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# Impact of Aversive Leadership on Job Outcomes: Moderation and Mediation Model

Tariq Iqbal Khan<sup>1</sup>, Henna Gul Nisar<sup>2</sup>, Taqadus Bashir<sup>3</sup>, Bashir Ahmed<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Deptt: of Management Sciences, The University of Haripur, Haripur

<sup>2</sup>Lecturer, Institute of Business and Management Sciences (IBMS), AUP Peshawar

<sup>3</sup>Associate Professor, Deptt: of Management Sciences, Bahria University Campus, Islamabad

<sup>4</sup>Institute of Business and Management Sciences (IBMS), AUP Peshawar

## ABSTRACT

Aversive leadership has picked up a lot of consideration as a result of its effect on a few activity results. The motivation behind the momentum inquire about work is coordinated to explore the association of aversive leadership (AVL) with job outcomes (Aggressive voice and organizational deviance), directing psychological hardiness (PH). Work Alienation (WA) was utilized as a mediating variable. Banks from Private sector situated at Peshawar District were chosen to get data. The sample size was 300 employees from these banks. Random sampling technique was utilized through proportional distribution method and information was gathered through structured questionnaires. The aftereffects of this exploration work examined that AVL has a noteworthy impact on AV and OD. Moreover, WA completely interceded between AVL and an AV and halfway intervened between aversive leadership and organizational deviance. Managers and supervisors should maintain a strategic distance from AVL and attempt to propel and enable their subordinates or supporters to accomplish organizational expressed goals successfully.

**Keywords:** Aversive Leadership, Psychological Hardiness, Work Alienation, Aggressive Voice Behavior, and Organizational deviance

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Leaders play a vital role in organizational performance, the view of leadership involves a person's ability to persuade subordinates and devotees to support to achieve organizational thought processes (Glaser, Einarsen, Mathiesen, and Skogstad, 2010;

### Address of Correspondence

Hina Gul Nisar  
hinanisar.aup@gmail.com

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Schilling, 2009). Leadership is like a system whereby one individual put a deliberate effort over different people to guide, structure and energize choices and workouts on a social occasion. Comprehensively, there are predominantly two kinds of leadership; one is Constructive and the other one is Destructive leadership. Yukl (2006) says that when leaders utilize constructive devices or behaviors, Constructive leadership happens; while the destructive or clouded side of leadership is generally founded on antagonistic behaviors toward subordinates.

For quite a while, investigators have focused generally on valuable sort of leadership that fuses to ace subordinate or team members (Aasland, Skogstad, Notelaers, Nielsen, and Einarsen, 2010), while, as it was, overlooking the clouded face of leadership, past many years have seen observed a persevering increment in the composing focusing on the perhaps gigantic face of leadership (Schyns and Schilling, 2013). As per Padilla, Hogan, and Kaiser (2007) study, the researcher's thought has shifted to a destructive sort of leadership.

Leaders who follow destructive leadership, direct conscious actions in a regulatory, supervisory or leadership position in which the greater part would perceive as resentful and interest towards devotees or an organization, that may either be verbal or physical (Thorough good and partners 2012). Creating verification recommends that destructive leadership burdens the psychological and physical prosperity of devotees and diminishes general organizational activities (Aasland et al., 2010; Hershcovis and Rafferty, 2012; Schyns and Schilling, 2013). The present-day assessment holds that antagonistic coincidental consequences like separation and organizational shamefulness from more supervisors' brief to the destructive kind of leadership (Hershcovis and Rafferty, 2012; Tepper, 2007). Every now and then underlining the "dark" side of leadership, there exists a general agreement among different analysts that leaders plan choices that abuse subordinates and persisting organizational performance.

Ashforth (1994) exhibited the idea of trivial oppression or overbearing leadership for the first time, as a representation of leaders who instruct and monitor subordinates, deprived of any other individual glorification, debilitating movement, acting in abstract ways, and showing a nonappearance of thought (Einarsen, Aasland, and Skogstad, 2007).

Aversive leaders essentially depend on coercive power.

