

#### **Pakistan Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences**

#### Volume 12, Number 01, 2024, Pages 498-507 Journal Homepage:

https://journals.internationalrasd.org/index.php/pjhss



# Exploring Factors to enhance Organizational Dissent: What is Moderating Effect of Psychological Safety?

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#### **ARTICLE INFO**

## ABSTRACT

### Article History:

Received: December 22, 2023
Revised: March 16, 2024
Accepted: March 17, 2024
Available Online: March 18, 2024

#### Keywords:

Organization Dissent
Psychological Safety
Threat to Personal Identity
Perception of Politics
Pakistan

#### Funding:

This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

The leading objective of this research article is to examine the ember 22, 2023

March 16, 2024 perception of politics as well as organisational dissent. This study explored mediating role regarding TPI and the moderating effect of psychological safety as well. The research design used for this purpose is cross-sectional. Questionnaires were used for the collection of data by the researcher. The questionnaire was distributed to among 201 respondents using simple random sampling. The gathered data was examined through SPSS and AMOS. The findings of the study revealed that threat to personal identity and perception of politics had significant effect on organizational dissent. Moreover, mediating role of TPI and moderating role of psychological safety was confirmed as well. This research discuss the implication and limitations of the study in details.

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#### 1. Introduction

Organizational dissent is critical in propelling better heading and extending employees liability and satisfaction, yet conveying dissent can be perilous in various affiliations where struggle is stopped. Explicit people could expect that agents conveying dissent are continually awakened to change what's going on, yet different goals could spike dissent. Research on social procedures and targets is appropriate for organizational dissent, particularly taking into account the meaning of workplace associations in organizational participation. Framing organizational dissent as the perspective of goal driven movement licenses conceptualizations of effect related targets to function as speculative instruments from which one can grasp how people choose to convey functioning organizational conflicts. This determined move has given functional significance to the organizational workforce who contrast and may feel strain to remain silent, (Jing, Wilkinson, Mowbray, Khan, & Zhang, 2023; Mowbray, Wilkinson, & Tse, 2022). Regardless, disagreement can contribute to both commitment adequacy and individual job satisfaction. Framing organizational dissent, as indicated by the perspective of goal driven action, licenses conceptualizations of effect targets to function as speculative instruments from which one can grasp how people choose to convey organizational issues. This great move has reasonable significance given that the organizational workforce, who in contrast might feel the tension in being quiet even though disagreement can contribute to both the breadth of commitment and the satisfaction of solitary work (Kociatkiewicz, Kostera, & Parker, 2021). This research focuses on assessing the relationship among personal identity, perception of politics and organizational dissent.

#### 2. Literature Review

According to researchers, these exhibitions of organizational dissent typically become public as moral and legitimate limits are violated. Whenever dissenters speak loudly in these

498 eISSN: 2415-007X

outrageous circumstances, they are at times called "informants". Organizational dissent is "communicating conflict or inconsistent assessments about organizational practices, approaches, and activities" (Garner, 2019). The definition stresses three perspectives: conflict ought to be conveyed, inconsistency ought to incorporate the discussion of contention or disengaged speculations, and question ought to be about organizational practices, systems or exercises. Imparting questions is of remarkable importance and results. Scholars communicated, "The statement of dissent in an association can be conceptualized as an ethical constraint, a political right, an illuminated administration practice, a minor bother, or a culpable infringement of steadfastness" (Tootell, Croucher, Cullinane, Kelly, & Ashwell, 2023). All the studies that have been conducted on organizational dissent, the worker dissent model created has gotten especially extraordinary consideration from researchers (Riaza, Junejo, & Shar, 2020). Maybe the most significant and expressive term used inside the affiliation associated with the delegates' approaches to acting is "regulative issues". It might be portrayed as social direct approved to extend one's benefit to the inconvenience of others. The regulative issues of organization are part as well as reality of professional life (Guglielmo, 2021). Besides, it incorporates arranged exercises to fulfill employee's goal, as compared to the goals of organization (Johnson & Kelly, 2020). Furthermore, it works well in indulgence as well as resistance of intrigue of an affiliation in accordance to the situation, yet generally, it is seen as unfavorable as it can reduce the affiliation's efficiency and feasibility. What's more, it in like manner limits information sharing subsequently making correspondence deterrents. An affiliation overpowered by politics is astoundingly upsetting for agents to work in, in the long run achieving high turnover. In this manner affiliation politics makes a negative perception in the cerebrum of laborers where delegates figure political activities natural components that could cause danger.

