THE APPROACH OF MANAGERS REGARDING INNOVATIVE WORK BEHAVIOUR

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Abstract

Purpose of the study: Although many factors can influence innovative work behaviour, we may not know exactly which practices make a difference in influencing innovative work behaviour. This study aims to determine which positive and negative factors can affect the IWB theory understanding.

Methodology: This study used a qualitative approach by a systematic review of the literature, the authors conducted a content analysis of 32 international journals.

Main Findings: The analysis results gave evidence that transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, and organizational learning were positive factors in creating innovative work behaviour. Meanwhile, organizational politics, job insecurity, and transactional leadership were negative factors that could decrease innovative work behaviour.

Applications of this study: The results of this study provide practical information for professional leaders and managers to develop employees’ innovative work behaviour that might help build an innovative environment.

Novelty/Originality of this study: This study has a difference in terms of study approaches by looking at positive and negative factors that could affect innovative work behaviour in a literature review technique.

Keywords: Transformational Leadership, Organizational Learning, Knowledge Sharing, Innovative Work Behaviour, Organizational Politics, Job Insecurity, Transactional Leadership.

INTRODUCTION

In a present company environment, innovation is an essential factor for dealing with rapid economic changes, especially if the company desires to have a competitive advantage (Nurjaman, Marta, Eliyana, Kurniasari, & Kurniasari, 2019). Innovation is an integral part of organizational performance (Atitumpong & Badir, 2018). Innovation not only prepares an organization for profit but also maintains internal process efficiency based on excellent production process and service (Widmann, Messmann, & Mulder, 2016). It may be noted that innovation is the primary strategy to be undertaken by organizations to achieve organizational goals (Slater, Mohr, & Sengupta, 2014).

Organizational innovation provides advantages in responding to challenges quickly and can create new opportunities (Bos-Nehles, Renkema, & Janssen, 2017). Many previous studies of innovation have focused on the organizational level. Meanwhile, many studies have tried to approach innovation at the individual level because innovation comes from employees within the organization. Innovative work behaviour is a very complicated process that often faces difficulties, obstacles, and frustration since the innovative work approach requires investment in the form of cognitive effort. Innovative individuals not only face a hard situation to complete the stages of innovation but also face rejection regarding their innovation efforts (Agarwal, 2016). Therefore innovative work behaviour requires very high capital to support the sustainability of the innovation.

Improved work behaviour of employee innovation functions to achieve organizational goals (Hu, Horng, & Sun, 2009). It is very difficult for a company manager to create and especially maintain employees’ innovation behaviour. This is a big challenge for a manager to find ways to develop and maintain innovative work behaviour (T, T, Kim & Lee, 2013). How managers motivate their subordinates to create innovative work behaviour is a question in a variety of organizational studies. This article put effort into explaining what must be done by a manager in creating employees who behave innovative work and what must be considered so that company employees do not lose their innovative work behaviour. Managers need a broad understanding of the mechanisms and processes of developing innovative work behaviour at the employee level so that they can know the shape and stimulus of innovative work behaviour so that they can read challenges that come from inside and outside of the organization.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Innovative work behaviour

The terms creativity and innovation are often encountered in several studies. The difference between the two concepts lies in their substances (West & Farr, 1990). Nonetheless, there are several recent consensuses on the definitions of creativity and innovation. Creativity is related to the creation of new and useful ideas, while innovation is related to the implementation of new and useful ideas (Beer, 2006). Scientists and practitioners have proven the core role of
innovation in the long-term sustainability of the organization since innovation is related to the introduction process and intentional application to roles, ideas of groups or organizations, processes, products, and procedures (West & Farr, 1990). According to Scott & Bruce (1994), innovation consists of three dimensions, namely idea generation, idea promotion, and idea realization. Idea generation deals with generating of novel and useful ideas in the organization's actions. Idea promotion is a task whereby employees bind ideas that have been generated by finding sponsors with the influence and power needed. Furthermore, idea realization deals with the implementation of ideas that appear perfectly. Innovation is closely related to employee behaviour in the organization. Employees’ behaviour in carrying out creativity and innovation in organizations is known as innovative work behaviour (IWB).

IWB can be characterized as “the intentional creation, introduction, and application of novel ideas within a work role, group or organization, to benefit role performance, the group, or the organization” (Janssen, 2000). According to De Jong & Den Hartog, (2010) IWB consists of four stages, namely first, the idea of exploration deals with the process of finding an opportunity to improve conditions or respond to threats quickly; Second, idea generation deals with the process of combining information and concepts in solving problems and improving performance; Third, idea championing deals with the process of promoting ideas by seeking support and finding the right coalition for the use of ideas; Fourth, idea implementation deals with making innovation as part of the work process and behaviour in the development of a product.