Aversive leadership (AVL) is contrarily identified with a few antiquated supporter outcomes, for example, work alienation which mirrors a disappointment feeling and allocated job obligations uselessness and failure to shows and feature one's personality (Tummers and Laura, 2013). Psychological hardiness known as the wonder that fortifies the relationship of AVL and negative outcomes were first used by Kobasa (1979), to depict officials who stay sound regardless of high intensity of work stress, as opposed to the individuals who had different stress-related diseases. Hardiness comprises of the three interrelated elements of commitment, challenge, and control (Ramanaiah, Sharpe and Byravan, 1999). Research found that tough people evaluated indistinguishable target stressors from less undermining than non-hardy people. Alongside related studies, high hardiness leads to lower dimensions of substantial and subjective uneasiness (Hanton, Evans, and Neil, 2003; Singley, Solidness, and Russell, 2012).

Aggressive voices (AV) at the workplace may take an assortment of structures; these demonstrations incorporate physical actions just like verbal and psychological behaviors (put-down verbally, overlooking the objective), and can be dynamic or uninvolved (starting or retaining activities), plain or incognito (evident or unknown demonstrations of aggressiveness) and immediate or circuitous extreme acts (Murphy and O'Leary, 1989). Representatives draw in freak behaviors which are focused to the organization such as working gradually, sharing classified organization data, harming organization property etc. Workplace deviance is a deliberate act that damages organizational standards and is proposed to hurt not only the organization but its representatives as well (Bennett and Robinson, 2003). Research recommends that negative behavior will be expanded by abusive supervision, explicitly, employee workplace deviance (Tepper et al., 2004).

Nowadays, organizations go up against various issues regarding representatives, that is evil not only to the organization but to their workers also. For an organization, it diminishes proficiency, profitability and calming its representatives from administration and for an individual, it diminishes an employee's unwaveringness and work

effectiveness of his job obligations and duty and to the organization by any means. The negative direction of a worker toward organization leads toward the representative's aggressive voice. In this manner, it is intriguing to inspect whether destructive leadership weakens subordinates support and develops conflicts in a gathering or group (Fox and Stallworth, 2010). It was proposed by Saeed et al., (2017) that some other moderator or mediator variable could be used by researchers in the future. Researching AVL is the greatest conspicuous leadership territory in existing globalized condition, where top-level managers' negative facets and CEOs are worried and identified with organizational achievement and disappointment. Therefore, between AVL and pessimistic outcomes, the ramifications of such identity characteristics recognized as PH will limit the negative effect on both the organization and its representatives by and large.

The fundamental motivation behind this examination is to extend the learning by which AVL impacts subordinates' execution and to locate the AVL with representatives' work outcomes. Current Investigation covers the value-based hypothesis of stress and adapting by Lazarus and Folkman (1984), instructing to consider the skeptical qualities concerning a pioneer on subordinates' negative outcomes.

In an organization, issues develop because of negative demeanor that hurt the workers and their organization, the initiation of phenomena of "psychological hardiness" that will diminish such problems and help the organization to develop and enhance its self and individuals. Managers and organizations can basically execute such behavior to enhance organizational performance and advantage its representatives.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1. Aversive Leadership and Employee Outcomes

The impression of aversive leadership dependent on discipline, upbraid and dangers (Pearce and Sims, 2002). The aggressive voice is described as a director that is finished by one individual with the expectation of activating damage to other people. Research coordinates that all sort of workplace aggressiveness is perhaps harmful to employees and their organization (Barling, Rogers, and Kelloway, 2001). Research demonstrates that aggressive voice at the workplace exists when employees recognize

social abuse and social misuse is taken among the most critical reasons for humanistic aggressiveness (Anderson and Bushman, 2002). In this manner, when a manager in organization abuses subordinates, they might get aggressive directly towards that particular supervisor. Research directs two factors that are acquainted with be related to boss or supervisor directed aggressiveness: assumed supervisory individual imbalance and oppressive supervision (Inness et al., 2005).

