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Core self-evaluations and workplace deviance:

The role of resources and self-regulation

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Abstract

In this study, we examine the relationship between employees’ core self-evaluations (CSE) and workplace deviance. Further, taking a person-environment perspective, we utilize a conservation of resources framework (Hobfoll, 1989), proposing that the degree to which employees are able to attain resources, versus the extent to which resources are drained from the individual, acts as a mediating mechanism between CSE and deviance. Specifically, we propose that employees’ CSE is related to deviance through its association with a decrease in the depletion of resources (utilized as emotional exhaustion) and an increase in the ability to garner external resources by fostering social exchange relationships within the workplace (utilized as trust in the supervisor).

Data were collected from 518 employee-supervisor dyads across 35 different organizations. Results revealed that trust in the supervisor fully mediated the relationship between CSE and deviance directed both at other individuals and the organization, whilst emotional exhaustion was a significant mediator for the relationship between CSE and interpersonal deviance.

Implications for theory and practice are also discussed.
Core self-evaluations and workplace deviance:

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1. Introduction

In recent years, there has been a significant degree of interest regarding workplace deviance (Bennett and Robinson, 2000, 2003; Robinson and Bennett, 1995, 1997 – for a review see Berry, Ones, and Sackett, 2007), which has been defined as “voluntary behavior of organizational members that violates significant organizational norms, and in so doing, threatens the well-being of an organization, its members, or both” (Robinson and Bennett, 1995: 556). Further, some scholars have looked to understand why employees engage in such deviant behaviors; however, there appears to be a lack of consensus as to what promotes, and subsequently motivates, workplace deviance. For example, some scholars have argued that the cause of deviant behavior can primarily be explained through situational factors; suggesting deviance is a reaction to negative situations, such as injustice (e.g. Skarlicki and Folger, 1997; Skarlicki, Folger, and Tesluk, 1999), the failure of others to fulfill obligations (e.g. Bordia, Restubog, and Tang, 2008), or abusive supervision (e.g. Mitchell and Ambrose, 2007, Tepper, 2000, 2007; Thau, Bennett, Mitchell, and Marrs, 2009). Other scholars have focused on the influence of individual factors, such as the personality traits of narcissism (e.g. Judge, LePine, and Rich, 2006) and conscientiousness (e.g. Mount, Ilies, and E. Johnson, 2006); which suggests that individuals have different predispositions regarding their interpretations of, and interactions with, the wider social context. Surprisingly, considering the size of the extant literature, there have been relatively fewer studies that have considered both individual factors, and situational influences, with regard to the antecedents of workplace deviance (some notable exceptions include: Aquino, Lewis, and Bradfield, 1999; Colbert, Mount, Harter, Witt, and Barrick, 2004;
Considering why employees might be motivated to engage in deviant behavior, traditionally most scholars have argued (and/or assumed) that such behavior seeks to address a perceived injustice, or imbalance, with the aim of achieving some sort of fairness, or equity (e.g. Bordia et al., 2008; Mitchell and Ambrose, 2007; Skarlicki and Folger, 1997). This motivation is seen to be grounded in negative reciprocity and quid pro quo norms (Gouldner, 1960). Conversely, more recently it has been suggested that as opposed to a ‘motivation’ (per se), workplace deviance may be brought about through an employee’s inability to self-control (or self-regulate) their behavior (Thau, Aquino, and Poortvliet, 2007; Thau and Mitchell, 2010). Self-regulation theory (Baumeister, Vohs and Tice, 2007; Baumeister, 1998) suggests that the work environment requires employees to constantly regulate their behavior in order to facilitate social functioning (Vohs and Ciarocco, 2004). As such, self-regulation requires effort (Baumeister, Bratslavsky, Muraven, and Tice, 1998; Muraven and Baumeister, 2000); when individuals no longer have the self-resources to control their behavior, they may be subject to impulsive urges, desires and emotions (Hagger, Wood, Stiff, and Chatzisarantis, 2010), which may be anti-social in nature. Despite promising evidence concerning the relationship between self-regulation impairment and workplace deviance (Thau and Mitchell, 2010), this line of research remains in its infancy, and specifically, is yet to consider the influence of individual factors, such as traits. Overall, we argue that there is merit in exploring self-regulatory impairment, as well as the influence of individual vis-à-vis situational factors, in order to advance our understanding of why employees engage in deviant behavior.
Intuitively, the central protagonist of workplace deviance is the employee who conducts such behavior; therefore, in order to understand why employees engage in deviant behavior, understanding an individual’s personality may be key to explaining behavioral outcomes. One of the most influential paradigms in predicting employee behavior has been the core self-evaluations (CSE) construct (Judge and Bono, 2001; Judge, Erez, Bono, and Thoressen, 2003; Judge, Locke, and Durham, 1997; Judge, Locke, Durham and Kluger, 1998), which concerns the fundamental assessment individuals make regarding their worth, competence, and capabilities (Judge, Bono, Erez, and Locke, 2005). Initially conceptualized as a predictor of job satisfaction (Judge et al., 1997), CSE has also shown positive relationships with job performance (Ferris et al., 2011; Grant and Wrzesniewski, 2010; Judge and Bono, 2001), motivation (Erez and Judge, 2001), and engagement (Rich, LePine, and Crawford, 2010). As such, whilst CSE is in essence an evaluation of the self, evidence suggests it may also influence how an individual interacts within the wider social context. However, despite this, there have been few attempts to examine the relationship between CSE and negative behavioral outcomes (for an exception see: Best, Stapleton, and Downey, 2005).

In order to address this gap, the current study examines whether CSE contributes to employees’ engagement in deviant behavior. Fundamentally, CSE is an evaluation of self-worth, and as such, this suggests that heightened CSE should gravitate individuals away from engaging in ‘un-worthy’ (i.e. deviant) behaviors. This reasoning may be supported by evidence that individuals with heightened CSE are more likely to engage in pro-social attitudes and behaviors (e.g. Erez and Judge, 2001; Grant and Wrzesniewski, 2010; Judge and Bono, 2001; Rich et al., 2010). As such, we argue that greater or lower levels of CSE will result in individuals who are less or more likely to engage in deviant behavior. Combining this argument with self-regulation
theory, we suggest that employees with heightened CSE are likely to therefore possess and attain more resources relevant for their work, which in turn results in the greater ability to self-control behavior; thus, reducing deviant behavior. Our proposition is derived from previous research that has consistently shown that individuals with high CSE are better equipped to deal with workplace stressors such as incivility or increased workload, while those with low CSE may perceive those stressors as overwhelming, thus reducing their ability to overcome them (Beattie & Griffin, 2014; van Doorn & Hulsheger, 2015). These studies demonstrate that individuals present negative reactions to these stressors, such as disengagement or depression, only when they lack the personal resources to deal with them, as depicted by low CSE.

