

“ROLE OF EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT IN DRIVING CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IN SERVICE INDUSTRY”

Joel Samraj D¹, Dr. Kabirdoss Devi*²

II MBA, Department of Management Studies, School of Management Studies,

Vels Institute of Science Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), Pallavaram, Chennai¹

Associate Professor, Department of Management Studies, School of Management Studies,

Vels Institute of Science Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), Pallavaram, Chennai²

*Corresponding Author

Abstract: This study investigated the influence of organizational factors on employee engagement and the perceived impact of training and service personalization on customer-related outcomes within a service-oriented organization. The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between employee engagement confiners such as authorization, administrative support, engagement observation, and personalization and their impact on client experience quality. By breaking down worker understandings, the study aims to understand how these internal factors contribute to the delivery of personalized services and overall client satisfaction within the association. Regression analysis examined the effects of workplace culture, leadership, recognition, and leadership style on employee engagement, revealing a non-significant overall model and weak individual predictor effects. One-Way ANOVA indicated that perceived training effectiveness significantly enhanced post-training employee engagement and perceived service quality but did not significantly impact perceived customer satisfaction. Correlation analysis demonstrated a strong positive relationship between perceived service personalization and customer experience quality. Additionally, a weak and non-significant positive trend was observed between perceptions of superior employee engagement initiatives and a more supportive work environment compared to competitors. These findings suggest that while internal factors and training play a role in engagement and service delivery, the direct link to perceived customer satisfaction is complex and influenced by personalization. The further research with larger samples and diverse methodologies is recommended to explore these relationships more comprehensively.

Keywords: Employee Engagement, Customer Satisfaction, Service Quality, Training Effectiveness, Workplace Culture, Service Personalization.

INTRODUCTION

In today's vastly competitive service industry, employee engagement has come a vital driver of client satisfaction and overall organizational performance. While the significance of engagement is well-honoured, there remains a significant gap in understanding how specific organizational factors similar as leadership style, workplace culture, recognition, and training effectiveness directly and laterally impact worker engagement and the quality of service delivery. Particularly in service-driven contexts, engaged workers play a vital part in shaping client gestures and comprehensions. Despite accelerating academic and practical attention, empirical proof linking engagement enterprise to measurable client issues is limited. The little is known about how these strategies compare with those of challengers, or how basics like individualized service and probative work surroundings may intervene these belongings. This study seeks to address these gaps by exploring the part of worker engagement in enhancing client satisfaction. The main aspirations of the study are to examine the influence of workplace culture, leadership, recognition, and leadership style on hand engagement and customer dealings; to assess how training effectiveness impacts engagement and their views on the organizational work terrain compared to challengers. This study is significant as it offers a comprehensive view of employee engagement and its connection to client-related issues in the service sector. By integrating both hand and client perspectives, the exploration contributes precious perceptivity into mortal resource strategies, service quality enhancement, and organizational competitiveness. The findings aim to support associations in refining leadership approaches, enhancing training effectiveness, and developing employee engagement programs that foster both staff satisfaction and superior client happenings.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

Employee engagement is extensively conceded as a crucial driver of client satisfaction, there remains a limited understanding of how specific organizational factors similar as training, service personalization, and the overall work terrain contribute to engagement and influence employee comprehensions of client issues. This study aims to fill these gaps by examining the connections between organizational practices, employee engagement, and perceived client satisfaction within the service sector.

OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH:

1. To estimate the of workplace culture and leadership in fostering employee engagement and its influence on client relations.
2. To assess the effectiveness of training and development programs in enhancing employee engagement and service quality.
3. To measure the impact of engaged workers on service personalization and client satisfaction across different service disciplines (commercial dining, healthcare, education, etc.).
4. To compare employee engagement strategies with its rivals and identify better practices for enhancing client satisfaction.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- How do workplace culture, leadership, recognition, and leadership style influence employee engagement and its reflection in client interaction?
- How does the perceived effectiveness of training influence worker engagement, service quality, and client satisfaction?
- Do you suppose personalized service significantly impacts client satisfaction in your department?
- Is there a relationship between workers' comprehensions of furnishing better employee engagement enterprise compared to its challengers and their beliefs about work terrain being more supporting than other companies in the assiduity?

