Engaged Employee: Re-Examine the Effects of Psychological Conditions on Employee Outcomes

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Abstract: In this research, the researcher re-examine the mediating effect of employee engagement between its antecedents and consequences for investigates the relation of leadership practices, employment branding and employee engagement based on social exchange theory. As such the researcher has four objectives as follows: First, to study the effects of leadership practices on employment branding, employee engagement and work intention; second, to examine the effects of employer brand perception on employee engagement and work intention; third, to examine the effects of employee engagement on work intention; and last, forth, the researcher inquires into the respondence of work intention. The researcher constituted a sample population of 535 employees of a Thai hotel chain located in four regions of the Kingdom of Thailand (Thailand). The researcher utilized a mixed-methods approach divided into quantitative and qualitative research investigatory phases, respectively. In the quantitative phase of research investigation, the researcher collected germane data from the 535 members of the sample population through the use of a questionnaire as a research instrument. In the qualitative phase of research investigation, relevant data were obtained through carrying out in-depth interviews with three subgroups of members of the sample population. These three subgroups consisted of twelve hotelier experts, six employees at the administrator level, and operational level employees. Focus group discussions were held with discussants from these three subgroups. Findings are as follows: Leadership practices showed positive effects on employment branding, employee engagement, and work intention. Employment branding displayed positive effects on employee engagement and work intention. Employee engagement had positive effects on work intention. However, in the analysis of the equation, the researcher confirmed that the important role of employee engagement is mediator factor between its antecedent and consequence factors. This provides benefits, in that it augments the body of knowledge devoted to the fostering of employee engagement in respect to psychological conditions. In conclusion, the researcher found that the value co-creation between leaders, employers and employees had positive effects on employee outcomes for lead to business outcomes according to reciprocal rule.

 $\textbf{Keywords:} \ antecedents, \ employee \ engagement, \ psychological \ conditions, \ work \ intention$

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