



**Co-worker social support and organisational identification:
does ethnic self-identification matter?**

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Co-worker social support and organisational identification: does ethnic self-identification matter?

Abstract

Purpose: The purpose of this article is to investigate the role of socially supportive relationships between co-workers in fostering organisational identification. Adopting a Social Identity Theory perspective, the study investigates how employees' ethnic self-identification (ESI) may influence co-worker social support (CWSS)- organisational identification (OID) relationship depending on whether they are indigenes or non-indigenes.

Design: Regression analysis was used to examine the relationship between CWSS (independent variable) and OID (dependent variable) at different levels of ESI (moderator variable). Data was collected from 1525 employees from public and private employers in Nigeria.

Findings: Findings supported a positive relationship between CWSS and OID that is moderated by an employee's ESI. Specifically, the study finds that ESI matters in the strength of CWSS-OID relationship such that the relationship is weaker for indigenes compared to non-indigenes.

Originality/value: This study contributes to literature by adding a level of boundary conditions to the overall findings that workplace relationships are important for organisational identification. The study also addresses how employees of different ethnic groups are influenced by the ethnicity of the context prevailing where an organisation is located

Practical implications: As organisations develop policies that increase the representation of various ethnic groups or other forms of social identities at work, there is need to create an environment that fosters socially supportive relationships among co-workers.

Keywords: Co-worker social support, ethnic self-identification, indigenes/non-indigenes, Nigeria, organisational identification

Introduction

Perceptions of workplace relationships among co-workers have been well researched and there is strong support demonstrating the positive influence it has on employees' view of team/workgroup membership and performance at work (Andrews and Mostafa, 2017; Cole et al., 2016). However, current perspectives insufficiently acknowledge the influence that context (such as employee ethnicity and organisational location) might play on organisational relationships (Farmer et al., 2015; Sluss and Ashforth, 2007). In this study therefore, we extend the literature by examining boundary conditions to existing findings, specifically by empirically investigating the influence of ethnic self-identification (ESI) and ethnic congruence on the relationship between co-worker social support (CWSS) and organisational identification (OID).

Co-worker social support is the perception that employees have that their co-workers at a unit or work team level appreciate their contributions and care about their wellbeing (Frenkel, Restubog, and Bednall, 2012). When employees experience positive CWSS, they reciprocate by giving extra role support and work related stress is reduced (Caplan et al., 1975, Hwa, 2012, Md-Sidin et al., 2010). Although recent studies examining the effect of CWSS have found a reciprocal relationship between CWSS and employee identity with a group (e.g. Farmer et al., 2015; Sluss and Ashforth, 2007), they have been limited to CWSS influence on employees' identification with their co-workers at their units or work team level. The relationship between CWSS and an employee's identification with their organisation remains unexplored (Farmer and Van- Dyne, 2010). We extend these lines of enquiry by investigating co-worker social support and organisational identification relationships.

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Organisational identification refers to an employee's feeling of sense of belonging to an organisation (Asatryan and Oh, 2008). It involves a psychological process where employees attribute an organisation's identity to their own to the extent that the organisation becomes a source of self-definition (Ashforth et al., 2008). It is important to explore ways to foster OID because of the positive consequences it has for an organisation, such as improved performance and retention of talents (Ellemers and Haslam, 2005, Judge and Kammeyer-Mueller, 2012, Marique and Stinglhamber, 2011).

A further strand of investigation is the influence that ethnic self-identification (ESI) may have on these relationships. ESI refers to a sense of commitment to one's ethnic heritage (D'Hondt et al., 2017). Despite the importance of ESI in relationships at work in multi-ethnic settings (King et al., 2012; Triana et al., 2012) because of their importance to employees' identities and behavioural patterns (Nyambegera, 2002), research conclusions have not hitherto addressed how different ethnic groups are influenced by the ethnicity of the context prevailing where the organisation is located (Agbiboa, 2012; Pratt, 1998).

