commitment of the employees in the support and monitoring center division in a company in Indonesia.

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