Initial examinations on AVL and discovery instruments of AVL were inconsequentially related to different obsolete subordinates' yield (Pearce and Sims, 2002). At the workplace, the hindrance is related to dispersal in rumoring, ill will, robbery, and vandalism. Destructive style of leadership is adversely or unimportantly connected with job performance at the workplace (Aryee, Chen, Sun, and Debrah, 2007). The impact of AVL on employee behaviors is solid as it utilizes discipline, terrorizing and dangers (Pearce and Sims, 2002). As an unfriendly quality, Baron's (1988) results suggest that destructive scrutiny regularly offers ascent to expanded resentment, pressure, evasion, obstruction, and diminished organizational performance and targets. Thus, when an individual gets rowdy at the workplace, he/she gets aggressive over his/her boss and the connection between AVL and AV to be considered positive.

AVL is characterized by Pearce and Sims (2002) as a sort of destructive leadership where pioneer utilizes the demonstration of discipline, dangers and terrorizing towards subordinates or devotees. Affective Events Theory recommends that being dealt with discourteously or impolitely is a pivotal occasion that can arise unwanted responses which might be acknowledged by freak behaviors in the organization (Weiss and Cropanzano, 1996). Workplace deviance is a purposeful lead that harms organizational models and is required to disregard the employees and their organization to cut down profitable actions (Bennett and Robinson, 2003; Tepper et al., 2004). Employees' deviance includes a few destructive behaviors connected aside to the related organization (taking, diminishing job execution) and mates (scattering aggressiveness and gossipy tidbits) (Robinson and Bennett, 1995).

Research suggests various reasons about why employees get involved in freak transmit i-e; responses to perceived shamefulfulness, role modeling, disappointment, and

thrill-seeking. Up to this point, organizational deviant behavior is commonly much choked at the workplace (Robinson and Greenberg, 1999). Damaging leadership raises employees to critically direct at job place. Results prescribe that negative or skeptical scrutiny mostly increases rage, opposition, strain, lower execution and shirking to the expressed organizational objectives. Furthermore, the perceptions about a pioneer that it is inciting and exploitative are exceptionally connected with the aggressiveness of subordinates. While degenerate disposition is an employee reaction which he sees as disappointment and disparity or separation in his/her job place (Robinson and Greenberg, 1999).

**H<sub>0</sub>:** *There is no noteworthy connection of aversive leadership with employee outcomes (AV and OD)*

**H<sub>1</sub>:** *There is a noteworthy connection of aversive leadership with employee outcomes (AV and OD)*

## **2.2. Work Alienation as a Mediator**

Work alienation mirrors a feeling of disappointment and insignificance of the job or allocated obligations and powerlessness to show and feature one's personality (Tummers and Laura, 2013). AVL is a negative characteristic that accentuates the utilization of dangers terrorizing and discipline. As a consequence, employees feel unreliable and disappointed. Moreover, the perception toward pioneer being inciting or exploitative has been related to a higher level of subordinates' aggressiveness. AV at the workplace could be shown up from numerous points of view; these activities involve physical and mental behaviors, verbal and nonverbal behaviors, just as circuitous and immediate or psychological behaviors, an employee progress toward becoming disappointed from his work and disappointment prompts analysis against issues related to work and display aggressive voice behaviors (Murphy and O'Leary, 1989).

It is prescribed by Baron's (1988) results that negative scrutiny normally will quicken pressure, rage, lower execution, shirking and opposition towards focused objectives. Due to AVL, the employee feels compromised and threatened (Pearce et al., and Sims, 2002). Disappointed employee distances from his/her work because of frailty he/she feels at the workplace; along these lines, WA intercedes between AVL and AV.

In organizations, execution of a job is one of the essential guidelines in organizational or industrial psychology. At the point when leaders utilize undermining behavior and rebuff employees as it were, those employees face disappointment about their organization that needs to esteem their standard. Tepper et al. (2004) suggest harsh leadership will increase pessimistic direct that prompts employee deviance at job place, an expected disregarding behavior that impacts and compromises noteworthy organizational standards and prosperity of both the organization and its employees (Robinson and Bennett, 1995). In light of adverse frame of mind, an employee loses the motivation to pursue or will interfere, organizational desire, and employees wind up distanced from work because of negative demeanor and administrator behavior; they mean to react towards the organization with deviance. Thus, WA intercedes between aversive leadership and deviance behavior.