The development of employee's behaviour is influenced by internal and external factors (Fuller & Marler, 2009). Internal factors are based on the willingness of the employees themselves to carry out the work provided. And external factors come from environmental stimuli where the employee is located. In organizations, external factors that influence employee behaviour are very important to consider. Among these factors is leadership, transformational and transactional forms of leadership have a significant impact on organizational progress, especially employee innovation behaviour (Afzar, Badir, & Saeed, 2014; Peiterse, Knippenberg, Scippers, & Stam, 2010).

Leadership that focuses on organizational progress and employee well-being creates work comfort. While leadership that is not oriented to employee welfare and organizational development can worsen organizational performance. Transformational leadership is leadership that encourages subordinates to develop, so that loyalty and respect emerge in employees (Choi, Cundiff, Kim, & Akhatib, 2018). Furthermore, transactional leadership is a way for a leader to encourage his subordinates to do work based on transactions for the benefit of both parties (Peiterse et al., 2010; Rank, Nelson, Allen, & Xu, 2009). This leadership might be right for employees who want to get a big profit, but in the process of innovation, transactional leadership slows employee innovation.

On the other hand, organizational learning and knowledge sharing are factors that can improve employees' innovative work behaviour. Organizational learning is the process of increasing the abilities and skills of employees through the knowledge and understanding provided by the organization (Awang, Sapie, Hussain, Ishak, & Yusof, 2019; Battistelli, Odoardi, Vandenberghe, Di Napoli, & Piccione, 2019). While knowledge sharing is the process of providing knowledge by organizations to employees to improve employee capabilities (Akhavan, Hosseini, Abbasi, & Manteghi, 2015; W. Kim & Park, 2017; Radaelli, Lettieri, Mura, & Spiller, 2014). Organizational learning and knowledge sharing are inseparable from the role of the organization. Therefore, organizations must actively provide knowledge to employees so that employees have creativity and innovation (Purba, 2009).

Other factors that can influence innovative work behaviour are organizational politics and job security. Organizational politics is the perception of individuals related to the politics of their work environment that causes organizational injustice to employees (Ferris et al., 2005; Kacmar & Carlson, 1997). Whereas job insecurity is an employee’s concern for all future work about its sustainability (Choi et al., 2018; De Spiegelaere, Van Gyes, De Witte, Niesen, & Van Hootegeem, 2014).

**METHODOLOGY**

This study attempts to find out the positive and negative factors that can influence innovative work behaviour. This study is armed with a qualitative approach that relies on the study, discovery, depiction, and explanation of the idiosyncrasy of the phenomenon discussing their findings. Furthermore, the author conducted a systematic literature review analysis of previously published literature. The use of previously published literature as a source of data is a core requirement in carrying out systematic literature review methods to complete this research. The systematic review, according to Mulrow (1994), is the most efficient and effective method for identifying and evaluating reputable international journals. Systematic review or meta-analysis is a scientific method for investigating prior research studies that have been determined based on criteria to build scientific novelty about the field of study studied.

The procedure for determining reputable international journals used indexed criteria on Google Scholar and Scopus, articles used were those written in English and published from 2009 to 2019. From the selection results using these criteria, there were 32 articles to be used to complete this literature review study. Analysis using the literature review method was applied to understand deeply about positive and negative factors that can influence innovative work behaviour. This method has the opportunity to be able to find out which parts have not been discussed by previous researchers (Tranfield, Denver, & Smart, 2003).
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The emergence of Innovative Work Behaviour

The intentions and attitudes of the organization build the general perceptions of employees, the policies and procedures applied by the organization to employees as well as organizational representatives can link employee attitudes and behaviour with their superiors based on the treatment they receive (Levinson, 1965). Therefore, IWB is a behaviour that implements ideas based on the results of deep thought. The emphasis of concepts in the creation and development of IWB can be explained in the formation of transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, organizational learning.