In view of the above information, Perception of politics is portrayed as how many specialists contemplate political practices in the organization. Since progressive politics incorporates self-acting political activities that are not upheld by the affiliation (Ullah, Hasnain, Khalid, & Aslam, 2019). For quite some time, it has been viewed as unfavorably influencing various leveled execution. Politics is such a self-organization direct in which one employee rolling into contention in the affiliation can subvert others' advantage for his/her benefit or goal. This sort of politics can cause conflicts and disorder in the affiliation. In this manner, conflicts have antagonistic outcomes and have perilous outcomes for delegates concerning the affiliation (Gil de Zúñiga, Weeks, & Ardèvol-Abreu, 2017). Affiliations where delegates see higher progressive politics have high turnover rates when diverged from a heartfelt workplace. Delegates who are working in an environment where political activities exist, those specialists may be perfect; notwithstanding, mentally, they are affected by the political activities of the enveloping, which hurts their flourishing and execution in the organization (DeGhetto, Russell, & Ferris, 2017). Scholars proposed that perception of politics elicit pessimistic concerns and leads to employees who could decide to withdraw from the affiliation. Consequently, a politic environment in an affiliation can result in a lessening in affiliation performance and HR.

Scholars depicted perception of politics (POP) as the utilization of effect on get favors that are not supported by the affiliation or to help valid sponsorships through unapproved gathers. Progressive politics happens when individuals exploit the relationship for the sole motivation, driving extending individual interest (Hill, Thomas, & Meriac, 2016). It is an unavoidable piece of the workspace (Atshan, Al-Abrrow, Abdullah, Khaw, Alnoor, & Abbas, 2022). An employee ought to see and manage its substance and, as such, examine its minefield with a definitive goal to succeed and sensibly achieve work experiences (McNamara, 2015). If a manager denies or disregards the "horrendous politics" (for example tendency) that could happen around the individual being referred to, one may nonsensically think twice about it while others eliminate from line advantage. Identity suggests the various ramifications associated with oneself free from any other individual. These effects are either self-initiated, depend on the social positions and contributions a single (social role) and, in addition, the personal and character traits they display, and their leadership to others (personal roles). Considering them, give them credit (Caza & Creary, 2016; Malik, Shahzad, Razig, Khan, Yusaf, & Khan, 2019). The self-characterization postulates the fragment of public persona perspective which articulates the societal and psychological contributions to support the recognition of evidence. People pay attention to social features related to models. Models are game plans for examining the attributes (ideas, mindsets, opinions, and acting approaches) that make bundles distinctive—they increase the range of between-group differences in comparable characteristics (McGrane, Burr, & King, 2023). At the point when a particular social request fits and makes sense of how people act, it ends up being intellectually outstanding, and people order themselves to the extent that the characterization they have a spot with — the in bunch. The result is that self-start and direct are managed by the expressive and prescriptive features of the in-bench model (Asmawati, 2023). Self-order mentally maintains group-recognizing evidence and assembling and intergroup characteristics. Experts have recommended that a reduction in vulnerability anticipates a significant alluring part in self-request and unequivocal evidence. With reference to the explanation given to domestic accountability, particularly throughout the self-concept as well as the persona, is abhorrent, as those assert that employees try to minimize vulnerability (Seah, Fassnacht, & Kyrios, 2018).