However, self-regulation theory is predominantly based on the assumption that an individual’s self-control is subject to stimulus experienced in the broader situational environment. Applying this to the work context, certain scholars have argued that the work environment has an inherently draining effect on employees, brought about through work demands (Crawford, Lepine, and Rich, 2010; Demerouti, Bakker, Nachreiner, and Schaufeli, 2001; Wilk and Moynihan, 2005), having to deal with uncertainty (Ashford and Cummings, 1985; Lind and van den Bos, 2002; Tangirala and Alge, 2006; Thau et al., 2009) and the need to self-regulate behavior (Baumeister, 1998; Muraven and Baumeister, 2000). As such, this suggests that employees may experience constant pressure to maintain the necessary energy, or resources, needed to self-control base instincts.

Given this, we argue that as well as possessing greater baseline levels of self-resources, CSE theory is implicit that individuals with heightened CSE are also better equipped to develop, capitalize on, and maintain, social resources from the environment (i.e. situational). Taking a person-environment perspective, we utilize a conservation of resources perspective (Hobfoll,
1989; Hobfoll and Freedy, 1993) in order to test this; proposing that the degree to which employees are able to attain resources from the broader work environment, versus the extent to which resources are drained from the individual, acts as a mediating mechanism between CSE and deviance.

By utilizing this perspective, we argue that emotional exhaustion (Cropanzano, Rupp, and Byrne, 2003; Wright and Cropanzano, 1998) represents a critical depletion in resources, brought about via the draining effect of the work environment (Grant and Sonnentag, 2010). However, equally, the work environment may also present opportunities to acquire emotional resources to counterbalance this draining effect (c.f. Blau, 1964). We argue that trust in the supervisor (e.g. Dirks, 2000; Dirks and Ferrin, 2002) is a critical external resource, which helps to alleviate the negative (i.e. draining) effects of the work environment, by reducing uncertainty; thus, facilitating beliefs that the individual is better able to achieve desired outcomes and minimizing the occurrence of deviant behaviors (Colquitt, Scott & LePine, 2007). Because trust entails a willingness to become vulnerable to the actions of another individual (Mayer, Davis & Schoorman, 1995), it is strongly connected to feelings of psychological safety, characterized by a belief that the team or organization is safe for risk taking and where individuals are comfortable being themselves (Edmondson, 1999). Such as reduction in uncertainty is then reflected in how individuals deal with difficulties, providing them with additional external resources that enable them, for example, to effectively learn from failure, rather than merely detect and correct it (Carmeli, 2007). Moreover, the ability of individuals high in CSE to garner positive relationships with others, namely supervisors, has been demonstrated in the literature (e.g., Beattie & Griffin, 2014; Sears & Hackett, 2011). This is due to their ability in securing leader feedback and communicating effectively, which are key pillars in the establishment of
high quality relationships with supervisors, of which trust is the main indicator, and that stem from their positive view of the self (Sears & Hackett, 2011). Overall, we argue that both trust in the supervisor and emotional exhaustion are key mechanisms through which an individual’s (higher versus lower) CSE is associated with deviant behaviors, as a result of their (greater versus lesser) reserves of resources needed to self-control behavior.

1.1. Core Self-Evaluations

Core self-evaluations is a general, latent personality trait concerning an individual’s fundamental self-evaluation of their worthiness, capabilities and competence that is based on traits that are evaluation-focus, fundamental (i.e., source versus surface traits) and broad in scope (Judge et al., 1997; Judge et al., 2005), and has been described as the “the most useful personality trait in the realm of human performance” (Judge, van Vianen, and De Pater, 2004: p. 342). This concept builds on Packer’s (1985) suggestion that there are “core evaluations [that] are basic conclusions, bottom-line evaluations that we all hold subconsciously” (p. 3) and that shape all other appraisals we make about events, objects and people. Within the CSE construct, Judge et al. (1997) utilized the self-evaluative traits of self-esteem (i.e. the overall degree a person believes him/herself to be worthy and of value), generalized self-efficacy (i.e. a person’s estimate of his/her fundamental ability to cope, perform, and be successful), locus of control (i.e. the degree to which a person believes they, as opposed to other factors, control outcomes in life), and (low) neuroticism (i.e. the tendency to have a negative view of the self and the future); together, these four traits are conceptualized to form the higher order trait of CSE (Judge et al., 2005). Essentially, Judge et al. (2003) posited that “an individual who scores high on core self-evaluations is someone who is well adjusted, positive, self-confident, efficacious, and believes in his or her own agency” (p. 304). Overall, CSE is seen as a positive predictor of life satisfaction,
and likewise, is seen as a negative predictor of strain, stress and depression (Judge, et al., 2005; Judge, et al., 2003).

Although each of the dimensions of CSE has a rich literature of their own (e.g., Judge & Bono, 2001), CSE as a higher-order concept has received strong theoretical and empirical validation (Gardner & Pierce, 2009; Judge et al., 2004). While there is value in examining each of the facets individually, such stream of research fails to acknowledge the commonality between these traits, such as positivity of self-description or lower susceptibility to self-relevant social cues (Judge et al., 2004). The study of CSE as representing the shared variance among the four traits has garnered strong empirical support, namely by demonstrating that each facet individually has little incremental validity when controlling for their common core (Judge et al., 2004). Thus, all four dimensions should be measured and then aggregated into a broad personality trait (Johnson et al., 2008). When compared to other personality traits such as the Big Five, there is also evidence suggesting that CSE is relevant in the prediction of workplace behaviors over and beyond the effect of the Big Five dimensions (Johnson, Kristof-Brown, van Vianen, DePater & Klein, 2004; Salvaggio, Schneider, Nishii, Mayer, Ramesh & Lyon, 2007). Taken together, these results support the relevance of studying CSE in the context of work.