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:

This exploration offers practical perceptivity for service associations aiming to boost employee engagement and client satisfaction by relating vital organizational factors and the impact of training and personalization. It helps leaders prioritize strategies to cultivate an engaged manpower that delivers superior service. Theoretically, the study contributes to the Service- Profit Chain hypothesis by empirically examining these connections in a service environment and exploring competitive comprehensions of engagement and work terrain, furnishing premium documentation for both interpreters and academics seeking to optimize organizational and client issues.

II.LITERATURE REVIEW

Hashim Zameer (2018), This research emphasized the part of service quality as a middleman between employee engagement and client satisfaction. The study suggested that engaged workers deliver better service, which strengthens the corporate image and enhances client commitment. This indicates that employee engagement laterally influences client issues through bettered service delivery, pressing the need for associations to invest in strategies that foster similar engagement.

Erick J. Michel (2022), The study explored the relationship between employee engagement and client engagement, relating service worker work performance (SEWP) as a crucial interceding variable. The findings revealed that engaged workers are more enthusiastic and affianced to their parts, thereby significantly perfecting client happenings. This study provides empirical support for the argument that engagement is not just beneficent for worker morale but is essential for delivering high- quality service.

Jennifer O. Afolabi (2023), The extended this understanding by examining the impact of mortal resource practices on employee engagement and its ensuing effect on client fidelity. The exploration stressed that training, recognition, and positive plant culture produce a largely engaged manpower that enhances service delivery. These findings suggest that engagement concentrated HR strategies play a critical part in shaping both employee and client satisfaction.

Gaber Gabry Ahmed (2024), The study revealed that the 7Ps which directly affect client satisfaction and fidelity. The study noted that employee training and posture significantly influence service issues, corroborating the significance of mortal capital in marketing strategies. This bridges the gap between traditional marketing models and contemporary employee engagement hypotheses.

Fathima Bayat (2020), This study innovates that engaged workers demonstrate strong client- acquainted actions similar as active listening and problem- working, which in turn contribute to business performance. This study deposited hand engagement as a precursor to fiscal success, emphasizing its part in enhancing client relations and trust.

Mohamad S. Hammoud (2020). The supported this perspective by outlining the fiscal counteraccusations of disentangled workers and suggesting engagement strategies similar as recognition, commission, and leadership alignment. His study espoused the tone- Determination proposition as an abstract frame, asserting that natural provocation is crucial to sustainable engagement and high performance.

Ulker Can and Miiray Kilicap (2024). The study examined how service invention and nonstop literacy foster hand creativity and engagement in the hospitality sector. Their exploration concluded that work engagement acts as a middleman between training sweats and performance, italicizing the need for an innovative and probative terrain to enhance both hand and client satisfaction.

III.RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH DESIGN:

This study employs a structured quantitative approach.

SAMPLING METHOD:

A stratified random sampling was adopted to select respondents who were easily accessible and willing to participate.

SAMPLE SIZE:

The total sample size of the study is 50 respondents.

DATA COLLECTION METHOD:

Primary data for this study was collected through structured questionnaires distributed directly to workers, ensuring first hand perceptivity into their engagement situations related to client satisfaction and service personalization.