Self-grouping is extraordinarily practical for reducing weakness since a model that portrays and underwrites what one's identity is, the means by which one should act, and what one ought to expect from others, addresses oneself. Distinct to the outlook models that are radically collaborative in gathering will be more noteworthy at settling weakness than fleecy, nonprescriptive, and dis-sexual models. The past sort of model will undoubtedly be connected with packs that have sharp cutoff points and are specific, especially coordinated, and for the most part homogeneous — that is, bundles with high individuality (Rothausen, 2023). Generally talking, weakness should convince conspicuous in-bunch proof, and this relationship's solidarity ought to depend on how much the basic order can diminish weakness (Nekvasilová, 2021). Hogg and Mahajan (2018) drove an investigation worried in-bunch tendencies. Their investigation has shown that characterization produces ID and in-bunch tendency when individuals are dynamically uncertain. The effect occurs across different methods for provoking close to home weakness, for example, being uncertain about the preliminary situation or being questionable around one's choices in a task. The influential impact of weakness is more expressed when people feel that what they are sketchy about is huge rather than pitiful and while regularizing properties of the social occasion seem to apply to diminishing weakness. There is extra proof that uncommonly questionable people will undoubtedly connect with more homogeneous (thusly, more estimative) get-togethers (Caricati, 2018). Psychological safety is seen as one of the principal conditions for various levels of learning. Psychological safety is how much partners survey the environment as safe for social bet taking, which is a common conviction among associates. Progressive clinicians agree that a psychologically safeguarded environment is basic for legitimate learning and gathering execution (Ming, Xiaoying, Huizhen, & Bin, 2015). In the legitimate assessment composing, the advancement of psychological safety tracks down its fundamental establishments in early discussions about the stuff to convey various leveled change.

With psychological safety, he pondered, individuals are permitted to focus in on total targets and issue expectation rather than self-security. From that point forward, a couple of experts have explored psychological safety in work settings. Frazier, Fainshmidt, Klinger, Pezeshkan, and Vracheva (2017) reinforced study on psychological safety accompanied by creative emotional examinations in regards to inhabit aides as well as people from the organization demonstrates how psychological safety enables employees responsibility at workplace. He recommended the psychological safety impacts individuals' capacity to "use or put themselves out there really, mentally, and truly during position displays" rather than isolated or "pull out and safeguard their selves". Further, Kahn fought that people will undoubtedly acknowledge they will be expected to be awesome — a primary characteristic of psychological safety — as associations that exist in social event arise depicted faith as well as respect. Using exact estimations from inhabit aides as well as people originating at a designing organization, he studied quantitative association among confidential responsibility as well as psychological safety in both existing settings (Wanless, 2016). But implications of psychological safety have been recommended, most investigations are adhered. Dwivedi, Gee, Withers, and Boivie (2023) by portraying it as a common conviction among individuals with respect to whether it is safeguarded to partake in social bet taking in the workplace. Psychological safety portrays individuals' perceptions about the results of social risks in their work environment. It includes misjudged feelings about how others will answer when one dangers oneself, for instance, by representing a request, searching for input, uncovering a mistake, or proposing a noteworthy idea. I fight that individuals participate in inferred math at smaller than usual social decision places, in which they study the social bet connected with a given approach to acting. In this inferred cycle, one checks the probable action against the particular social climate, as in, "If I do 'X' here, will I be hurt, embarrassed or denounced?" An unfavorable answer for this suggested question allows the performer to proceed. Thusly, a movement that might be impossible in one work get-together can be speedily taken in another in view of different feelings about conceivable social results. Others have described psychological safety similarly (Demirkesen, Sadikoglu, & Jayamanne, 2021). Researchers depicted it as "feeling prepared to show and use one's self unafraid of critical results to self-picture, status, or profession."

A single opportunity specifically, motivates spadework unreservedly. All the individuals influence unmistakable evidence. Basically these two approaches could relate as the bargain of one another, besides conditions which impact ones-appraisal, similarly impact weakness and the opposite way around. For example, sabotaged self-respect might cause one to feel selfsensibly questionable, and weakness might make one have a worse attitude toward oneself (Chen, May, Schwoerer, & Augelli, 2018). Further opportunity, that has been suggested here, refers to the instinctive relation with one another is distinctive evidence, where the cause and effect of the subject matter is accessible. The circumstances where the POP is on leverage, clarity of self-expression is fundamental, as well as weakness decline offsets all the other things; we need to know who we are under the watchful eye of we can conclude how incredible we are. Here, the mediating framework is that depicted by the conservation of the resource model (Andersson, Moen, & Brett, 2020). Progressive politics address nonsensical, self-serving practices unequivocally expected for convenience, assured, or update distinctive circumstances, frequently as regards to the hindrance based on affiliation as well as people. Even though researchers have suggested that various leveled politics is to some degree crucial for relationship to work (Ellen III, Maher, Hochwarter, Ferris, & Kiewitz, 2022). It similarly addresses a certain, broken, and problematic power that unfavorably impacts laborers' perceptions of their partners and affiliation. There is an issue of manageability in laborescalated associations and asset blunder might lead towards their lack, so it is vital for center around upgrading worker fulfillment, responsibility, and recognizable proof with the association to acquire an upper hand (Erkutlu & Chafra, 2016). Additionally, when somebody acquires colossal assets, positive political perceptions might exist.