Whilst it is inherently an evaluation of the self, CSE may also manifest itself in the behaviors of individuals, as evidenced by the positive link between CSE and job performance (e.g. Kacmar, Collins, Harris, and Judge, 2009). Specifically within the context of work, Grant and Wrzesniewski (2010) noted that “because they feel capable of succeeding and view themselves as more worthy and in control, employees with high core self-evaluations engage in more frequent goal-setting, display greater effort and persistence toward achieving their goals, and capitalize more effectively on their opportunities and resources” (p. 108).
Two mechanisms are implicit within the literature concerning how CSE influences behavioral outcomes. Firstly, through emotional generalization, where positive self-evaluations spill over and influence other psychological processes, such as perceptions and attributions (Chang, Ferris, Johnson, Rosen, and Tan, 2012). An example can be found in the consistent relationship between CSE and positive feelings about one’s work, namely job satisfaction (Judge & Bono, 2000; Judge et al., 2005). As such, heightened CSE may result in individuals who are predisposed to interpret, not just themselves, but the wider social environment in a more positive manner. This in turn may have a positive influence on how the individual engages with the social environment. Secondly, heightened CSE may initiate a self-fulfilling prophesy, in that in order to maintain consistency with their CSE, individuals engage in behaviors that substantiate and affirm their positive self-evaluation. For example, Judge, et al. (2005) utilized self-concordance (Sheldon and Elliot, 1998, 1999) and self-determination theories (Ryan and Deci, 2000), arguing that CSE is positively related to the desire to achieve self-relevant goals. Therefore, heightened CSE may mandate individuals who have positive beliefs about their ability to achieve relevant future outcomes and states, and thus, they consistently engage in constructive behaviors, in order to achieve those desired outcomes and states.

In sum, the literature suggests that as a broad trait, CSE influences individuals to engage in behavior which is consistent with their self-evaluation. As such, heightened CSE relates to positive behaviors (e.g. increased job performance), whilst the literature is implicit (as there is still little empirical evidence) that engaging in negative behaviors (e.g. deviance) would run contrary to heightened CSE.

1. 2 CSE, Resources, and Emotional Exhaustion
To explain the relationship between CSE and employees’ subsequent behaviors, we draw on theories related to social and psychological resources (c.f. Hobfoll, 2002). For example, conservation of resources theory (Hobfoll, 1989; Hobfoll and Freedy, 1993) suggests that individuals have a finite source of resources at their disposal, helping them cope with stressors and demands experienced in the work environment (Hobfoll, 1989; Hobfoll and Freedy, 1993; Lee and Ashforth, 1996). Hobfoll (1989) defined resources, “as those objects, personal characteristics, conditions, or energies that are valued by the individual or that serve as a means for attainment of these objects” (p. 516). Whilst the literature suggests that these resources may be enhanced and/or acquired by experiences in the situational work context (Gorgievski and Hobfoll, 2008), in turn, experiences at work may also act to deplete these resources (Bakker, Demerouti, and Euwema, 2005; Demerouti, et al., 2001; Halbesleben, 2006; Hobfoll, 1989). Indeed, some scholars have argued that the work environment has an inherently draining effect on employees, in that job demands (such as workload, time pressures, physical and mental demands, etc.) require effort, which subsequently depletes an individual’s reserve of resources (e.g. Crawford, et al., 2010; Halbesleben, 2006).

To counteract the draining effect of work, employees may draw upon resources from either internal (i.e. the self) or through external (i.e. the wider situational environment) sources. From an internal perspective, an individual’s CSE may be recognized as a fundamental step in the process through which individuals generate psychological resources necessary to cope with the inherent demands associated with work (Luria and Torjman, 2009; Kammeyer-Mueller, Judge, and Scott, 2009). Essentially, heightened CSE may foster an increase in an individual’s inner belief that they have the ability, and control, to overcome work demands and stressors (i.e. through possessing greater self-efficacy and have a more internal locus of control); and further,
that they are worthy as a person (i.e. greater self-esteem), as well as possessing a positive belief in themselves and their future (i.e. lower neuroticism). As such, as well as having greater levels of self-resources, heightened CSE may also act as a self-perpetuating mechanism; enabling employees to be better able to overcome work demands and stressors, and in turn by doing so, affirming positive self-evaluations.

Whilst individuals with higher CSE may be better able to attain and maintain resources to deal with the daily difficulties and challenges, it goes to reason that individuals with lower CSE are less able to do so, and thus, more likely to experience depleted resources. Our assertion is supported by empirical evidence that highlights the buffering role of CSE in the process of coping with workplace stressors. For example, the longitudinal diary study conducted by Beattie and Griffin (2014) found that increased exposure to incivility decreased work engagement but only for individuals with low CSE. Similarly, van Doorn & Hulsheger (2015) found that increased workload and emotional job demands only led to depression for low CSE individuals.

In our study we argue that depleted resources may also manifest itself in a state of increased emotional exhaustion, which is characterized by a chronic state of depleted physical and emotional resources (Cropanzano et al, 2003), and is seen as the ‘hallmark’ of burnout (Grant and Sonnenteg, 2010), having a deleterious effect on an individual’s physical and mental well-being (Kahill, 1988; Maslach and Leiter, 1997). According to conservation of resources theory, “emotional exhaustion is most likely to occur when there is an actual resource loss, a perceived threat of resource loss, a situation in which one's resources are inadequate to meet work demands, or when the anticipated returns are not obtained on an investment of resources” (Wright and Cropanzano, 1998: p 487). Therefore, emotional exhaustion represents a depletion in employees’ resources, and is seen to foster psychological states of cynicism and inefficacy
(Halbesleben and Buckley, 2004; Maslach, Schaufeli, and Leiter, 2001; Perry, Witt, Penney, and Atwater, 2010). As such, CSE and emotional exhaustion should be negatively related to each other, as employees with heightened CSE (characterized by high self-efficacy and self-esteem, an internal locus of control, and low neuroticism) are better equipped with effective internal resources to deal with work demands, therefore showing lower instances of psychological and physiological strain.

Hypothesis 1: CSE is negatively related to emotional exhaustion.

1.3 CSE, Resources, and Trust in the Supervisor

Regarding the external situational environment, individuals can be seen to garner resources from the social relationships they form at work. For example, exchange theories (e.g. Blau, 1964; Homans, 1958; March and Simon, 1958) have been instrumental in our understanding of social dynamics within the workplace (Coyle-Shapiro and Conway, 2004; Cropanzano and Mitchell, 2005), proposing that the employment relationship can essentially be seen as an exchange of resources (e.g. Foa and Foa, 1980). Broadly, these resources are either tangible and economic (e.g. pay, benefits, etc.), or intangible and socio-emotional in nature (e.g. praise, appreciation, status, respect, caring, etc.).

