

Justice and Personality Traits in Business Area: the relationship between Machiavellianism and Classroom Justice in Graduate Students

João Victor Lucas¹, Flaviano Costa²

^{1,2} Federal University of Parana, Brazil

Abstract.

This study aimed to analyse the relationship between Machiavellian traits and the classroom justice in postgraduate courses in the business area in Brazil. To achieve the proposed objective, data were collected through a survey, using the Revised Classroom Justice Scale (RCJS) and the Machiavellian Personality Scale (MPS). The valid sample obtained comprises 334 participations of graduate students in the business area regularly enrolled in 2021 in courses in the areas of Administration, Accounting or Economics. Data were analysed using Multiple Linear Regression. The results found allowed us to identify that the characteristics of Distrust in Others, Desire for Control and Desire for Status, belonging to Machiavellianism, significantly alter the perception of Classroom Justice of Graduate Students in the Business Area. On the other hand, the Amoral Manipulation characteristic did not offer a significant relationship to the change in the students' perception of Classroom Justice. When analysed individually, the Procedural and Interactional Justice confirmed the results presented for the construct in general. In conclusion, it presents the significant relationship between Machiavellian traits, except Amorality, with the perception of Classroom Justice of graduate students in the business area. These results serve as a basis for understanding the factors that can alter behaviour and perceived justice in the academic setting. As a result, this study generates inferences for teachers and Educational Institutions when dealing with situations of classroom injustice and proposes postulates the need to carry out future research addressing the issue with different variables and new methodological approaches.

Keywords: Business Area, Classroom Justice, Machiavellianism, Student-Teacher Relationship