Transformational Leadership

According to Burns (1978), transformational leadership is leadership that inspires subordinates through a vision that makes the spirit and goals challenging so that subordinates are motivated to move forward. Meanwhile, according to Bednall, E. Rafferty, Shipton, Sanders, & J. Jackson (2018), transformational leadership is described as a process in which leaders play ideal role models, stimulate and encourage innovative work behaviour, provide inspirational motivation and engage in supporting and guide followers to achieve the organization's shared vision and goals. Furthermore, according to Bass (1991), the dimensions of transformational leadership are idealized influence, intellectual stimulation, individualized consideration, and inspirational motivation. Transformational leadership has an enormous impact on innovative behaviour. Leadership formed by coaching employees can create creative and innovative employee behaviour (Bednall et al., 2018).

A study conducted by Afzar, Badir, & Saeed (2014), stated that transformational leadership had a positive effect on the innovative work behaviour of corporate employees in China. Transformational leadership is filled with motivation, self-confidence, and increased awareness of the vision so that employees feel they are getting a stimulus in doing creativity and innovation (Rank et al., 2009). The study is also supported by Choi, Kim, Ullah, & Kang (2016), that transformational leadership was a significant factor in improving employees' innovative work behaviour. Furthermore, Afzar & Umran (2019), conducted a further study related to transformational leadership on innovative work behaviour. The results also showed a similar result that transformational leadership was a crucial factor in encouraging employees to have innovative behaviour.

Knowledge Sharing

Knowledge sharing is the exchange of knowledge carried out by individuals in an organization with other individuals in the form of relevant information, advice, and expertise (Bartol & Srivastava, 2002). The dimensions of knowledge sharing are: First, knowledge donating is the process by which individuals communicate their intellectual property to other individuals. Second, knowledge collecting is the process of collecting knowledge through consultation to obtain the knowledge possessed by their colleagues (Hooff & Ridder, 2004). In the organizational context, sharing knowledge determines organizational results, because sharing is needed in the organizational environment (Akhavan et al., 2015; Bartol & Srivastava, 2002; W. Kim & Park, 2017). Besides, employees can enhance their learning and innovative abilities by sharing skills and expertise related to tasks with their coworkers (Hu et al., 2009). As such, we assume that sharing knowledge helps generate novel ideas and learning that facilitates further business opportunities to innovate and support employees’ innovative behaviour (T. T. Kim & Lee, 2013).

A study conducted by Mura, Lettieri, Radaelli, & Spiller (2013), explained that knowledge sharing had enormous potential in improving innovative work behaviour. When an employee shares knowledge indirectly, he will activate the learning process itself, as a result, the knowledge of the employee increases. The study was reaffirmed by W. Kim & Park (2017), which showed a similar result that knowledge sharing affected employees’ innovative work behaviour. According to the authors, when individuals tried to share knowledge, they not only transferred information to others, but they also attempted to describe, combine, and ‘translate’ it into a clear and relevant form to the recipient. A study conducted by Akhavan, Hosseini, Abbasi, & Manteghi (2015), also supported the positive effect of knowledge sharing on innovative work behaviour. According to the study, knowledge sharing acted as an element that encouraged individuals to create knowledge and turn it into a greater force. When employees were more involved in knowledge sharing, they internalized much knowledge for other employees to improve their innovative work behaviour. Likewise, a study conducted by Helmy, Adawiyah, & Banani (2019), that knowledge sharing allowed people to work on existing knowledge inside and outside the organization so that they could increase their capacity in producing creative ideas that had an impact on employees’ innovative work behaviour.

Organizational learning

A continuous learning process forms human behaviour. Learning plays an essential role in ensuring that knowledge must be replenished continuously and updated to enable work behaviour that is suitable for changes in a competitive environment (Lemon & Sahota, 2004). According to Fiol & Lyles (1985), organizational learning is the process of increasing action through better knowledge and understanding, whereas according to Sapie, Hussain, Awang, & Ishak (2015), organizational learning is a process where knowledge is generated through organizational relationships and the environment that is developed. Learning is a factor that can directly affect innovation (Amara, Landry, Becheikh, &
Therefore, mastering knowledge with learning can increase the capacity for innovation and becomes a major source of organizational change (Khaki, Erfanian Khanzadeh, & Babaki Rad, 2017).

A study conducted by Sapie et al. (2015), stated that the effect of organizational learning could improve the innovative work behaviour of manufacturing company employees in Malaysia. The study was supported by Lin & Lee (2017), who conducted a study in Southern Taiwan that showed that organizational learning had an enormous impact on the formation of innovative work behaviour of employees. According to the authors, the learning process in the organization triggered employees in finding innovative thoughts in solving problems by conducting group interactions. Furthermore, Awang, Sapie, Hussain, Ishak, & Yusof (2019) conducted further study in manufacturing companies in Malaysia, which showed a similar finding that organizational learning had a significant effect on increasing innovative work behaviour. The study is also strengthened by a study conducted by Battistelli, Odoardi, Vandenberghe, Di Napoli, & Piccione (2019), which stated that organizational learning formed by organizations for the benefit of employee mastery in their work and tasks could encourage employees to bring out their creativity so that innovative work behaviour appeared in employees.