Utilizing a social exchange perspective (Blau, 1964), a crucial source of resources for the employee may stem from the relationship the employee forms with their immediate supervisor. Broadly, the literature suggests that the immediate supervisor is a key figure in influencing employees’ experience of the work environment (e.g. Liden, Sparrowe, and Wayne, 1997; Perry et al., 2010; Rosen, Harris and Kacmar, 2011), such that the supervisor plays a critical role in bestowing conditions that enable the employee to achieve successful work outcomes (Perry et al., 2010; Rosen et al., 2011), as well as providing treatment that can buffer (i.e. protect)
employees from work related stressors (e.g. Harris and Kacmar, 2005). Of particular note, the immediate supervisor may play a key role in alleviating the negative (i.e. draining) effect that uncertainty has on the self (Hogg, 2001). For example, uncertainty management theory (Lind and Van den Bos, 2002; Van den Bos and Lind, 2002) suggests that the work context, may be inherently characterized by uncertainty; in that employees may essentially be unsure as to the outcomes (be they positive or negative) that they may, or may not, receive and/or achieve. The literature concerning uncertainty has consistently emphasized its negative impact on individuals, such that it fosters anxiety regarding the ability to control the immediate environment (Tangirala and Alge, 2006). Supervisors can clarify goals, define roles, responsibilities, and priorities, as well as provide the means and structures by which to achieve objectives (Colbert and Witt, 2009). In doing so, Perry et al. (2010) note that supervisors can have a positive effect on employees’ resources, by limiting uncertainty and ambiguity. Therefore, the relationship the employee has with the supervisor may be critical for the employee’s ability to experience success at work. Or in other words, the degree to which an employee experiences success at work, may (to a lesser or greater extent) be reliant on the relationship they have with their supervisor.

Within the framework of social exchange theory (Blau, 1964), interpersonal trust plays a key role. Thus, within the work context, and due to the role played by direct supervisors, trust in the supervisor may be a key indicator of the quality of the social exchange between the supervisor and their subordinates (for a review see: Dirks and Ferrin, 2002). It can be defined as “the willingness of a party to be vulnerable to the actions of another party based on the expectation that the other will perform a particular action important to the trustor, irrespective of the ability to monitor or control that other party” (Mayer, Davis and Schoorman, 1995, p. 712). We argue that with individuals being motivated to both reduce and manage uncertainty (e.g.
Ashford, 1983, 1986; Ashford and Cummings, 1985; Lind and Van den Bos, 2002; Van den Bos and Lind, 2002), trust in the supervisor may help to address the draining effect of uncertainty on an individual’s resources. Practically, this may be achieved by examining the situational context for cues relating to the value the supervisor places on the individual (such that greater value denotes the other parties likely positive treatment - Lind and van den Bos, 2002; Rosen et al., 2011; van den Bos and Lind, 2002). As such, we argue that trust in the supervisor is a resource which helps to provide predictability and assurances regarding future work related events, as well fostering beliefs that work related outcomes will be positive for the employee.

We argue that individuals with heightened CSE may display (and therefore, benefit from) greater trust in the supervisor for two reasons. Firstly, heightened CSE has shown positive relationships with personal trust in others (Gardner & Pierce, 2009), social support (Rey, Extremera, Pelaez-Fernandez, 2015), and more importantly leader-member exchange (Sears & Hackett, 2011; LMX – Graen and Uhl-Bien, 1995; Liden et al., 1997) and perceived supervisor support (Beattie & Griffin, 2014), which suggests that CSE facilitates the development of successful interpersonal relationships between the employee and the supervisor. Thus, supervisors may be more likely to relay social cues of value (i.e. a resource) towards employees with heightened CSE, which in turn, may enhance trust and thus reduce uncertainty. Secondly, heightened CSE may predicate more positive perceptions of the wider social environment (through lower neuroticism and greater self-esteem); in this case heightened CSE may result in more favorable perceptions and attributions concerning the interpersonal relationship with the supervisor. Therefore, individuals with heightened CSE may be more predisposed to trust their supervisor (such that supervisors’ acts are more likely to be deemed trustworthy).

Hypothesis 2: CSE is positively related to trust in the supervisor
1.4 CSE, Self-Regulation Impairment and Deviance

The vast majority of deviance literatures have accounted for workplace deviance through retaliatory based explanations, influenced by logic derived from negative reciprocity (Gouldner, 1960) and equity (Adams, 1965) theories. However, more recently some scholars have proposed a new framework, arguing that under certain conditions employees may engage in deviant behavior primarily due to an inability to control the self (Thau et al., 2007; Thau and Mitchell, 2010). Theory relating to self-regulation (Baumeister, 1998; Muraven and Baumeister, 2000; Schmeichel and Baumeister, 2004) suggests that individuals have impulsive needs, and/or impulsive reactions, in relation to certain stimulus. It is through the executive function of the self that individuals may apply self-control in order to contain these impulses, and thus, manage individuals’ “baset instincts” (Schmeichel and Baumeister, 2004: p 84) which can be destructive to the self and others. As such, self-control enables individuals to cognitively self-direct their behaviors. Further, theory holds that self-control requires cognitive effort (Schmeichel and Baumeister, 2004), and thus, requires individuals to possess the necessary resources (i.e. energy) in which to enact self-control. Therefore, due to the fact that workplace norms require employees to behave in a certain manner (e.g. co-operation with colleagues, adherence to rules and procedures, courteousness to customers, etc.), employees may need to constantly engage (to varying degrees) in self-control. This in turn requires, and depletes, an individual’s reserve of resources (Muraven and Baumeister, 2000), and that with a decrease in these resources the greater the likelihood of employees engaging in deviant behavior (e.g. Christian and Ellis, 2011; Wang, Liao, Zhan, and Shi, 2011). Utilizing self-control theory, we argue that the work environment places pressure on employees, draining resources through job demands, uncertainty and the need to self-control behavior. For each individual employee, a critical threshold may be
reached when they no longer have the necessary resources to maintain self-control, thus increasing the likelihood of deviant behavior.

Therefore, we argue that an individual’s ability to conserve their resources from the draining effect of the situational work environment (expressed through a reduction in emotional exhaustion) as well as the ability to capitalize on resources (expressed through an increase in trust in the supervisor) act as mediating mechanisms between CSE and workplace deviance. Specifically, lower CSE represents a lesser reserve of, and ability to extract, resources from the situational environment, and thus, a higher propensity to suffer emotional exhaustion. This in turn suggests that employees are less able to control negative impulses and desires, which may manifest itself as workplace deviance. Conversely, higher CSE represents not only a greater reserve of self-resources but also an increased ability to develop social resources, which may manifest itself in the establishment of trust-based relationships with meaningful others (i.e. supervisors). Further, heightened CSE may represent a greater propensity to capitalize on these social resources, resulting in lower workplace deviance.