About the setting

As a multi-ethnic society, Nigeria provides a suitable context for this empirical study because of its large number of ethnic groups (Oruwari et al., 2004). In a bid to foster co-existence among various ethnic groups (now represented by States and Local Government Areas (LGA)), the government legislated the Federal Character Principle (FCP)(Kendhammer, 2014) which mandates organisations, especially those in the public sector to have employee compositions that 'mirror' the society (Adeosun, 2011, Kendhammer, 2014). In Nigeria, ethnic identification is manifested in terms of identification with a region (State at the federal level and LGA at the State level) of origin (Olatokun and Nwafor, 2012). People who originate from a given State are normally referred to as

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3 “indigenes”, while those who originate from another State but reside in the State are classed
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5 as “non-indigenes”.
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8 Existing studies have credited the FCP with fostering some level of social cohesion
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10 (Gberevbie, 2010, Ukiwo, 2005, Musa, 2015). However, studies have not specifically
11
12 explored its implications for organisations. To extend the understanding of the FCP within
13
14 organisational setting, we consider that the relationships between CWSS, OID and ESI will
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16 be different for indigenes and non-indigenes as their affiliations to their home ethnicity will
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18 influence their work relationships.
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23 The remainder of this paper is structured as follows: first, the paper presents the
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25 theory underpinning CWSS-OID relationship. Secondly, the design of the study is reported
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27 and a description of the scales that is used to measure the variables. Findings from the data
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29 analysis are presented in the third section. Discussions and conclusions are presented at the
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31 end.
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35 **Theoretical development and hypothesis**

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38 Organisational identification may be explained using a Social Identity Theory (SIT)
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40 approach because group membership can be considered to be a form of self-identification
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42 (Ashforth and Mael, 1989). Social identity theorists recognise that employees may have
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44 multiple sources of identity, linked to the groups they belong to (Tajfel, Turner, Austin, and
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46 Worchel, 1979) such as family, social class, organisation and ethnicity. SIT predicts that
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48 group memberships have the potential to provide a source of pride, self-esteem and sense of
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50 belonging to individuals (Tajfel et al., 1979). The theory is relevant in the organisational
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52 context in that organisations form a multi-ethnic space in which a strong auto-ethnic
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54 identification can influence the broader dynamics of relationships at work (McKay and
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56 Avery, 2015).
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Co-worker social support and organisational identification

Relationships with co-workers are integral dimension of an employee's working life and research has demonstrated that they influence the extent to which individual employees identify with a team/workgroup (Farmer et al., 2015; Sluss and Ashforth, 2007). Although workplace relationships are predominantly experienced at localised team/workgroup levels, employees may perceive the care and support from co-workers as a core organisational value (Gountas et al. 2014). Thus, from an employee's perspective, CWSS is perceived as the reification of organisational intent (Chughtai, 2016; Consiglio et al., 2016, Rice, 2006).

The positive affect derived by CWSS heightens a sense of belonging to and pride in the organisation. Through this mechanism, employees become emotionally connected to the organisation to the extent of attributing the organisations identify to theirs (Nelson and Quick, 1991). Employees who experience positive CWSS may not only speak well of and defend their work team/group but extend same to the organisation itself (Bennett and Stamper, 2001). Thus, we expect the following relationship between CWSS and OID in the context of our study:

H1. Co-worker social support has a positive relationship with organisational identification.

The moderating role of ethnic self-identification

Organisations do not operate in a social or cultural vacuum and external societal norms that arise from diverse ethnic groups in the society may spill over into the workplace, influencing both how employees behave themselves and also perceive their own treatment from colleagues, especially those from a different ethnic group (Lee and Reade, 2015; Pugh et al., 2008). It is for this reason that we examine ethnic self-identification as a potential moderator of the relationship between co-worker social support and organisational identification. ESI is an individual difference that describes the degree to which membership of an ethnic group

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3 informs a person's concept of self (Phinney and Ong, 2007). In an organisational setting, a
4 person with high ESI might seek to ascertain colleagues' ethnic backgrounds and assess
5 colleagues' values and emotional significance of being part of their ethnic group (Tajfel,
6 1974). As a powerful source of self-identification (Doan and Stephan, 2006), ESI is therefore
7 expected to moderate the relationship between CWSS and OID, such that individuals with
8 high ESI are less likely to be influenced by positive co-worker support than individuals with
9 low ESI. We therefore hypothesise that:

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20 H2. ESI moderates CWSS-OID relationship such that there will be a weaker relationship
21 between CWSS and OID for employees with higher ESI

