

Review of: "Mediating Role of Outsourcing on The Relationship Between Lean Manufacturing Practices and Profitability"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article "**Mediating Role of Outsourcing on The Relationship Between Lean Manufacturing Practices and Profitability**" was reviewed and the following observations were made. The authors are requested to modify their article as per the given suggestions.

Abstract:

Consider adding a brief sentence summarizing the practical implications of your findings. How can your research benefit manufacturing firms in a tangible way?

Mention the limitations of your study briefly in the abstract to provide a more balanced view.

Introduction:

While you have effectively outlined the research gap, you can enhance the introduction by briefly summarizing the key findings of your study to create anticipation.

Consider adding a sentence about the scope of your research to clarify the specific aspects of lean manufacturing practices and outsourcing you intend to investigate.

Literature Review and Hypothesis Development:

To enhance the currency and relevance of the literature review, consider conducting a systematic review of the latest research articles, academic journals, and industry reports related to outsourcing, lean manufacturing practices, and their impact on profitability in the manufacturing industry. This will help you incorporate the most up-to-date findings and perspectives into your study and ensure that your research is aligned with the latest developments in the field.

However, there is a minor repetition of "cost-saving" in the sentence mentioning "cost cost-saving motives," which could be revised for clarity.

There are a few instances where sentence structure could be improved for clarity, such as the sentence: "These are lean practices behind the superior performance of manufacturing firms that can be copied to other sectors globally (Holweg, 2007)." Consider revising for greater clarity.

While your literature review is comprehensive, you could benefit from summarizing the main findings of the studies you cite to provide a more concise overview.

Methodology:

Include a brief rationale for choosing Uganda as the study location. Why is it a relevant context for your research?

In the sampling section, elaborate on the criteria used for selecting the specific departments (procurement, production, finance, administration). What makes these departments relevant to your study?

Clarify how the reliability and validity of the questionnaire were assessed. Were any modifications made based on feedback from experts?

Results and Discussion:

Consider providing a more detailed breakdown of the characteristics of the respondents (e.g., firm size, industry) to offer additional context for the results.

In the discussion section, explore potential practical challenges that manufacturing firms might face when implementing a mixed model of lean practices and outsourcing.

Discuss avenues for future research in more detail, such as exploring other mediation models or conducting comparative studies in different regions.

Conclusion:

Expand slightly on the implications of your findings for manufacturing firms. How can they apply the mixed model of lean practices and outsourcing in practice?

Summarize the key limitations of your study in the conclusion and briefly discuss how these limitations might affect the generalizability of your findings.

Overall, your research article is well-structured and informative. These suggestions aim to enhance specific aspects of your paper and provide further clarity to your readers.

References:

The reference you provided follows the basic format for a journal article citation, but it appears to be missing some important details required for proper citation according to common citation styles like APA or MLA.

Request for Descriptive Statistics:

"As a reviewer, I kindly request the authors to provide descriptive statistics for the key variables used in the study. This should include measures such as means, standard deviations, medians, and quartiles for continuous variables, as well as frequency distributions for categorical variables. These statistics will help in better understanding the characteristics of the

sample and the variables under investigation. Please present this information in a clear and organized manner."

Request for the Questionnaire:

"To ensure transparency and assess the validity of the data collection process, I request the authors to include a copy of the questionnaire used in the study in the appendix section of the manuscript. It would be helpful for readers to see the actual questions asked to respondents and any response options provided. Please ensure that any sensitive or confidential information is redacted to maintain privacy and anonymity."

These requests will allow you to thoroughly evaluate the quality of the data collected and the appropriateness of the analysis conducted in the research paper.