- H1: Threat to personal identity has significant effect on organizational dissent.
- H2: Perception of politics has significant effect on organizational dissent.
- H3: Perception of politics has significant effect on threat to personal identity.
- H4: Psychological safety moderates the relationship between perception of politics and threat to personal identity.

#### 3. Research Methodology

In order to meet the objectives of the study, this study used quantitative research approach. Cross sectional research design was used in the present study. The data was collected from the respondents in the form of questionnaires. The items of the questionnaire were adapted from the past studies. The questionnaire was developed in 5 point Likert scale. The researchers used simple random sampling technique to gathered data from the respondents. The questionnaire was distributed among 202 respondents. The gathered data was analyzed using AMOSS and SPSS. The initial analysis of the data was conducted from the SPSS. Whereas, later stage of the analysis of the data was conducted through AMOS in order to analyze the relationship between predicting and outcome variables.

#### 4. Results

#### 4.1. Data analysis

Current study examines all the latent variables having multiple items of measurement. Thus, structural equation modeling will be the most appropriate technique that is a multivariate method for this type of analysis. Therefore, researcher estimated the measurement model by using structural equation model (SEM) in AMOS. Usually, researcher uses this technique when the data having latent variable is collected by questionnaire. Thus, researcher used SEM in AMOS for the estimation of measurement model. Researchers prefer to use this technique for the analysis especially when data is collected with the help of questionnaire having latent variable. Alsheyadi and Albalushi (2020) described that the structural equation modeling is the most appropriate method for the analysis of data to produce appropriate results when the data contains latent variables.

#### 4.2. Respondents Demographics

To understand the phenomenon understudy, deeply researcher collected the respondent's demographic information. the respondents of the study were 70% male and 30% female. Among the respondents of the study 24.8% were of the age between 20 to 30 years, 39.6% were of the age between 30 to 40 years, 29.7% were of the age between 40 to 50 years, while 5.9% were above 50 years of age. As far as the ages are concerned, 4.9% were undergraduates, 59.4% were graduates and 35.6% were post graduates.

**Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents** 

| Variable  | Groups         | Frequency | %Age  |
|-----------|----------------|-----------|-------|
| Gender    | •              |           |       |
|           | Male           | 141       | 70%   |
|           | Female         | 61        | 30%   |
| Age       |                |           |       |
| _         | 20-30 years    | 50        | 24.8% |
|           | 30- 40 years   | 80        | 39.6% |
|           | 40-50 years    | 60        | 29.7% |
|           | > 50 years     | 12        | 5.9%  |
| Education | •              |           |       |
|           | Undergraduate  | 10        | 4.9%  |
|           | Graduate       | 120       | 59.4% |
|           | Post- graduate | 72        | 35.6% |

#### 4.2.1. Reliability and Validity

Researcher tested the validity and reliability of the construct with the help of confirmatory factor analysis. With the help of CFA researcher achieved the factors loading, afterwards, the validity and reliability of the construct were calculated. Furthermore, value of AVE must be greater than or equals to 0.50 and the reliability of the factors must be greater than 0.70 (Hair, Hollingsworth, Randolph, & Chong, 2017). Overall or the composite reliability of the construct must be greater than or equals to 0.70. It is demonstrated in Table 1that for further analysis the data is a good fit, because the data fulfills all the requirements of the model fitness. Moreover, the values of AVE at the diagonal are higher than the squared correlation of the variables, which maintains the construct's discriminant validity.