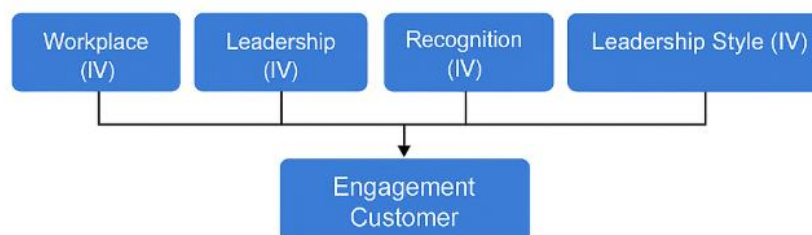
DATA ANALYSIS TOOLS:

- Linear Regression
- ANOVA
- Correlation

TOOLS USED:

Software: SPSS

VARIABLES:



IV.RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Age: Out of total respondents, majority around belong to 18-25 times age group, followed by from the 26-35 years division. Limited respondents, roughly 2-3 from the 36-45 times and 56 and above groups.

Gender: The sample consists of 55 female and 45 male responders. This slight female majority suggests a balanced gender representation.

Department: Respondents are distributed across various departments and service domains. This diversity ensures that the study reflects experiences from multiple functional areas within the organization.

Education: Most respondents hold a Bachelor's Degree or a Master's Degree, indicating a highly educated sample group. A few respondents reported having a Diploma or High School or below qualifications.

Monthly Income: The income distribution shows that a significant number of employees fall within the Below ₹20,000 and ₹20,000–₹40,000 income brackets. Fewer respondents earn between ₹40,000–₹60,000 or higher, and very few are in the Above ₹80,000 category. This suggests that the majority of the sample represents entry-level to mid-level income earners.

Linear Regression

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.354 ^a	.125	.025	1.1220

ANOVA^a

Model	Sum of Squares	D f	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	6.315	4	1.579	1.254	.306 ^b
Residual	44.060	35	1.259		
Total	50.375	39			

Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	2.864	1.193		2.400	.022
	Workplace IV	.117	.293	.078	.400	.691
	Leadership IV	-.245	.301	-.157	-.813	.422
	Recognition IV	-.015	.241	-.012	-.062	.951
	Leadership style IV	.423	.252	.377	1.682	.101

The retrogression analysis revealed that organizational factors of workplace culture, leadership, recognition, and leadership style explained only 12.5 of the variance in worker engagement. The overall model was not statistically significant ($F = 1.254$, $p = 0.306$). Leadership style showed the strongest positive, but not significant, influence ($B = 0.423$, $p = 0.101$), while workplace culture, leadership, and recognition had minimum possession.

ANOVA:

ANOVA

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Engagement after training	Between Groups	11.225	3	3.742	7.589	.000
	Within Groups	17.750	36	.493		
	Total	28.975	39			
Training Enhance Service	Between Groups	13.400	3	4.467	9.255	.000
	Within Groups	17.375	36	.483		
	Total	30.775	39			
Training impact customer	Between Groups	5.748	3	1.916	2.638	.064
	Within Groups	26.152	36	.726		
	Total	31.900	39			

The One- Way ANOVA analysis showed that perceived training effectiveness significantly impacts employee engagement ($F = 7.589$, $p < .001$) and service quality ($F = 9.255$, $p < .001$), indicating that further effective training leads to advanced engagement and bettered service quality. Still, the impact on perceived client satisfaction was not significant ($F = 2.638$, $p = .064$), suggesting no strong link between training effectiveness and client satisfaction.

Impact of Personalized Service on Customer Satisfaction

The correlation analysis reveals a strong positive relationship between individualized service and client experience quality ($r = 0.438$, $p < 0.01$), suggesting that workers who value personalization are more likely to deliver advanced-quality client happenings, leading to increased client satisfaction.

Relationship Between Employee Perceptions and Work Environment

Correlations

			Better employee engagement	supportive work environment
Spearman's rho	Better employee engagement	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.298
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.062
		N	40	40
	Supportive work environment	Correlation Coefficient	.298	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.062	.
		N	40	40

The Spearman's rho correlation analysis shows a weak to moderate positive relationship ($r = 0.298$) between employee engagement and a supportive work environment. However, with a p-value of 0.062, this correlation is not statistically significant at the 0.05 level, suggesting the relationship may be due to chance.

