# The Relationship Between Job Crafting and Work Engagement in Millennial Employees

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# ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the relationship between job crafting and work engagement in PT.X millennial employees. The subjects in this study were 95 millennial employees of PT.X who had characteristics in the age range of 24-44 years with a minimum working period of 3 months. The method of taking subjects uses purposive sampling. The data collection tools used are the Work Engagement Scale and the Job Crafting Scale. The analysis technique uses Karl Pearson's product moment correlation technique. The results of the analysis show that there is a positive relationship between job crafting and work engagement, with a correlation coefficient (R) of 0.747 with p = 0.000 (p < 0.05).

Keywords: employee, job crafting, work engagement

# Introduction

Human resources are considered an important part of an organization, the success of an organization does not only depend on the availability of natural resources, but also closely holds on the quality of human resources (Pradini & Nurwidawati, 2023). As highlighted by Pradini & Nurwidawati (2023) that human resources are humans who work under the auspices of an organization and play an important role in achieving the organization's goals. According to Ansah and Rita (2019), employees are the main asset of every organization, because employees play a major role in the success of the company (Ansah & Rita, 2019). Human resources are dynamic so that they change consistently with the retirement of older employees and are replaced by younger generations (Ozcelik in Azizah & Ratnaningsih, 2018). Wibowo & Haryanti (in Azizah & Ratnaningsih, 2018) asserted that in reality, it is unlikely that a period will consist of individuals of the same age or habits, at the same time it will consist of senior and junior employees. According to Delcampo, Haggerty, Haney, & Knippel (in Azizah & Ratnaningsih, 2018) there are currently several generations that existin the world of work, namely the baby-boomers generation born in 1946-1964, generation X born in 1965-1980, and the millennial generation born in 1981-2000. Therefore, the millennial generation enters the workforce as the baby-boomers retire.

According to Madiistriyatno and Hadiwijaya (2020), the millennial generation has characteristics, namely being adaptive to the times, having an orientation towards success, so that they are motivated to give their best to work (Madiistriyatno & Hadiwijaya, 2020). Putra (2016) also argues that generation X has the characteristics of being able to adapt, being able to accept change well and is referred to as a tough generation, has an independent and loyal character, prioritizes image, fame, and money, is hardworking and calculates the contribution that the

company has made to the results of its work (Putra, 2016). Meanwhile, according to Hobart (2014) the millennial generation tends to prefer meaningful and challenging work, and the millennial generation requires a job search duration that tends to be longer than previous generations (Hobart, 2014).

Based on an interview with one of PT.X's senior employees on April 1, 2024, it was revealed that employees often work overtime and even enter work on holidays if needed to ensure projects can be completed on time. This deadline pressure is getting higher considering the company must be able to compete in the market by always presenting the latest innovative and quality works. Millennial employees are required to be able to complete their tasks in a timely manner without sacrificing the quality of the work. So, companies expect employees to have qualified skills to fulfill all client requests. However, a company does not only need human resources who are experts in certain fields, but also must be able to be fully attached to the job so that employees can achieve the targets set by the company. So that a company needs employees who feel bound by work or what is often known as work engagement (Pradini & Nurwidawati, 2023). The problem of work engagement was found at PT X.

The positive impact of work engagement for individual employees is being able to work enthusiastically and feel a meaningful connection to the organization where employees work (Tri et al., 2021). Employee work engagement has a positive impact on the organization in the context of productivity, such as increased job performance and decreased turnover intention (Schaufeli and Bakker in Ramdhani et al., 2017). Although work engagement can have a positive impact, it is very possible that the negative impact of work engagement appears in organizations, especially related to burnout and decreased employee creativity, when employees are faced with difficult situations that require creative solutions by continuing to be engaged in work so that it can unwittingly have a detrimental impact, and burnout becomes one of the common impacts in the long run for employees (Hikmatullah, 2016).

Based on the work engagement factors above, researchers chose job crafting as an independent variable, this is because of the personal resources factor proposed by Bakker and Demerouti (2007) that job crafting is included in personal resources, namely proactive behavior such as initiative and anticipatory actions aimed at self-improvement or change. This is in line with the opinion expressed by Tims, Bakker and Derks (2012) that job crafting is a change in personal initiatives made by individuals in modifying job resources and job demands in order to achieve or optimize their work goals. A study conducted by Stephani (2018) shows that individuals with a high level of proficiency in using their creativity in each job in terms of tasks, cognitive, and relationships at work are more likely to show a high level of work engagement. Then in Azizah and Ratnaningsih's (2018) research findings, there is a direct correlation between job crafting and work engagement. This is reinforced by the results of interviews conducted by researchers in the time span from April 1 to 18, 2024 to 15 employees of PT.X, namely 3 employees of the Line Producer division, 4 employees of the Production Coordinator division, 6 employees of the Artist division, 1 employee of the Coloring/Painting Supervisor, and 1 employee of the Training and Development division face-to-face in the PT.X studio meeting room.

#### Methods

This study uses a quantitative approach, the number of subjects in this study were 95 subjects. The technique used in sampling is purposive sampling technique. According to Sugiyono (2013) purposive sampling is a sampling technique with certain considerations or criteria. In this study, researchers took subjects based on the fulfillment of characteristics, namely aged 24-44 years and a minimum working period of 3 months. The data collection method used in this study uses the scale method, which consists of the Work Engagement Scale adapted from previous researchers (Mulyasih, 2023) based on the aspects proposed by Schaufeli and Bakker (2004), namely vigor, dedication, and absorption. The Job Crafting Scale adapted from previous researchers (Mulyasih, 2023) based on aspects proposed by Tims, Bakker, Derks (2012), namely increasing structural job resources, increasing social job resources, increasing job demands, and decreasing hindering job demands.

# Results

The results of this study indicate that there is a significant positive relationship between job crafting and work engagement with a correlation value (rxy) of 0.747 and p=0.000. This means that there is a significant positive relationship between job crafting and work engagement in millennial employees at PT.X. The presence of this correlation proves that job crafting has an important role in work engagement in millennial employees at PT.X. This is in line with the hypothesis proposed by the researcher that the higher the job crafting, the higher the work engagement. This is in line with the hypothesis proposed by the researcher that the higher the lower the job crafting, the higher the work engagement and vice versa if the lower the job crafting, the lower the work engagement of employees. Thus the hypothesis in this study can be accepted.

# Discussions

The acceptance of the hypothesis shows that job crafting can be considered as one of the factors that influence work engagement and is a variable that has a positive relationship with work engagement. The results of this study are supported by the results of research conducted by Stephani (2018), namely the existence of a positive and significant relationship between job crafting and work engagement. Another research result from Ratnaningsih and Azizah (2018) is that there is a positive correlation between job crafting and work engagement. The categorization of subject scores is divided into three, namely high, medium, and low. The results of the categorization of job crafting variables, namely the high category of 0 (0%), the medium category of 87 (91.58%), and the low category of 8 (8.42%). So it can be concluded in this study that most subjects have job crafting in the medium category. Based on the resultsabove, the level of job crafting in employees is still lacking and needs to be improved again.

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