

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.

Abstract Clarity: While the abstract provides an overview of the study's purpose and findings, it could be more precise and focused. It should include key findings, the methodology, and the significance of the research more clearly.

Introduction Clarification: The introduction sets the stage for the study, but it could benefit from a more thorough explanation of why the topic is significant and why the research is necessary. A more comprehensive review of the current state of knowledge on the topic would provide context.

Research Gap Definition: The article mentions that it bridges a gap in the literature by exploring the mediating role of outsourcing, but it doesn't explicitly state what this gap is. It would be helpful to clearly articulate what previous studies have missed regarding this specific mediation effect.

Hypothesis Development: The hypothesis is stated, but the rationale behind it could be elaborated upon. What led the authors to hypothesize that outsourcing mediates the relationship between lean manufacturing practices and profitability? A more detailed discussion of the theoretical framework or prior empirical evidence supporting this hypothesis would enhance the article.

Sample Size and Representativeness: The methodology section mentions a sample size of 82 manufacturing firms in Uganda, but it doesn't provide information on how representative this sample is of the broader manufacturing industry. More details on the sampling method and potential biases would strengthen the methodology.

Statistical Analysis Explanation: The article briefly mentions the use of Sobel tests, but it lacks a clear explanation of how these tests work and why they were chosen. Readers unfamiliar with mediation analysis may struggle to understand the significance of the results.

Discussion Depth: The results and discussion section could be more extensive. It's essential to not only present the results but also interpret them in the context of the study's objectives and existing literature. Providing practical implications and limitations of the findings would be valuable.

Conclusion Emphasis: The conclusion section should recap the main findings and their implications in a more succinct manner. It could also offer suggestions for future research or practical applications based on the results.

References Organization: The references section appears to be disorganized, with inconsistent formatting and missing

details in some citations. Ensuring proper citation style and consistency is essential.

Language and Clarity: The overall language and writing style of the article could be improved for clarity and readability. Some grammatical and typographical issues need attention.

External Validity: The study focuses on manufacturing firms in Uganda, which may limit the generalizability of the findings to other regions or industries. Discussing the external validity and potential applicability to a broader context would be valuable.

In summary, the article has a solid foundation but could benefit from greater clarity, depth, and contextualization in various sections. Addressing these shortcomings would enhance its overall quality and contribution to the field.