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25 Furthermore, in addition to the general expectation of ESI as a moderator of CWSS-
26 OID relationship, it is important to recognise the prevailing ethnicity in the organisational
27 context. In this study, two broad categories of ethnic composition are relevant: indigenes
28 (employees who originate from the same State as the organisation is located) and non-
29 indigenes (employees who originate from outside the State where the organisation is located).
30 When there is congruence between employee ethnicity and prevailing State/organisation
31 ethnicity we expect the interaction effect of CWSS and ESI on OID to be reduced. This
32 theorisation is supported by the SIT framework. Within SIT, both organisational affiliation
33 and ethnicity as forms of social grouping have the potential to make competing demands on
34 employees' overall self-identification (Barron et al., 2011). In a context of ethnic similarity
35 between the employee and an organisation (indigenes), the potential tensions arising from
36 ethnic difference are not expected to be activated (Pittman et al., 2014). However, when an
37 employee's ethnicity is different from the ethnicity prevailing where their organisation is
38 located (non-indigenes), the potential for tension between ethnic self-identification and OID
39 is expected to be higher (Phinney et al., 2001). In this context, latent ethnic self-
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3 identification is expected to be activated for the relationship between co-worker social
4 support and organisational identification. Therefore, we hypothesise:
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8 H3. The moderation effects of ESI on CWSS-OID relationship is weaker for indigenes
9 than for non-indigenes
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12 13 **Method**

14 15 *Participants description*

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17 Six organisations based in one Nigerian State participated in the study. Four were
18 from the public sector (education, health, power, and finance) and two were from the private
19 sector (manufacturing and retail). Data were collected from 1525 individual employees
20 (participants) in these organisations via a paper-based questionnaire. 908 (59.5 %)
21 respondents were employed in public sector organisations and 617 (40.5%) respondents were
22 employed in private sector organisations.
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26 For the public sector participants, 817 (90%) of respondents originated from the State
27 (indigenes) and (91) 10% were Nigerian citizens and employed in the State but did not
28 originate from the State (non-indigenes). 80% of respondents had worked for their employer
29 for over five years. 62% of respondents were categorised as senior staff, and above. In the
30 private sector employees, 279 (45%) of respondents were indigenes and 338 (55%) were non-
31 indigenes. 62% of the employees had worked for their employer for over five years. 64% of
32 respondents were categorised as senior staff and above.
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35 36 **Measures**

37 38 *Co-worker social support*

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40 A four item instrument was adapted from the co-worker social support scale provided by
41 Caplan et al. (1975). The instrument used a five-point Likert scale: (1) strongly disagree and
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3 (5) strongly agree. An example statement includes: 'I know I can rely on my colleagues when
4 things get tough at work' The scale reported a Cronbach alpha of 0.75 for the four-items.
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8 ***Organisational identification***

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11 The five-item organisational identification (OID) scale from Mael and Ashforth (1992) was
12 used. The instrument used a five-point Likert scale: (1) strongly disagree and (5) strongly
13 agree. An example statement includes: 'When I talk about my organisation, I usually say
14 'we', rather than 'they''. The Cronbach alpha for the five-item scale was 0.80.
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20 ***Ethnic self-identification***

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23 A multi group ethnic identity measure (RMEIM) scale proposed by Phinney (1992) and
24 revised by Phinney and Ong (2007) was used to measure ethnic self-identification. The
25 instrument used a five-point Likert scale: (1) strongly disagree and (5) strongly agree. An
26 example statement includes: 'I consider my State affiliation important'. The Cronbach alpha
27 for the six-item scale was 0.84.
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36 ***Indigenes/non-indigenes***

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39 Participants indicated their State of Origin on the questionnaire. 1096 indicated that they were
40 indigenes (that is, native to the State), while 429 were non-indigenes (that is, non-native to
41 the State).
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47 ***Control variables***

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50 We controlled for tenure in the organisation (employed for 5 years and below = 1,
51 more than 5 years to 10 years = 2 and greater than 10 years = 3), sector (public sector = 1 and
52 private sector = 2) and position in organisation (junior staff = 1 and senior staff = 2). Tenure
53 in organisation was controlled for in line with theorisation that employees who have spent
54 longer time in employment may have formed networks at work and as such have higher OID
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3 (Pittman et al., 2014). Sector was included as formalisation of the FCP in public sector
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5 organisations may influence how employees perceive OID compared to those in the private
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7 sector (Goulet and Frank, 2002). We also controlled for position in organisation because of
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9 findings that suggest that senior level employees may place less value ethnic self-
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11 identification compared to junior level employees and as such may experience lower OID
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13 (Barak et al., 1998).
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16 17 **Results**