Following this line of reasoning, it may also be important to consider the motivational mechanisms that drive deviant behavior. For example, retaliatory based explanations have suggested that employees actively seek (i.e. a cognitive process) to direct deviant behavior towards a specific target (Halbesleben, 2006) in order to restore some form of equity (or fairness). However, we argue that from a self-control impairment perspective, employees whose reserve of resources are diminished to the point that they are unable to restrain negative impulses, will not target their deviant behavior (as such), but rather will lash out, motivated by base instincts. As such, an inability to self-control behavior suggests that workplace deviance may be a more subconscious and reactive in nature. Therefore, when we consider that the extant
literature suggests that workplace deviance can be categorically sub-divided according to the intended target of the behavior (between interpersonal targeted deviance, and organizational targeted deviance - Bennett and Robinson, 2000; Robinson and Bennett, 1995; Berry et al., 2007), we argue that deviant behavior will not be targeted as such (either towards other individuals, or the organization), but rather, other individuals, the organization, or both, may be subject to deviant behavior, as and when an employee is unable to restrain negative impulses.

Hypothesis 3: Emotional exhaustion mediates the negative relationship between CSE and (a) interpersonal, and (b) organizational, workplace deviance

Hypothesis 4: Trust in the supervisor mediates the negative relationship between CSE and (a) interpersonal, and (b) organizational, workplace deviance

2. Method

2.1 Sample and Procedure

Our research team invited several organizations to participate in the current study. Thirty-five organizations agreed to participate allowing us to disseminate surveys to their employees and corresponding supervisors. These were from a variety of sectors, including the travel and food industry (16 organizations), banking (3), sports outlets (3), construction (3), consultancy agencies (2), education (2) energy (2), telecommunications, health care, decoration and organic products. These contacts were done at different levels (e.g., CEOs, top management, HR managers). We first asked employees if they were willing to participate, and if they agreed we then asked their supervisor to answer a survey concerning that employee. In total, we invited 672 employees to participate, and of these, 67 declined to participate in the study or did not return the survey. Subsequently, we contacted the supervisors of those employees that had agreed to participate in the study, and of these, 42 refused to participate in the study or did not return the
survey. Our response rate for dyads (i.e., both the employee and the supervisor agreed to participate) was 84%. After removing 45 dyads due to miscompletion, our final sample was comprised of 518 employee-supervisor dyads.

The subordinates were on average 34.8 years old, and 51% were female. Their average tenure in the organization was 7.7 years, while the average tenure with the supervisor was 3.4 years. Employee’s education level was 16% less than high school, 38% high school diploma, and 46% university degree. Supervisors were on average 39.5 years old, and 42% were female. Their average tenure in the organization was 9.9 years. Supervisor’s education level was 3% less than high school, 19% high school diploma, and 78% university degree.

2.2 Measures

For all the scales, except emotional exhaustion and organizational size, we used a 5-point Likert scale, ranging from 1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree.

Control variables. Organizational size is significantly related to several employee attitudes and behaviors (Neves, 2012; Pierce and Gardner, 2004; Su, Baird and Blair, 2009), and therefore should be accounted for when samples are derived from multiple organizations varying in size. We classified the participating organizations into five categories: 1 = less than 10 employees; 2 = between 10 and 100 employees; 3 = between 100 and 500 employees; 4 = between 500 and 1,000 employees; 5 = more than 1,000 employees. We also examined the influence of demographic variables (employees’ organizational tenure, age, gender and education) in our model. Becker (2005) recommends that researchers should beware of impotent control variables (i.e., those not significantly related to the outcome variables), as they reduce statistical power. As a result of the examination of the correlations between the control variables and our study’s outcomes, we included organizational size and employees’ age and education in
our analyses. Additionally, and given that our organizations came from different sectors, we also assessed if there were any differences between them. Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) tests showed that there were significant differences for CSE ($t = 1.95$, $p < .05$), trust in the supervisor ($t = 5.63$, $p < .01$), emotional exhaustion ($t = 5.93$, $p < .01$), interpersonal deviance ($t = 3.23$, $p < .01$), and organizational deviance ($t = 3.25$, $p < .01$). Post-hoc analyses using the Bonferroni test showed that these differences were concentrated in specific sectors: sports outlets presented higher trust in the supervisor than four other sectors (consultancy agencies, banking, energy and decoration) and higher emotional exhaustion than five sectors (travel and food, banking, education, energy and decoration); decoration presented lower emotional exhaustion than seven sectors (travel and food, consultancy agencies, banking, sports outlets, telecommunications, health care and construction) and higher interpersonal deviance than three sectors (banking, telecommunications and energy); restauration presented lower trust in the supervisor than consultancy agencies, banking, energy and decoration, and higher organizational deviance than telecommunications and health care; and telecommunications presented lower interpersonal deviance than travel and food and decoration. Given the differences found, we also included four dummy coded variables in our model representing each of the sectors in which significant differences appeared. No significant differences were found in the post-hoc analysis for CSE, which seems to suggest that our sub- samples are similar at the individual differences level.

**CSE.** We measured CSE with the Core Self-Evaluations Scale (CSES) developed by Judge et al. (2003). The scale has 12 items and is composed of four specific core traits: self-esteem, generalized self-efficacy, neuroticism, and locus of control. Sample items include “I am confident I get the success I deserve in life” (self-esteem), “Sometimes when I fail I feel
worthless” (R) (neuroticism), I determine what will happen in my life. (locus of control), and “I am filled with doubts about my competence” (R) (self-efficacy). Cronbach’s alpha was .73.

*Emotional exhaustion.* To measure emotional exhaustion we used Schaufeli, Leiter, Maslach and Jackson’s (1996) emotional exhaustion subscale of the Maslach Burnout Inventory – General Survey (MBI-GS). The original scale is comprised of 5 items, such as “I feel emotionally drained by my work” and “I feel tired when I get up in the morning and have to face another day on the job”. The emotional exhaustion scale ranged from 1 = Never to 5 = Very often. Cronbach’s alpha was .82.

*Trust in the supervisor.* To measure trust in the supervisor, we used 6 items from McAllister’s (1995) interpersonal trust scale. Sample items include “We have a sharing relationship. We can both freely share our ideas, feelings, and hopes” and “I can rely on my supervisor not to make my job more difficult by careless work”. Cronbach’s alpha was .78.

*Deviance.* To measure deviance, we asked supervisors to rate their employees using 10 items adapted from Aquino et al. (1999) and Robinson and Bennett’s (1995) scales. The measure included 5 items describing organizational deviance (e.g., “This employee intentionally arrives late for work” and “This employee covers up his/hers mistakes”) and 5 items describing interpersonal deviance directed at co-workers (e.g., “This employee competes with his/hers coworkers in an unproductive way” and “This employee gossips about his/hers coworkers”). Cronbach’s alphas were .76 for organizational deviance and .77 for interpersonal deviance.