**Loss of innovative work behaviour**

The formation of innovative work behaviour in an organization is not always smooth, so it requires extensive knowledge about factors that can reduce innovative work behaviour. Organizational politics, job insecurity, and transactional leadership are the focus of this discussion, so this study is very different from the previous discussion which focused on positive factors in the formation of innovative work behaviour.

**Organizational politics**

Organizational politics is the degree to which individuals see their work environment full of politics, then employees know that organization behaves unfairly (Kacmar & Carlson, 1997). More clearly, organizational politics deals with illegitimate, self-serving activities and is strategically designed to benefit and protect one's interests, because it often sacrifices the organization and its members (Rosen, Ferris, Brown, Chen, & Yan, 2014). Besides, an employee who views that politics is widespread in his organization, the impression tactic becomes an appropriate way of convincing others (Zivnuska, Kacmar, Witt, Carlson, & Bratton, 2004). If political practice dominates the work environment, it will harm employee creativity and innovation (Rasyid & Marta, 2020). Politics emphasizes more on ways to get position and power in a way that can harm others. Therefore, politics must be avoided in all organizational processes so that innovation can increase among employees (Bozeman, Hochwarier, Perewe, & Brymer, 2001; Kacmar, Bozeman, Carlson, & Anthony, 1999).

A study conducted by Abbas & Raja (2014) showed that organizational politics could weaken innovative work behaviour. According to them, organizational politics tended to ignore justice aspects in the organization, especially in the reward and promotion system, as a result, employees might experience stress levels on their work. A study conducted by Agarwal (2016), stated that organizational politics harmed innovative work behaviour. The organizational environment filled with politics will form the employee's perception that the work they do has no meaning in the sight of their superiors. They consider superiors more concerned with closeness than the quality of work that employees provide.

**Job insecurity**

Another factor that can reduce proactive employee behaviour is job insecurity in the organization. Job insecurity is an employee's overall concern about the continued existence of the job or its sustainability in the future (Cheng & Chan, 2008). Meanwhile, according to Marques, Galende, Cruz, & Ferreira (2014), job insecurity relates to the perception of the inability of employees to maintain the continuity of their expectations in threatened condition. Unsecure environments make employees reduce their motivation to do the best for the organization (Cheng & Chan, 2008; Marques et al., 2014).

A study conducted by De Spiegelaere, Van Gyes, De Witte, Niesen, & Van Hootegem (2014), that job insecurity harmed innovative work behaviour of employees in organization because employees who did not feel secure in their job also felt less obliged to do it to reduce motivation to complete work beyond the scope of their normal job description. This situation can be called "disinvolvement syndrome". The study is also supported by Marques et al. (2014), that job insecurity could weaken the innovative work behaviour of employees in the organization. Condition of work insecurity felt by employees in the organization may cause a sense of helplessness, difficulty in accessing essential resources, additional workloads, or even organizational limitations in using resources to innovate. A subsequent study conducted by Choi, Cundiff, Kim, & Akhatib (2018), stated that if employees had the perception of not having job security, then it could weaken the potentials possessed by those employees in developing their creativity.

**Transactional leadership**

According to Liu, Liu, & Zeng (2011), Transactional leadership is a condition where the followers agree with, accept, or obey the leaders in terms of exchange of rewards and resources to avoid actions that can harm the organization. In other words, transactional leadership tends to make exchanges where followers are valued based on the achievement of predetermined goals (Bass, 1991; Denti & Hemlin, 2012). According to Sethibe & Steyn (2017), transactional leader
strategies in managing individuals are divided into two components namely Contingency reward and Management-by-exception. Transaction-based leadership negatively affects employee creativity and innovation.

