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World Education Leadership Symposium (WELS) Online Conference 2022

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Does Principals' Cultural
Intelligence Matter in a Diverse
World of Schools?
Perceived (In)Congruence
between Principals and Teachers

WELS 2022 28-30 September 2022



Introduction



Diversity and multiculturalism have become a worldwide reality of nations and organizations in the face of **globalization**.

The United Arab Emirates as a country and its organizations, including educational organizations, experience globalization and multiculturalism profoundly as the majority of its population consists of expatriates.





UAE schools have become increasingly turbulent and more demographically complex with teachers of diverse cultural backgrounds interacting and working together.

Problem of the Study

Within the context of increased globalization and immigration, organizations are faced with the rapidly changing **composition of the workforce** (Bhadury et al., 2000).

UAE schools incorporate significant cultural diversity both for teachers and students. As schools become more **culturally varied**, they mirror the ever-increasing diversity of the global community.

Research on **workforce diversity** shows that such diversity creates <u>better decision-making</u> processes in organizations, <u>greater creativity</u> and <u>innovation</u>, and <u>increased global competitiveness</u> (Cox, 1991; Houghton, 1998; Seck et al., 1993; Thomas, 1990).

However, such diversity may lead to increased conflict, communication breakdown, low information sharing, low cohesion, interpersonal conflict, reduced organizational identification, and higher turnover as a result of ineffective leadership and poor management (Al Mazrouei & Zacca, 2015; Al Jenaibi, 2012; Cox, 1991)

Problem of the Study



• Cox (2001) defined diversity as the exchange of social and cultural identities when people gather in the same organization. In other words, diversity is a mixture of different identities, values, norms, backgrounds, beliefs, personal biases and dispositions that blend together in a diverse work environment.



Mor Borak et al. (1998) proposed that individuals develop perceptions about the organization's stance on diversity as well as frame their own views pertaining to the value of diversity in the workplace where they work.



• Employees' perceptions of an organization's diversity management are alternatively termed as perceived diversity climate (Mor Borak et al., 2018).

Purpose of study



A growing literature suggests a positive link between effective diversity management and overall organizational effectiveness (Ivancevich & Gilbert, 2000; Magoshi & Chang, 2009). The purpose of this study was to comparatively examine the direct and indirect influence of principals' cultural intelligence (CQ) on teachers' perceived cultural climate management in the United Arab Emirates, where three-fourths of the workforce are non-nationals.



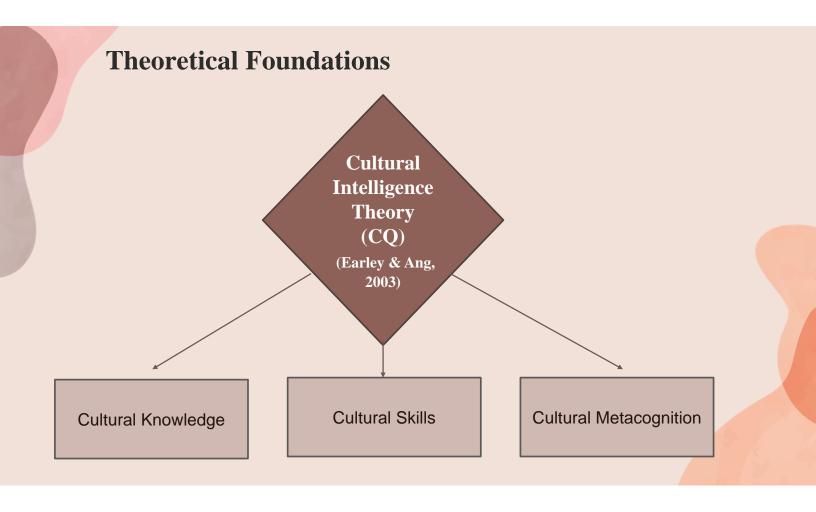
To explore whether principals' and teachers' citizenship and ethnicity statuses would make any difference on the relationships examined between the study variables.