V.SUGGESTIONS

- Investing in leadership development enterprise is vital, as leadership style was begin to have the most significant positive influence on worker engagement. Enhancing leadership capabilities could refine engagement issues and foster a stronger connection with customers.
- Since training effectiveness significantly influences worker engagement and service quality, continuing evaluation and objectification of interactive and practical training forms could further enhance its impact, serving both workers and customers.
- Personalizing services to meet individual client requirements was associated as a crucial driver of client satisfaction, pressing the significance of adjusting services to refine customer developments and overall satisfaction.
- Although a positive trend was noted, the lack of statistical significance in the relationship between comprehensions of Sodexo's work terrain and engagement underscores the need for larger sample sizes and qualitative exploration to better understand this connection.

VI.CONCLUSION

This study highlights the complex interplay between organizational factors similar as leadership style, training effectiveness, embodied service, and comprehensions of a supporting work terrain in shaping employee engagement and client satisfaction. Leadership development emerged as a crucial area for possible enhancement, with its positive influence on employee engagement suggesting that strengthening leadership drive could lead to enhanced issues. The Training effectiveness, while impactful on engagement and service quality, calls for continuous refinement to assure its long- term applicability and effectiveness. Personalization in service delivery was verified as a significant driver of client satisfaction, supporting its significance in enhancing customer relations. Still, the relationship between comprehensions of a probative work terrain and engagement was less clear, pointing to the need for another examination with larger samples and qualitative perceptivity to completely explore this connection. The findings suggest that while leadership and training effectiveness are critical, future exploration should concentrate on exploring further impacting variables and refining methodologies to give a further comprehensive understanding of the factors driving employee engagement and client satisfaction.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Michel, E. J. (2022). *Bridging two tales of engagement: A meta-analytic review of employee engagement and customer engagement in service context*. Journal of Service Management. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JOSM-06-2019-0171>

- [2]. Osayawe, J. (2023). *Revolutionizing retail: HR tactics for improved employee and customer engagement*. International Journal of Applied Research in Social Sciences, 5(10), 487–514.
- [3]. Khalil, G. G. A., & Mohamed, A. M. (2024). *The influence of the marketing mix on customers' loyalty in the fast-food restaurants in Upper Egypt: Customers' satisfaction as a mediator*. International Journal of Tourism, Hospitality & Sports (IJTHS), 6(2), 108–133. <https://ijthsx.journals.ekb.eg/>
- [4]. Bayat, F. (2020). *Frontline employees' engagement and business performance: The mediating role of customer-oriented behaviors*. Management Research Review. <https://doi.org/10.1108/MRR-11-2019-0482>
- [5]. Hammoud, M. S. (2017). *Effective employee engagement in the workplace*. International Journal of Applied Management and Technology, 16(1), 50–66. <https://doi.org/10.5590/IJAMT.2017.16.1.04>
- [6]. Can, Ü., Kiliçalp, M., & Akyürek, S. (2024). *The role of service innovation and work engagement on creativity and training-learning effort*. International Journal of Hospitality & Tourism. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15256480.2024.2321568>
- [7]. Devi Kabirdoss (2023), FINANCIAL AND OPERATING EFFICIENCY OF CHENNAI PORT TRUST – AN EMPIRICAL STUDY, Dogo Rangsang Research Journal ISSN : 2347-7180 Vol-13, Issue-3, No. 5, March 2023.
- [8]. Devi Kabirdoss (2024) T. V. Ambuli, S. Venkatesan, K. Sampath, K. Devi and S. Kumaran, "AI-Driven Financial Management Optimizing Investment Portfolios through Machine Learning," 2024 7th International Conference on Circuit Power and Computing Technologies (ICCPCT), Kollam, India, 2024, pp. 1822-1828, doi: 10.1109/ICCPCT61902.2024.10672859.