3. Results

Means, standard deviations, Cronbach’s alphas, and the zero-order correlations for all variables are presented in Table 1. Reliabilities for all scales were acceptable, ranging from .73 to .82. A brief review of the correlation matrix indicated that CSE was significantly related to all
the variables in our model, except interpersonal deviance. Organizational size was positively related to trust in the supervisor and negatively to organizational deviance, while age was positively related to trust in the supervisor and education was positively related to CSE and trust in the supervisor and negatively related to interpersonal deviance.

Given that supervisors rated on average between 3 and 4 subordinates, our observations are not independent and it is possible that there are potential differences between teams. Thus, we used the pooled within covariance matrix (i.e., controlling for the variance within supervisor) to test our hypotheses, instead of using the raw data, since the pooled within covariance matrix is an unbiased estimate of the population within groups covariance matrix (Cohen, Cohen, West & Aiken, 2003) and has been previously used in organizational research (e.g., Liu, Borg & Spector, 2004; Neves & Caetano, 2009).

To assess the distinctiveness of the five constructs, we first conducted confirmatory factor analyses (CFA). Specifically, we compared our five-factor model with three additional models: A four-factor model where we combined organizational and interpersonal deviance, as these may be considered sub-types of deviance, thus being part of the same construct; a two-factor model, where we separated all the items collected from employees (i.e., CSE, emotional exhaustion and trust in the supervisor) from those reported by the supervisors (i.e., organizational and interpersonal deviance); and a one-factor model where all items loaded into a single factor.

Because CSE comprises four sub-dimensions (self-esteem, self-efficacy, locus of control and neuroticism), we followed the advice of Bagozzi and Edwards (1998) and aggregated the items within each facet, using the resulting four composites as indicators of CSE. This strategy is particularly useful when the measurement scale has multiple subscales and facets sharing sufficient common variance, as is the case for the sub-dimensions of CSE. Hall, Snell and Foust
(1999) found that combining items that share an unmodeled secondary influence (as is the case of sub-dimensions of a given construct) into the same parcel enhances the accuracy of parameter estimates. The Lagrange multiplier test (Bentler, 1995) recommended estimating three residual correlations in our models: between the self-esteem and self-efficacy dimensions of the CSE scale, two items of the emotional exhaustion scale, and two items from the trust in the supervisor scale.

Chi-square difference tests (Bentler and Bonett, 1980; James, Mulaik and Brett, 1982) revealed that the more constrained models presented a significantly better fit, when compared to least constrained models (Table 2). Overall, the five-factor model presented the best fit ($\chi^2(262) = 697.31$, $p < .01$; GFI = .91; CFI = .88; RMSEA = .06; SRMR = .05). Factor loadings were all acceptable, ranging between .45 and .74 for CSE, .62 and .71 for emotional exhaustion, .49 and .64 for trust in the supervisor, .45 and .67 for organizational deviance and .45 and .76 for interpersonal deviance.

Tests of hypotheses

To test our hypotheses, we used structural equation modeling (SEM). First, we ran a full-mediation model, where CSE was indirectly related to deviance, through the two hypothesized mediators: emotional exhaustion and trust in the supervisor. This model presented an acceptable fit ($\chi^2(432) = 765.72$, $p < .01$; CFI = .92; GFI = .92; RMSEA = .04; SRMR = .04). We then compared the full mediation model with two partial mediation models, one adding a direct path between CSE and interpersonal deviance ($\chi^2(431) = 763.79$, $p < .01$; $\Delta \chi^2(1) = 1.82$; CFI = .92; GFI = .92; RMSEA = .04; SRMR = .04), and the other adding a direct path between CSE and organizational deviance ($\chi^2(431) = 759.47$, $p < .01$; $\Delta \chi^2(1) = 6.25$, $p < .05$; CFI = .92; GFI = .92; RMSEA = .04; SRMR = .04). The partial mediation model that included a path between CSE
and organizational deviance accounted for a significant improvement in statistical fit. Thus, our results refer to the partial mediation model, depicted in Figure 1.

CSE was negatively related to emotional exhaustion ($\beta = -0.59, p < .01$) and positively related to trust in the supervisor ($\beta = 0.50, p < .01$), as predicted in hypotheses 1 and 2. In turn, emotional exhaustion was significantly related to both interpersonal ($\beta = 0.18, p < .01$) and organizational deviance ($\beta = 0.25, p < .01$). Conversely, trust in the supervisor was significantly related to organizational deviance ($\beta = -0.26, p < .01$), but not to interpersonal deviance ($\beta = -0.07, p > .05$). Since one of the conditions for mediation was not met (i.e., the link between trust in the supervisor and interpersonal deviance), we did not find support for hypothesis 4(a). CSE also presented a significant direct relationship with organizational deviance ($\beta = -0.19, p < .05$).

To test the overall indirect effects, we conducted z-prime tests (MacKinnon, Lockwood, Hoffman, West and Sheets, 2002), derived from the Sobel test (Sobel, 1982). This method to test mediations provides superior power and a lower Type 1 error rate when compared to other methods (MacKinnon et al., 2002). The negative indirect effects of CSE on interpersonal and organizational deviance through a decrease in emotional exhaustion were significant ($z' = -2.53, p < .05$; and $z' = -3.11, p < .05$, respectively), thus supporting hypotheses 3(a) and 3(b). Moreover, the negative indirect effect of CSE on organizational deviance through an increase in trust in the supervisor was significant ($z' = -3.15, p < .05$), supporting hypothesis 4(b).

4. Discussion

The aim of our research was to examine the relationship between employees’ CSE and deviant behavior; further, by utilizing a conservation of resources framework, we argued that this relationship is mediated by the degree to which employees develop trust in their supervisor, versus the extent to which they experience emotional exhaustion. In doing so, we proposed and
tested a person-environment model, with the aim to extend theoretical and empirical understanding of the antecedents and mechanisms that contribute to deviant behavior. Overall, with one exception, the empirical findings supported our hypotheses. Specifically, we found that emotional exhaustion was a significant mediator for the relationship between CSE and deviance directed at other individuals and the organization, whilst trust in the supervisor fully mediated the relationship between CSE and deviance directed at the organization.