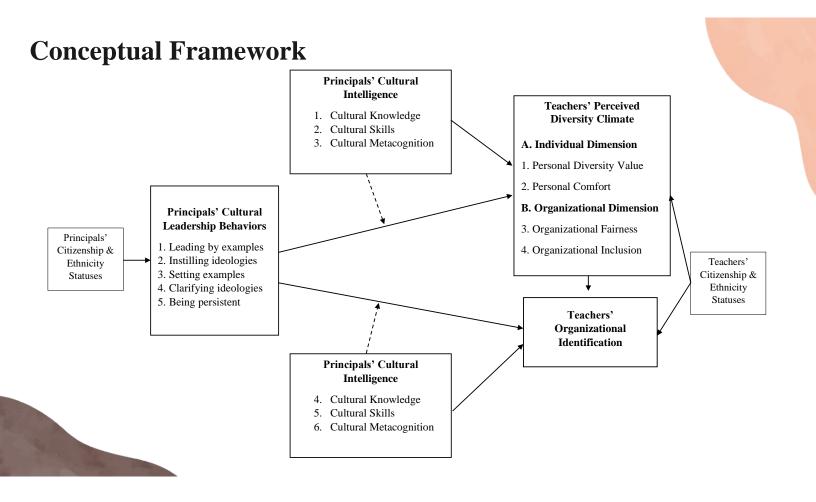


Significance of the Study

The current study is expected to make an essential contribution in the following ways, related to the important main areas; research, policy, and practice, respectively.

- First, common issues of the low levels of teacher job satisfaction, commitment, identification and high turnover rate have placed educational policymakers at the forefront of global pressures. The current study may contribute to identifying the predictors that lead to high organizational identification and positive diversity climate perceptions, thus, potentially reducing absenteeism, turnover, and teacher attrition.
- Finally, the current study may further the knowledge in the arena of cultural intelligence. It may add to the body of literature related to the existence and importance of cultural intelligence.





Methods

> Research Design

A quantitative causal-comparative research design was employed to analyze the data.

- Comparatively investigate the possible differences between the two groups (**principals vs. teachers**) in terms of the study variables.
- A causal-comparative research design is employed to explore whether the independent variables influence the dependent variables of a particular study (Creswell, 2015).

> Sampling and Participants

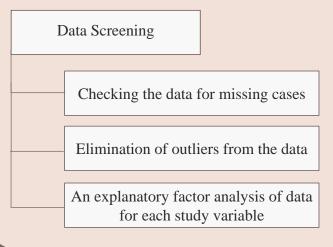
Population of Interest	Sampling	Inclusion Criteria
-Teachers and school principals who are working for public, private, and charter schools with K-12 grades in the United Arab Emirates.	-A simple cluster random sampling will be used to sample teachers and school principals in the UAEIn simple cluster random sampling, the population is divided into several groups based on study inclusion criteria, and each individual in the groups has an equal chance of being chosen as a participant of a study (Sekaran & Bougie, 2016).	-School configuration (e.g., Cycle 1, Cycle 2, Cycle 3) -School type (i.e., public, private or charter schools)

> Instrumentation

Scale Name	Scale Dimensions	Scale Items	Scale Type	Cronbach's Alpha Value
Short Form Measure of Cultural Intelligence (SFCQ) by (Thomas <i>et al.</i> , 2015)	-Cultural Knowledge -Cultural Skills -Cultural Metacognition	10 Items	A five-point Likert type scale $(1 = not \ at \ all \ to \ 5 = extremely well)$.88
Cultural Leadership (CLS) by (Qing et al., 2017)	-Leading by examples -Instilling ideologies -Setting examples -Clarifying ideologies -Being persistent	26 Items	A seven-point Likert scale (I = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree).	.97
Organizational Identification by (Ashforth & Mael, 1996)	A single factor scale	6 Items	A four-point Likert scale (<i>I</i> = strongly agree to 5 = strongly disagree)	.79
Perceived Diversity Climate by (Mor Borak et al., 1998)	-Organizational Dimension -Personal Dimension	16 Items	A six-point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree to 6 = strongly agree)	.83

Data Analysis

• Data will be assessed for accuracy, missing data, and outliers in this first step. The accuracy of the data can be compromised by errors during data entry or during the computation of the variables of interests (Cohen et al., 2003).



Testing the Research Questions

Difference relationship questions:

- 1. Do **teachers' (a) ethnic and (b) citizenship statuses** are a differentiating factor of their **perceived diversity climate**?
- 2. Do principals' (a) ethnic and (b) citizenship statuses are a differentiating factor of their cultural intelligence?

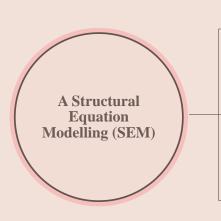
Multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA)

To test whether teachers' ethnic and citizenship statuses (as independent variables) are differentiating factors of their perceived diversity climate.

To test whether principals' ethnic and citizenship statuses (as independent variables) are differentiating factors of their cultural intelligence.