**H<sub>0</sub>:** *Work alienation does not play a huge intervening role in the relationship of aversive leadership with employee outcomes (AV and OD).*

**H<sub>2</sub>:** *Work alienation play a huge intervening role in the relationship of aversive leadership with employee outcomes (AV and OD)*

### **2.3. Psychological Hardiness Moderates the Relationship Between Aversive Leadership and Work Alienation**

The phenomenon, "psychological hardiness" will fortify the connection between AVL and undesirable outcomes. Ramanaiah, Sharpe, and Byravan, (1999) says depicted that the three interconnected components of hardiness consist of commitment, control, challenge. Challenge is ordered by the limit and hope to look at change as plausible for developing and advancement. Control is considered as an individual conviction and certainty to energize over encounters and life occasions. Commitment involves a summed up feeling of direction and commitment throughout routine life. These three interrelated hardiness systems should influence an individual's assessment, adapting and recognition intense (Kobasa, 1979). A person high on commitment is arranged to occasions and contacts individuals as beneficial and fascinating. Research discovered that resilient people assessed the comparative target stressors as less undermining than non-hardy

people (Wiebe, 1991).

Researches connect low level of subjective and substantial nervousness with elevated hardiness (Hanton, Evans, and Neil, 2003; Singley, Robust, and Russell, 2012). The wonder of AVL exercises underscores the use of intimidation and punishment threats (Pearce and Sims, 2002). Aversive leaders make use of dangers and threats towards employees and accordingly, disappointed employees display alienation not only from his/her job but from the organization as well. Therefore, the psychologically hard are the individuals who stay sound alongside workload when contrasted with the individuals who have various job-related sicknesses or shortcomings. The PH directs between AVL and WA (Kobasa, 1979).

**H<sub>0</sub>:** *Psychological hardiness does not moderate the relationship of aversive leadership with work alienation.*

**H<sub>3</sub>:** *Psychological hardiness moderates the relationship of aversive leadership with work alienation.*

### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

So as to pick up the focused on targets, self-reported questionnaires were distributed. The participants in this examination were from private sector banks situated in Peshawar. As a standard, 300 workers were chosen as a sample from the selected population. Employees were chosen as an example from the whole population of this examination by utilizing the proportional allocation method (Cochran, 1977).

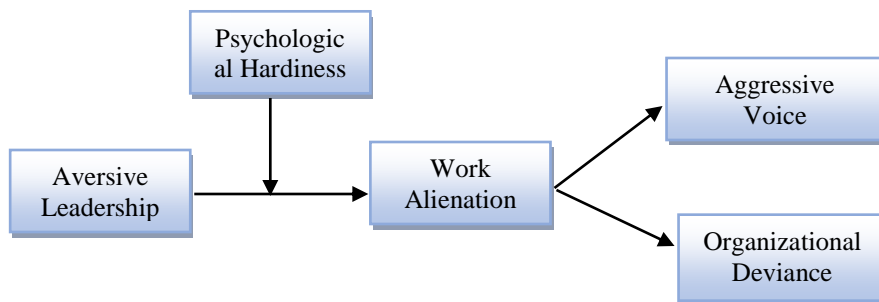
Pearce and Sims's (2002) 6-item scale was utilized for AVL, which evaluated the level of criticizing and terrorizing behaviors shown by a leader. All responses were estimated using a Likert scale, going from "1" (Emphatically Dissent) to "5" (Firmly Concur). The reliability value of this scale was  $\alpha = .90$ . Hirschfeld et al., (2000) scale were used for WA; it incorporates 8 items. PH was estimated on the preceding work done by Barton et al., (1989) and Khoshaba et al., (1999), using a 6-item scale. AV sub-scale had been utilized with 5 items, created by Hagedoom et al., (1999). OD was estimated by Bennet and Robinson (2000) 12 item scale. The likert scale of 7-point was adopted to gauge a number of respondents who agree to participate in deviance behavior directed to



the organization. Item responses range from 1 for never, 2 for once every year, 3 for twice, 4 for a few times each year, 5 for month to month, 6 for week by week, 7 for day by day. Alpha = .70 was the inter-consistency of the items

### 3.1. Theoretical Framework

The accompanying hypothetical framework had been utilized by this investigation as given underneath. In the view of the framework shown above, the proposed investigation has aversive leadership (AVL) as an independent variable; aggressive voice (Av) and organizational deviance (OD) as dependent variables, work alienation as a mediator and psychological hardiness as moderator.