4.1 Theoretical Implications

Workplace deviance remains a popular area of interest within the organizational behavior and related literatures, yet surprisingly, explanations for why employees may (or may not) engage in deviance have been predominately limited to assumptions that it results from a desire to seek some form of revenge (e.g. Skarlicki and Folger, 1997), or that certain employees may possess certain personality traits that make them more (or less) likely to engage in such behavior (Judge et al., 2006). Our findings add weight to the emerging alternative explanation that deviant behavior may result from a critical depletion of emotional resources, resulting in an inability to self-regulate behavior (e.g. Thau and Mitchell, 2010). However, our findings go further to suggest that the individual trait of CSE predicts the degree to which employees are likely to experience depletion of emotional resources and are able to obtain resources from the social environment, and thus engage in deviance.

We argue that this research provides a number of theoretical contributions. Firstly, research concerning CSE has traditionally focused on positive outcomes such as job performance, satisfaction, engagement, motivation, among others. However, our theorizing and empirical findings suggest that employees’ CSE may also help us understand why employees may (or may not) engage in more negative attitudes and behaviors. Secondly, an initial
consideration of CSE theory suggests the importance of ‘worth’ in the evaluation of the self (Judge et al., 1998), and as such, may arguably suggest that employees with higher CSE will be less inclined to engage in ‘unworthy’ behavior (i.e. deviance). This reasoning essentially points to CSE as a direct predictor of deviance, and therefore supporting an argument that individual traits directly correspond to a predisposition to engage in deviance. However, by utilizing a conservation of resources framework, we took a different approach, suggesting that CSE not only relates to the level that an individual possesses innate resources (reflected in reduced emotional exhaustion), but also relates to an individual’s ability to develop and capitalize on resources sourced from the external situational environment (by establishing trust-based relationships with their supervisor). Thus, our model provides a combined person and situational account for deviant behavior, and as such, our findings lend support to the relatively small amount of literature that points to the need to consider both individual factors and the situational environment when considering why employees engage in deviance.

Thirdly, the extant literature is also implicit that CSE is based not just on the experience of past successes or failures but also on the belief that the individual will be able to achieve future outcomes that they desire and are important for them. We propose that trust in the supervisor may be crucial in facilitating confidence in achieving these outcomes given the key role they play in employees overall experience of work (Liden et al., 1997); in that they not only monitor work and assign tasks, but more importantly, they reduce uncertainty about the future by impacting employees’ sense-making processes (Eisenberger et al., 2010) and protecting employees against workplace stressors (Harris and Kacmar, 2005). Further, heightened CSE suggests that employees are more able to capitalize on trust in the supervisor (Colquitt et al.,
2007) due to lower levels of neuroticism. As such, our findings suggest that CSE promotes interpersonal trust, which in turn, reduces the willingness to engage in deviant behaviors.

Finally, we argue that a dynamic may exist whereby employees with heightened CSE are better able to develop and extract greater ‘certainty’ from the situational environment as well from within the self. Whereas employees with lower CSE may struggle to do so, and hence, may doubt that they can achieve important outcomes; which in turn, may cause a threat to the self (e.g. Higgins, 1987). This may be explained by the fact that, to a certain extent, they are influenced by ‘experiences’ they have within the external context (Judge, 2009; Judge, Hirst, and Simon, 2009; Wu and Griffin, 2012). We suggest that employees may be more prone to emotional exhaustion due to the utilization of emotional resources in an attempt to contain this threat to the self. Indeed, this reasoning may be supported by research that suggests that individuals with heightened CSE are more likely to pursue positive outcomes, whilst conversely, lower CSE is related to individuals who solely desire to avert negative outcomes and states (Judge et al., 2005).

4.2 Practical Implications

We also believe the present study carries implications for practice. First, it draws attention to the relevance of CSE as a predictor of self-regulatory skill, which in turn predicts employee deviance. Managers may wish to gain a greater understanding of their subordinates’ levels of CSE, in order to identify the potential risk of deviant behavior. With regard to what impact managers (or managerial practices) may have on employees’ CSE, Judge (2009) recently suggested that CSE may also be influenced by experiences within the immediate social environment, which brings into question the assumption that CSE is mainly a broadly consistent and stable trait (c.f. Judge et al., 1998). Thus, we believe two aspects deserve attention. Firstly,
selection processes may wish to take into account candidates’ CSE, as proposed by Judge et al. (1998, 2003), as it impacts their ability to self-regulate behavior, and thus, the degree to which they may engage in deviant behaviors. Secondly, given that CSE should present short- and long-term variability due to its ties to the environment (Judge, 2009), managers may wish to invest in work environments and structures that may facilitate the development of the core facets of CSE; for example, greater role autonomy and a reduction in hierarchy and bureaucracy may encourage greater internal locus of control and self-efficacy, whilst praise and recognition for work well done could enhance self-esteem, and the greater the degree of fairness of processes and the allocation of resources may help reduce neuroticism. While these hypotheses still have to be tested, such an approach is also supported by evidence concerning a) how personality changes across the life span, with unique patterns of development at all stages of life as a result of specific life experiences (Roberts & Mroezek, 2008); and b) the interplay of personality and the environment in the development of person-environment fit, i.e., the compatibility between an individual and his/her work environment based on a good match between their characteristics (Kristoff-Brown, Zimmerman & Johnson, 2005).

Moreover, it also calls attention to the importance of the supervisor in providing socio-emotional resources, (through the establishment of trust-based relationships), as a key counterbalance to the emotionally draining effect work (and specifically uncertainty) may inevitably have on employees. Thus, organizations should also endeavor efforts in order to develop a cooperative climate in which trust-based relationships between supervisors and their subordinates are fostered. Such a climate of trust can be promoted in other ways, beyond the development of CSE: by creating a psychologically safe environment where individuals feel they can take risks (e.g., speak up) without fear of embarrassment, rejection or punishment
(Edmondson, 1999) or by fostering high-quality relationships (i.e., LMX) between supervisors and their teams (Rockstuhl, Dulebohn, Ang & Shore, 2012). Also, given that trust is hard to build but can be easily destroyed, managers should also consider how to respond to trust violations, as responses such as reticence (i.e., will not confirm or disconfirm the veracity of an allegation) seem to be a suboptimal approach when compared, for example, with an apology following a competence-based trust violation (Ferrin, Kim, Cooper & Dirks, 2007).