A study conducted by Jansen, Vera, & Crossan (2009), evidenced that transactional leadership could weaken explorative innovation in organizations. Likewise, a study conducted by Rank, Nelson, Allen, & Xu (2009), stated that transactional leadership had a negative influence on employee innovation and performance. The reason why transactional leadership negatively influenced innovation was that transactional leadership focused on supervising employees, and as a result, employees felt less free in issuing their ideas so that their intrinsic motivation employees decreased. The study result is also supported by Peiterse, Knippenberg, Scippers, & Stam (2010), that transactional leadership harmed innovative work behaviour because transactional leadership focuses on performance rather than a stimulus to undertake new activities. Furthermore, there is inherent supervision of employees in the transactional leadership process to reduce employee creativity (Peiterse et al., 2010). Denti & Hemlin (2012) also tried to confirm the study and concluded that transactional leadership could weaken the innovative work behaviour of employees in the organization.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of the research using the systematic literature review method, it can be concluded that managers' perceptions regarding factors that can influence employee's innovative work behaviour can be classified into two approaches. First, the positive factors of managers' perceptions related to transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, and organizational learning. Transformational leadership shapes employee perceptions that their leaders have more responsibility to employees (Afsar & Umrani, 2019). This perception drives employees to behave in innovation. Likewise, knowledge sharing can trigger employee innovation behaviour because the knowledge shared with employees forms trust in the organization (Akhavan et al., 2015). Furthermore, organizational learning can trigger innovation because organizational learning simplifies the process of employee tasks (Lin & Lee, 2017). Therefore, transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, and organizational learning had a positive effect on improving the innovative work behaviour of employees in the company. This means that the higher the transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, and organizational learning carried out by the organization, the higher the employee's innovative work behaviour.

Second, negative factors of manager's perception related to organizational politics, job insecurity, and transactional leadership. Organizational politics form the mindset of employees associated with the organizational treatment of employees themselves, if the organization treats employees unjustly, innovation will not emerge (Rasvid & Marta, 2020). Likewise, the perceived security perceived by employees in their work is the essential factor in building innovation behaviour (De Spiegelaere et al., 2014). Furthermore, transactional leadership in organizations only encourages regular employee performance rather than employee innovation behaviour (Peiterse et al., 2010). Therefore, organizational politics, job insecurity, and transactional leadership harmed the innovative work behaviour of employees in the company. This means that the higher organizational politics, job security, and transactional leadership in the organizational environment, the weaker the innovative work behaviour of employees in the organization.

LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE STUDY

This study certainly has limitations. First, this study only focused on the literature review which had not been empirically tested by researchers in the work environment in Indonesia. It is essential to conduct an empirical study in the Indonesian work environment to know what factors are positively and negatively related to innovative work behaviour. Second, this study only used a direct relationship between variables so that it ignored media and moderation variables. In future studies, it is expected to use mediating variables as well as moderating variables in examining the factors that influence innovative work behaviour. Third, the method was not free from bias because it was influenced by previous experience and existing knowledge, and had an error due to equating different contexts in the same way. This means that the same problem in different contexts cannot always be answered with the same solution. Therefore, to reduce this potential problem, further study is recommended to more clearly determine the condition that can trigger innovative work behaviour.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

Before implementing the practices of transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, organizational learning in achieving IWB, organizations need group and work unit decisions for their willingness to take action. The study showed that IWB could be enhanced by transformational leadership, knowledge sharing, organizational learning. If leaders in a company desire to encourage IWB implementation among their workers, they have to implement the joint decisions they make in their composition and tasks. The job must be designed to create challenge and encouragement for the employees to carry out their job with passion and effort. Additional rewards also need to be implemented so that workers are motivated to increase their knowledge. Employees in organizations need to be accompanied by financial reward encouragement so that the balance of work passion can be created. After all, blue-collar workers see the financial reward as an advantage when they increase IWB (De Spiegelaere, Van Gyes, & Van Hootegem, 2012).

Furthermore, to avoid organizational political practices, leaders must have to provide fair work, fair positions, fair incentives, and fair opportunities for employees so that political practices do not interfere with company processes. Besides, the creation of a safe environment and career clarity must also be carried out by the company so that employees...
can enhance their creativity and innovation. Forms of employee security must be outlined in standard operational procedures known to employees. Another factor that needs to be considered by leaders in the leadership problem that they do, if the leader wants innovation to increase in the organization then the leader must avoid transactional leadership since the leadership does not foster creativity but adds a further burden to employees. Transactional leadership is only focused on performance rather than employee creativity. The right method that leaders can do is to convey the organization's vision and apply it to employees. Leadership in line with the organization's vision creates employee awareness to be responsible for the organization.

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AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION

In this study, the first author provides concepts and theories in completing the literature review. The second author as a correspondent writer responsible for this research. The third author, provide a concepts and theories in completing the literature review. The fourth author, provides concepts and theories in completing the literature review.

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