

ETHICAL CLIMATE AND EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE



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ABSTRACT

This study attempts to examine the impact that exists between the different variables of ethical climate and employee performance among employees in the context of the same selected garment factories in Wellimada Division. It also sets to ascertain if those related factors in ethical climate can cause employee performance among employees there by impacting on their career excellence. According to literature review, Ethical Climate has three major dimensions, such as egoism climate, benevolence climate, and principled climate and also two dimensions for Employee Performance such as task performance and contextual performance.

In accordance with literature review and observation there are literature and empirical knowledge gaps regarding the relationship and impact between ethical climate and employee performance. This study was conducted to fill these gaps with seven objectives of the garment sector in Wellimada Division.

The questionnaire is sent to a sample of employees from Badulla district two (D.S.K. Apparel (Pvt) Ltd & M.G.S. Garment (Pvt) Ltd) garment factories. There are 193 useable responses. The 26 items of ethical climate questionnaire, developed by Bart Victor and John Cullen (1988) was the instrument used to evaluate the ethical climate and 14 items of individual employee performance questionnaire, developed by Bernaards & Vincent (2016) was the instrument used to evaluate the employee performance in garment factories. Data were analyzed by using univariate and bivariate analyses. The major findings of the study revealed that Ethical Climate affect significantly and positively employee performance at garment factories in Wellimada Division. The findings of this study are useful in further enlarging and enriching applications of these concepts in practice. Employees who work in ethical environment will be more effective with their job and more loyal than employees who work in an unethical environment.

Key Words: Ethical Climate, Employee Performance, Egoism Climate, Benevolence Climate, Task Performance, and Contextual Performance.

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