### 3.2. Statistical Analysis and Procedures

Descriptive statistics mean value of each variable and alpha reliability was determined through SPSS; AMOS was used for factor analysis and direct and indirect path analyses. For moderation examination, Minister and Hayes (2013) method were utilized in this examination. Reliability values were estimated through Cronbach's Alpha coefficient. The hypotheses of the study were tested through AMOS. The associated fit indices were utilized to discover the model fitness; Chi-square  $\chi^2/DF$  value should be smaller than 5, the values for goodness of fit (GFI), Confirmatory fit index (CFI), adjusted goodness of fit (AGFI), Normed fit index (NFI) should be more than 0.9 uncovered reasonable model fit. At that point, RMSEA and SRMR were additionally utilized in the examination to support reasonable fitness of model. The value under .08 was calculated, indicating a suitable and acceptable model fit (Joreskog and Sorbom, 1999).

## 4. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

### 4.1. Reliability Analysis

Alpha ( $\alpha$ ) value shows the dependability coefficient; higher alpha estimation will lead to higher consistency among items. Adequate standard as presented by Cronbach's in 1951, the alpha value equal to 0.70 or greater will be viewed as decent reliability.

<b>Table 1 . Variables' Reliability Measurements</b>			
<b>Name of Variable</b>	<b>No of items</b>	<b><math>\alpha</math> value</b>	<b>Comments</b>
AVL	6	.765	Reliable
WA	8	.704	Reliable
AV	7	.713	Reliable
OD	8	.717	Reliable
PH	6	.769	Reliable

Table 1 presents the reliability values for AVL, WA, AV, OD, and PH. The overall reliability observed was .747 that is considered good and highly acceptable. As per Umma Sekaran (2003), an alpha value near 1.0 shows that data will be good and acceptable.

### 4.2. Confirmatory Factors Analysis (CFA)

Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) shows the model fitness; individual CFA was directed by its standard value for every variable to recognize the model fitness. The decision of model fitness was taken on the basis of chi/square or CMIN/DF, CFI, NFI, TLI, GFI, AGFI, RMR, and RMSEA.. CFA for each study variable is given as follows.

<b>Table 2. Consolidated Table of Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA),</b>										
<b>Name of variable</b>	<b>CMIN</b>	<b>DF</b>	<b>CMIN/DF</b>	<b>CFI</b>	<b>TLI</b>	<b>NFI</b>	<b>GFI</b>	<b>AGFI</b>	<b>RMR</b>	<b>RMSEA</b>
<b>AVL</b>	29.285	8	3.661	.945	.897	.928	.966	.910	.082	.094
<b>WA</b>	45.601	19	2.400	.928	.893	.885	.965	.934	.078	.068
<b>AV</b>	35.674	11	3.243	.929	.864	.903	.966	.913	.084	.087
<b>OD</b>	35.094	16	2.193	.952	.917	.918	.973	.940	.064	.063
<b>PH</b>	11.402	5	2.280	.984	.953	.973	.988	.950	.041	.065

Table 2 presents the combined values estimated through confirmatory factor analysis for each variable; that depicts good model fit of the study

4.3.Five-Factor Analysis for Aversive Leadership, Psychological Hardiness, Work Alienation, Aggressive Voice and Organizational Deviance