Predictive relationship questions:

- 3. Holding teacher, principal, and school level demographic attributes constant, do **principals' cultural intelligence** significantly influence **the diversity climate perceived by teachers**?
- 4. Holding teacher, principal, and school level demographic attributes constant, do **principals' cultural intelligence**, and **cultural diversity climate perceived by teachers** significantly influence **teachers' organizational identity**?



"Structural equation modeling provides extensive information about which variables affect other variables and the direction of these effects" (Creswell, 2015, p.356).

To test whether principals' cultural leadership and cultural intelligence significantly influence the diversity climate perceived by teachers.

To test whether principals' cultural leadership, principals' cultural intelligence, and diversity climate perceived by teachers significantly influence teachers' organizational identity.

> Findings

Research Question 1

Does teachers' citizenship status pose a differentiating factor of their perceived diversity climate and organizational identification?

MANOVA was conducted to answer 1 this research question.

> MANOVA findings indicated that teachers' OI and perceived diversity climate significantly differed at the 10% significant level.

In both scales, lower scores indicate better diversity climate perceptions and stronger organizational identification. These findings indicate that expatriates have stronger OI, stronger perceptions of organizational inclusion, and stronger perceptions of personal diversity

Independent t-test Results Comparing Citizen and Expatriate Teachers' Ratings (N = 138)

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	Citizen		Expatriate				
Variables	M	SD	M	SD	df	T	
Organizational identification	2.08	.66	1.84	.57	136	1.86 *	
Organizational fairness	2.13	.79	1.97	.80	136	.92	
Organizational inclusion	3.31	1.10	2.84	1.08	136	1.97 *	
Personal diversity value	1.86	.52	1.84	.62	136	.13	
Personal diversity comfort	3.12	.83	2.65	.95	136	2.29 **	
${}^{*}n = 10$ ${}^{**}n = 05$ ${}^{***}n = 01$							

Research Question 2

Does principals' citizenship status pose a differentiating factor of their cultural leadership and cultural intelligence?

MANOVA was conducted to answer this research question.

MANOVA findings indicated that only principals' ratings of their cultural knowledge differed significantly across citizenship status and at the 5% significance level.

In both scales, the SFCQ scale and CLS scale, higher scores indicate greater cultural intelligence and more agreement with the cultural leadership practices. This finding suggests that citizens have greater cultural knowledge than expatriates.

Independent t-test Results Comparing Citizen and Expatriate Principals' Ratings (N = 13)

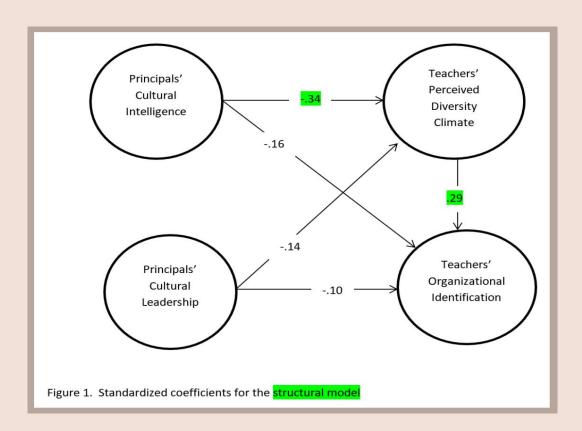
	Citi	Expa	Expatriate			
Variables	M	SD	M	SD	df	T
Knowledge	4.63	.25	4.11	.42	11	2.26 *
Skills	4.25	.87	4.40	.45	11	42
Metacognitive	3.92	.57	4.07	.22	11	74
Setting examples	6.79	.25	6.52	.64	11	.81
Instilling ideologies	6.65	.44	6.11	.66	11	1.48
Setting examples	6.70	.35	6.33	.45	11	1.45
Clarifying ideologies	6.55	.53	6.29	.51	11	.84
Being persistent	6.50	.26	6.51	.41	11	05

Research Question 3 & 4

- -Do principals' cultural leadership and cultural intelligence significantly influence the diversity climate perceived by teachers?
- -Do principals' cultural leadership, cultural intelligence and teachers' perceived diversity climate influence their organizational identification?

Unstandardized and Standardized Path Coefficients for the Structural Model

	Path	В	SE	β	p
—	Principals' cultural intelligence to:				
•	Teachers' perceived diversity climate	32	.14	34	. <mark>02</mark>
	Teachers' organizational identity	23	.19	16	.22
	Principals' cultural leadership to:				
	Teachers' perceived organizational diversity	13	.08	14	.12
	Teachers' organizational identity	14	.14	10	.30
\longrightarrow	Teachers' perceived diversity climate to:				
	Teachers' organizational identity	.45	.21	.29	. <mark>03</mark>



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Thank You