Table 1: Factor Loadings Reliability, Convergent Validity

|                                   | Items  | Loading | CR   | AVE  | α    |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------|------|------|------|
| Perception of Politics (POP)      |        |         | 0.91 | 0.53 | 0.90 |
|                                   | POP1   | 0.746   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 2  | 0.765   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 3  | 0.791   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 4  | 0.783   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 5  | 0.697   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 6  | 0.727   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 7  | 0.628   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 8  | 0.764   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 9  | 0.735   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 10 | 0.644   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 11 | 0.679   |      |      |      |
|                                   | POP 12 | 0.732   |      |      |      |
| Threat to Personal Identity (TPI) |        |         | 0.92 | 0.66 | 0.89 |
| ,                                 | TPI1   | 0.871   |      |      |      |
|                                   | TPI2   | 0.746   |      |      |      |
|                                   | TPI3   | 0.834   |      |      |      |
|                                   | TPI4   | 0.717   |      |      |      |
|                                   | TPI5   | 0.804   |      |      |      |
|                                   | TPI6   | 0.883   |      |      |      |
| Psychological safety              |        |         | 0.01 | 0.50 | 0.07 |
| (PS)                              |        |         | 0.91 | 0.59 | 0.87 |
| . ,                               | PS1    | 0.789   |      |      |      |
|                                   | PS2    | 0.745   |      |      |      |
|                                   | PS3    | 0.776   |      |      |      |
|                                   | PS4    | 0.817   |      |      |      |

|                           | PS5<br>PS6<br>PS7                                                   | 0.797<br>0.758<br>0.728                                                                |      |      |      |  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|--|
| Organization Dissent (OD) | OD1<br>OD2<br>OD3<br>OD4<br>OD5<br>OD6<br>OD7<br>OD8<br>OD9<br>OD10 | 0.795<br>0.692<br>0.767<br>0.781<br>0.693<br>0.705<br>0.719<br>0.629<br>0.895<br>0.701 | 0.90 | 0.51 | 0.89 |  |

#### 4.2.2. Multicollinearity

The researcher tested the problem of multicollinearity with the help of vale of tolerance and the VIF (variance inflationary factor). The value of tolerance in the study is between 0.832 to 0.898 while the value of VIF is between 1.032 to 1.290. It demonstrates that the data is protected from the problem of multicollinearity.

#### 4.3. Testing of Model

After the screening of data and the confirmation of the factors, defining the reliability and the validity of the construct researcher tested the hypothesized model with the help of SEM in AMOS.

The results of the analysis are as follows.

#### 4.3.1. Hypothesis (Direct)

In the Table 4 all the results of direct hypothesis are given. POP positively significantly effects the threat to personal identity with ( $\beta$ =0.73 at p≤0.001). TPI significantly positively effects the OD ( $\beta$ =0.38 at p≤0.001). Likewise, POP significantly positively effects the OD with ( $\beta$ =0.62 at p≤0.01). Therefore, data supported all our direct hypothesis and the H1, H2,H3 accepted.

**Table 2:Direct and Indirect Hypothesis( Discriminant Validity)** 

|                  | 1                                  | 2              | 3              | 4    |  |
|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------|--|
| POP<br>TPI<br>PS | 0.53<br>0.21**<br>0.13**<br>0.06** |                |                |      |  |
| TPI              | 0.21**                             | 0.66           |                |      |  |
| PS               | 0.13**                             | 0.66<br>0.15** | 0.59<br>0.09** |      |  |
| OD               | 0.06**                             | 0.28**         | 0.09**         | 0.51 |  |

Note: values of AVE on diagonal higher than squared correlations values.  $\dagger p < 0.100; *p < 0.050; **p < 0.010; ***p < 0.001$ 

#### 4.3.2. Hypothesis (indirect)

Threat to personal identity significantly positively mediates the effect of POP on the organizational dissent ( $\beta$ =0.277 at p≤0.05). Similarly, psychological safety positively significantly moderates the effect of POP on the threat to personal identity ( $\beta$ =0.158 at p≤0.05). Accordingly, data supported all indirect hypothesis H4,5