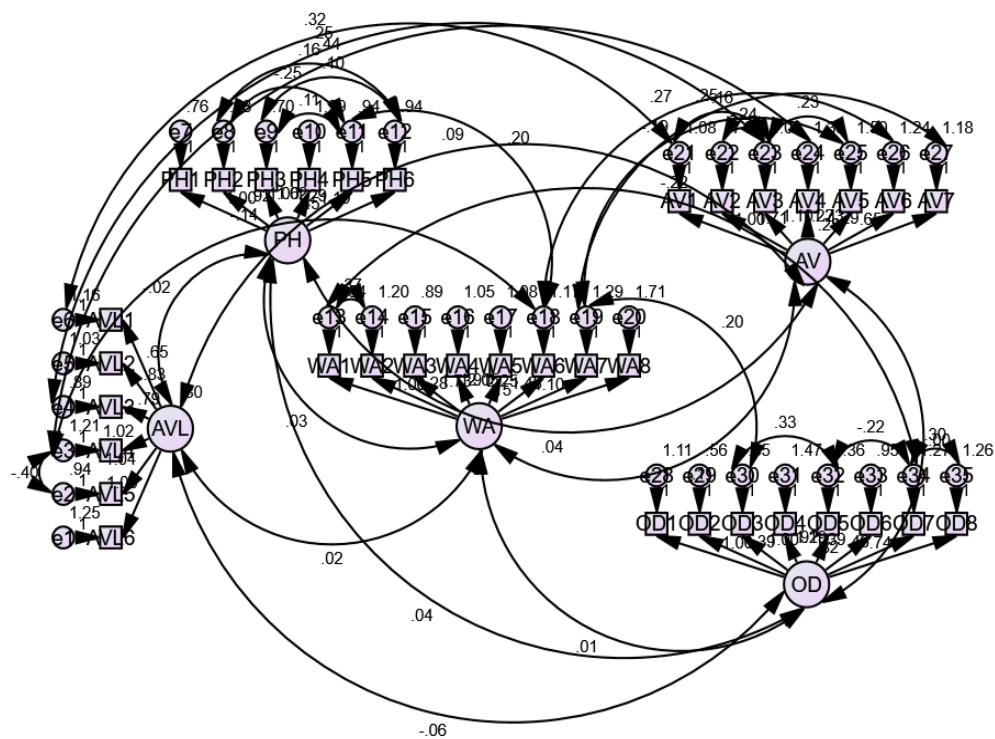


Figure 2

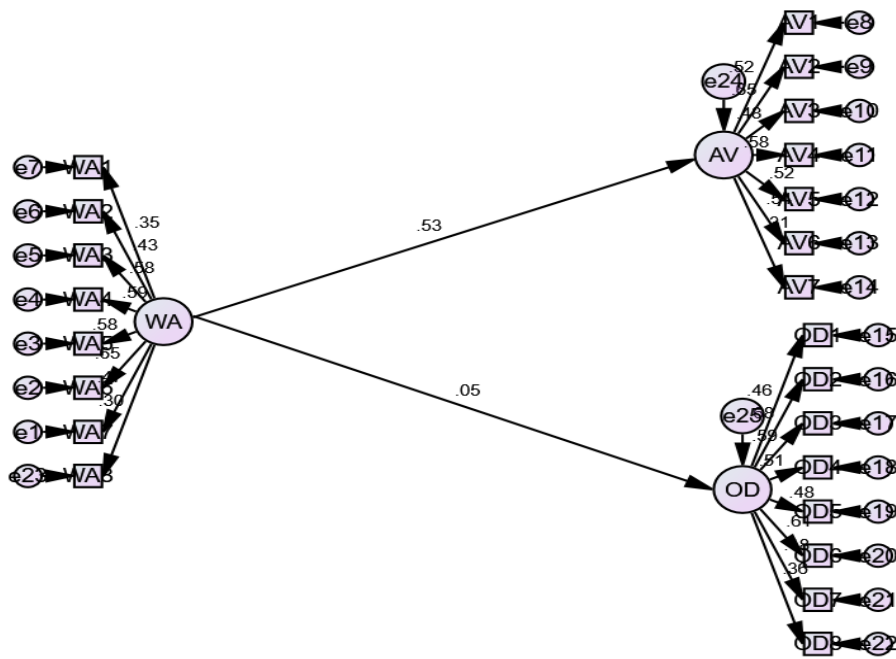
Figure 2 gives fit indices of AVL, PH, WA, AV, and OD. The result presented an overall fit model for all study variables

Table 3. Consolidated Table of Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) of Variables of the Study										
Name of Variable	CMIN	DF	CMIN/DF	CFI	TLI	NFI	GFI	AGFI	RMR	RMSEA
F5 (AVL+PH+WA+AV+OD)	860.596	528	1.630	.957	.939	.905	.965	.839	.093	.046