4.3 Limitations and Future Research

Theoretically, whilst we focused on trust in the supervisor as mediator between CSE and an individual’s ability to develop and capitalize on emotional resources (and thus the ability to self-regulate behavior), it could also be argued, for example, that an employee’s perceptions of organizational support (POS - Eisenberger, Huntington, Hutchison and Sowa, 1986) or perceptions of the quality of the LMX (Graen and Uhl-Bien, 1995; Liden et al., 1997), may also capture emotional resources that the employee may be able to acquire from the situational environment. However we chose to focus on trust in the supervisor due to its specific concern for future outcomes that the employee may or may not be able to achieve (i.e., willingness to put oneself in a position of vulnerability: Mayer et al., 1995). We reasoned that core to CSE is the belief that the individual can achieve desired outcomes, and that further, the supervisor was a key influence in this process. Whilst POS and LMX may implicitly refer to the organization’s or supervisor’s future positive treatment of the employee, they suggest that this future treatment (i.e. a resource) is at the discretion of either the organization, or the supervisor. We argue that trust in the supervisor essentially affects the degree to which the employee has confidence in their own agency in achieving desired outcomes, and thus provides a more accurate frame-of-reference when considering the influence of CSE on attitudinal and behavioral outcomes.
Although we argue that the individual’s interpretation of the context is (at least partly) due to individual differences, in our case CSE, it is also plausible that it is the interaction between individual and situation that determines behavioral outcomes. To rule out this alternative explanation we conducted additional analyses, where we tested the interaction effect of CSE and both emotional exhaustion and trust in the supervisor on deviant behaviors (directed at the organization and coworkers). The interaction between CSE and emotional exhaustion was not significant for either interpersonal (B = .07, p > .05) or organizational deviance (B = .04, p > .05). Similar results were found for the interaction between CSE and trust in the supervisor (interpersonal deviance: B = .09, p > .05; organizational deviance: B = .16, p > .05). These results suggest that the mediation model has a better fit to our data than the interaction model.

From an empirical perspective, the cross-sectional nature of our data does not allow us to make inferences of causality, and therefore our results should be interpreted with caution. Although our findings are grounded in a strong theoretical background, it is also possible to argue that both CSE and resources (which are inextricably linked to the wider situational environment) have a bi-directional influence on each other, as recently raised by Judge (2009) and Wu and Griffin (2012). Future research may look to account for this, for example, through using longitudinal or cross-lagged panel designs. Finally, our study only took into account two variables at the organizational level that might influence the relationship between CSE and employee attitudes and behaviors: organizational size and sector. However, other organizational-level variables might intervene in the process by shaping the context in which relationships occur, such as the age of the organization, geographical location or hierarchical structure, and therefore should be examined in future research.

5. Conclusion
We believe our study provides a number of important contributions as to why employees may, or may not, engage in deviant behavior. Whilst the majority of workplace deviance research has focused on either the situational environment, or, individual traits, in order to explain the cause of deviant behavior; our findings support the argument that examining both (i.e. taking a person-environment perspective) may more accurately account for the cause of such behavior. Specifically, our findings suggest that CSE has an important influence in determining levels of workplace deviance. However, as opposed to there being a direct pathway between heightened CSE and lower deviance, this relationship is mediated by the situational environment, such that employees are able to attain and maintain sufficient emotional resources. A critical depletion of resources may result in emotional exhaustion, which in turn may affect employees’ ability to self-regulate behavior. Our findings further suggest that heightened CSE may be key to facilitating enhanced social exchange relationships, which in turn, may provide emotional resources that aid self-regulation, and thus, reduce deviant behavior.
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Table 1.

*Descriptive statistics, zero-order correlations and Cronbach’s alphas*<sup>a</sup><sup>b</sup>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>S.D</th>
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<th>8</th>
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<td>1. CSE</td>
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<td>.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Emotional exhaustion</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td>.77</td>
<td>-.42**</td>
<td>(.82)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Trust in the supervisor</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>.71</td>
<td>.41**</td>
<td>-.35**</td>
<td>(.78)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>4. Interpersonal deviance</td>
<td>1.37</td>
<td>.56</td>
<td>-.14**</td>
<td>.16**</td>
<td>-.18**</td>
<td>(.76)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>5. Organizational deviance</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>.71</td>
<td>-.06</td>
<td>.15**</td>
<td>-.17**</td>
<td>.56**</td>
<td>(.77)</td>
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<td>6. Organizational size</td>
<td>3.49</td>
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<td>.01</td>
<td>.15**</td>
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<td>-.05</td>
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<td>-.09</td>
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<td>.26**</td>
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<td>8. Education</td>
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<td>.11*</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>.12**</td>
<td>-.09*</td>
<td>-.06</td>
<td>.43**</td>
<td>-.04</td>
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<td>9. Telecommunication sector&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>.00</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>.05</td>
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<td>10. Sport stores sector&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>.18**</td>
<td>-.14**</td>
<td>.04</td>
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<td>---</td>
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<td>.01</td>
<td>-.20**</td>
<td>.11*</td>
<td>.16**</td>
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<td>-.15**</td>
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<td>12. Decoration sector&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>-.20**</td>
<td>.08</td>
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<td>.01</td>
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<td>.11**</td>
<td>-.20**</td>
<td>-.07</td>
<td>-.07</td>
<td>-.13**</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Note.* **p < .01; *p < .05; CSE = Core Self-Evaluation; Organizational size was coded: 1= less than 10 employees, 2= between 10 and 100 employees, 3= between 100 and 500 employees, 4= between 500 and 1.000 employees, 5= more than 1.000 employees; Education was coded: 1 = 4<sup>th</sup> grade; 2 = 9<sup>th</sup> grade; 3 = 12<sup>th</sup> grade; 4 = Bachelor degree; 5 = Post-graduation.

<sup>a</sup> 5-point scales; <sup>b</sup> Cronbach’s alpha is reported on the diagonal; <sup>c</sup> Dummy coded variables where the respective sector was coded as 1 and all other sectors as 0.
Table 2.

*Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) fit indices*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Models</th>
<th>$\chi^2$</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>$\Delta \chi^2$</th>
<th>CFI</th>
<th>GFI</th>
<th>RMSEA</th>
<th>SRMR</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 factors</td>
<td>697.31**</td>
<td>262</td>
<td></td>
<td>.91</td>
<td>.88</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 factors&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>835.87**</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>156.56*</td>
<td>.89</td>
<td>.84</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 factors&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1272.85**</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>436.98*</td>
<td>.82</td>
<td>.72</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 factor</td>
<td>2138.37**</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>865.52*</td>
<td>.67</td>
<td>.47</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td>.12</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* $p < .05; ** p < .01

*Note. CFI = comparative fit index; GFI = Goodness-of-fit index; SRMR = standardized root mean square residual; RMSEA = root mean square error of approximation.*

<sup>a</sup> Equating organizational and interpersonal deviance

<sup>b</sup> Equating organizational and interpersonal deviance; and CSE, emotional exhaustion and trust in the supervisor
Figure 1. SEM results for the partial mediation model.

Note. For ease of presentation the paths from control variables are not depicted