Figure 1: Moderation of PS on TPI

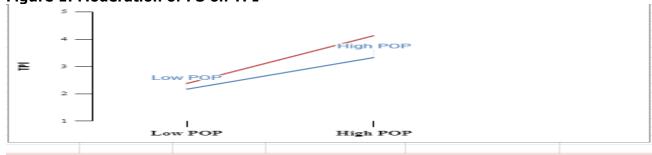


Figure 2: Hypothesised Model

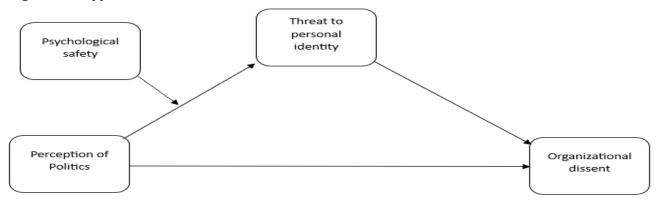
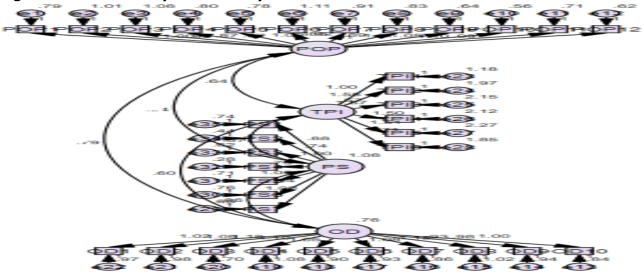


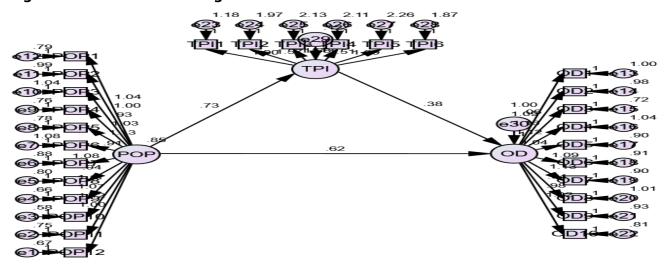
Figure 3: Confirmatory factor Analysis



**Table 3: Measurement model fitness values** 

| CFA Indicator | Initial Model | Four Factor | Threshold Value |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| GFI           | 0.78          | 0.91        | ≥0.80           |
| NFI           | 0.53          | 0.89        | ≥0.90           |
| TLI           | 0.65          | 0.93        | ≥0.90           |
| AGFI          | 0.69          | 0.90        | ≥0.80           |
| CFI           | 0.63          | 0.95        | ≥0.90           |
| IFI           | 0.59          | 0.97        | ≥0.90           |
| RMSEA         | 0.31          | 0.01        | ≤0.08           |
| CMIN/DF       | 4.12          | 1.32        | ≤3              |
| PCLOSE        | 0.07          | 1.02        | >.05            |

Figure 4: SEM model Testing



**Table 5: Direct and Indirect Effects** 

| Hypothesis | Relationships | Coefficient (β) | Standard error | t -Statistics |
|------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| H1         | POP> TPI      | 0.73***         | 0.021          | 5.497         |
| H2         | TPI> OD       | 0.38***         | 0.028          | 8.146         |
| H3         | POP>OD        | 0.62***         | 0.016          | 11.752        |
| H4         | POP> OD(TPI)  | 0.277**         | 0.027          | 5.241         |
| H5         | PS_x_POP> TPI | 0.158**         | 0.032          | 4. 485        |

Significance: \*\*\* significant 0.1% while \*\* significant at 5%

#### 5. Discussion and Conclusion

This research has been conducted to assess the relation that exists among POP, TPI and OD. Moderation effect of Psychological safety has also been examined in this research study as well. This finding of the study revealed that POP has significant effect on TPI. In Past Rosen and Perrewé (2017) also presented same results in their research as well. Moreover, the results of the study revealed that TPI had significant effect on OD as well. The research of Mowbray, Wilkinson, and Tse (2022) also revealed same findings in their research as well. On the other hand, the results of the reported that POP had significant association with TPI showing similar results as presented. Additionally, the result of the study mediating role of TPI is supported by statistical results of the study. In the end, the moderating effect of psychological safety was confirmed as well through the findings of the results. This study has few limitations as well. Present study used cross sectional approach. Future studies should use longitudinal research design. On the other hand, any technological variable should also be introduced as the moderating role in the framework of the present study. These findings can be used by the academicians for their upcoming research as well.

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