Table 3 presents the combined values taken by confirmatory factor analysis for

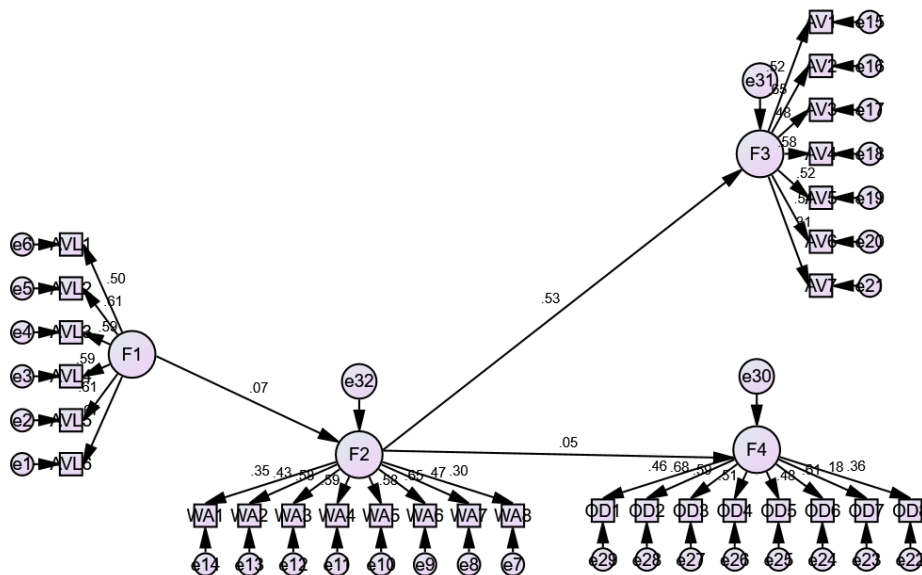
each variable.

#### 4.4. Structural Equation Model Direct Path Analysis



**Figure 3 Direct Path Analyses for Mediator (WA) to Independent Variables (AV, OD)**

Figure 3 demonstrates a direct path for Mediator (WA) and dependent variables (AV and OD). SEM was utilized to differentiate the association of Mediator (WA) with dependent variables (AV and OD). As coefficient beta value uncovered .53 and the value of  $p$  was  $<0.000$  between WA and AV and presented a positive relationship. Moreover, the connection between WA and OD additionally revealed a positive connection as the beta value for WA and OD relationship was showed up as .05 and value of significance ( $p$ -value) was  $<0.001$ .



**Figure 4. Indirect Path Analysis for AV as the independent variable, Mediation of WA, Moderation of PH and dependent AV and OD as Dependent Variables**

Figure 4 specifies indirect path analysis for AVL (independent variable) and Av and OD (dependent variables), and mediation of work alienation WA. SEM was utilized to recognize the connection between the independent variable (AVL) and dependent variables (AV and OD) and the mediating role of WA. The AVL and WA association was a positive one. Besides, the connection between WA and AV and OD was certain. As coefficient beta value was .07 and significance value  $<0.001$  between AVL and WA. Moreover, the connection of WA and AV was additionally positive and .53 was the beta value between WA and AV and the p-value was  $<0.000$  and has a positive connection. Furthermore, the mediating role of AW between AVL and OD exposed likewise positive association as .05 was the beta value between WA and OD and p-value uncovered as  $<0.001$ ; yet for this situation, WA has complete mediation between AVL and AV and

showed partial mediation with OD.

#### 4.5. Psychological Hardiness Mediation between Aversive Leadership and Work Alienation

IV	DV	Coeff	R	R-sq	R <sup>2</sup> -Chng	F	T	P	LLCI	UCLI
AVLXPH	WA	.0535	.1218	.0148	.0032	.9582	.9789	.3284	-.0540	.1609

To look at the moderating job of psychological hardiness between the independent variable (AVL) on work alienation, Evangelist and Hayes (2013) method were utilized through SPSS. The estimation of R-sq indicates variations percentage independent variable (WA) because of the consolidated impact of the independent variable (AVL) and mediator (PH) because the value for R-square was .014. Consequently, 14% variation was observed independent variable (WA) as the reason for the independent variable (AVL) and mediator (PH). In addition, p-value demonstrates model significance as P-value can be .3284 which is over the standard or huge dimension, i.e. .05. For the current situation, the model is insignificant and there is no moderation between AVL and mediator variable WA since significance (p-value) is greater than .05.

## 5. DISCUSSION

The fundamental topic of this examination was basically to discover that in which way aversive leadership affects aggressive voice and deviance at the organization and to elucidate that how can work alienation mediates and psychological hardiness moderates their association.

Firstly, this was affirmed through a direct way that this examination's outcomes, AV and OD are positively affected by AVL. The alternative hypothesis H1 was acknowledged and the null hypothesis Ho was rejected. The AVL has a positive impact on AV and DO (work outcomes) on the grounds that the beta value shows the kind of relationship that may be positive or negative, the beta value was .26 between AVL and AV and with OD it was .09. Along these lines, the connection between AVL and work

outcomes (AV and OD) is positive. Higher the estimation of AVL by and by, higher will be the AV and OD. Discoveries of this examination are lined up with past investigation directed in Pakistani setting by (Saeed et al., 2017); their outcomes uncovered that AVL is decidedly related to AV and OD.

So also, discoveries of the examination additionally bolstered the mediating impact of WA in hypothesis No. 2 through an indirect path, the alternative hypothesis H1 was accepted and the null hypothesis Ho was rejected as .07 was coefficient beta value between AVL and WA and the relationship observed was certain, where, the .53 was coefficient beta value between WA and AV, and .05 with OD. Subsequently, WA in part mediates between AVL and OD and completely mediates between AVL and an AV.

Moreover, hypothesis No. 3 (PH has inconsequential moderation impact on the connection between AVL and WA) affirmed that no moderation impact of PH exists between AVL and WA. Therefore, Ho: PH has no critical moderation impact on the connection between AVL and WA, was acknowledged and the alternative hypothesis (H3: PH has huge moderation impact on the connection between AVL and WA) was rejected because p-value of .218 is more than the standard value i.e. 0.05. For this situation, a p-value of .218 is more than its standard. Consequently, no moderation exists between AVL and WA.

## 6. CONCLUSION

As per the discoveries of this investigation through direct way, AVL positive association was found with work outcomes (AV and OD) on a significant level. Moreover, discoveries of the investigation additionally upheld the mediating job of work alienation through the indirect path, WA completely mediated between AVL and an AV and partially mediated between AVL and OD. Both full and incomplete mediation was found in this examination. Moreover, there was no moderation found between the relationship of AVL and WA. All the stated hypotheses of this examination were tested and upheld aside from moderating job of PH between AVL and WA. So we can conclude that aversive leadership leads to work alienation and ultimately to deviance. However, in physiological hardiness presence create no effect on this relationship.

### Future Directions

This investigation distinguishes and gives a solid gap for future examinations. This investigation finished random sampling through the proportional allocation method. Future investigations can use convenient sampling or other sampling technique can be utilized. This investigation can likewise be investigated by including other variables like psych cap, ethical climate etc. Moreover, the present examination was conducted in banks from the private sector; in the future, a similar report can be overhauled in some other sector or organizations.

### Recommendations

Since significant connection was observed between AVI that is an independent variable and Av and OD which are dependent variables in this examination, therefore:

- Managers or supervisors should avoid aversive leadership; as this research found that work alienation happens because of aversive leadership which prompts representative's aggressive voice and organizational deviance which further prompts lower execution, low profitability and impacts moral atmosphere inside an organization.
- Managers should disregard negative behaviors to keep up or enhance organizational norms and their execution. Aversive leadership ought to dodge in all organization, explicitly private banks to make representatives fulfill and upgrade their execution. The organization ought to support its workers as well as to enable them to improve their execution. It isn't just identified with job execution or job fulfillment; yet additionally, make the representatives solid which improves workers' job fulfillment and job execution separately to accomplish the short- and long-term objectives.

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