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20 The analytical approach adopted a two-stage process. First, using Hayes (2013) process
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22 model, the relationship between co-worker social support and organisational identification
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24 was tested. Second, the moderating effects of ethnic self-identification on the relationship
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26 between co-worker social support and organisational identification were examined. We also
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28 examined the moderation effect of ESI on CWSS-OID relationship separately in indigene and
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30 non-indigene samples.
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35 Table 1 shows means, standard deviation and correlations between the principal and
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37 control variables. There were significant correlations between the principal variables
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39 although these were judged to exhibit limited collinearity because the bivariate correlations
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41 were not close to the maximum value of 0.8 (Prieto-Pastor & Martin-Perez, 2015). The data
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43 were tested for multicollinearity and yielded the following variance inflation factors (VIF);
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45 ethnic self-identification 1.660, co-worker social support 1.148 and organisational
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47 identification 1.763. A VIF value lower than 3 suggests that there is no multicollinearity error
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49 (Alin, 2010).
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To ascertain the extent to which the items used represent the unobservable variables in the construct, Average Variance Extracted (AVE) and Composite Reliability Index (CRI) (Hair et al., 2012) were calculated. The rule of thumb is for AVE results to be ≥ 0.50 (Fornell and Larcker, 1981). The minimum value generally accepted for a reliable construct is $\text{CRI} \geq 0.70$ (Fornell and Larcker, 1981). We reported values (for AVE 0.55, 0.70 and 0.63) and (for CRI 0.83, 0.87 and 0.87) for CWSS, OID and ESI respectively.

Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was conducted to test the consistency of our measurement model. Our three-factor model reported the best fit: $X^2 = 1173.57$, $df = 116$, $p < 0.001$, NFI .92, TLI .91, CFI .93 and RMSEA .05 compared to a two-factor and one-factor model. In the two-factor model, all items on CWSS and ESI were loaded together to form a single factor and measured alongside OID: $X^2 = 1767.53$, $df = 118$, $p < 0.001$, NFI .80, TLI .76, CFI .81 and RMSEA .10. The one factor model had all items loaded on the same factor: $X^2 = 2934.195$, $df = 119$, $p < 0.001$, NFI .67, TLI .59, CFI .68 and RMSEA .12 (Marsh et al., 2004, Podsakoff et al., 2003). We judge the best fit indices using the conventional cut off values of good fit (NFI, TLI and CFI $> .90$ and RMSEA $< .08$) (Marsh et al., 2004).

Relationship between co-worker social support and organisational identification

In the empirical context of the study, a significant positive relationship was found between co-worker social support and organisational identification, $\beta = 0.49$, $t(1) = 4.41$, $p < .00$. (See Table 2). The adjusted R square value, which explains the extent to which a change in the dependent variables is due to the effect of the independent or associating variables, was 0.24 (Roberts and Russo, 2014, Galwey, 2014). Hypothesis 1 is therefore supported.

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Insert Table 2 about here
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Moderating role of ethnic self-identification

In line with the objective of this study, the moderating role of ESI in the CWSS-OID relationship was investigated. Hayes' (2013) Process macro (model 1) was used for this analysis. Table 2 shows that on the overall data set, a significant negative interaction was found between CWSS and ESI on the outcome variable OID: $\beta = -0.06$, $t(3) = -2.30$, $p < .02$. To further investigate the negative interaction, the conditional effect of co-worker support on organisational identification was calculated at three levels ethnic self-identification, one standard deviation below the mean (low-ESI) $\beta = 0.29$, at the (mean-ESI) $\beta = 0.24$, and one standard deviation above the mean (high-ESI) $\beta = 0.20$. All three levels reported significant p-value < 0.05 . These data indicate that higher perception of ESI are associated with weaker CWSS-OID relationship. Hypothesis 2 is therefore supported.

To examine whether an employee's ethnicity (in terms of indigene or non-indigene) affects how ESI manifests in CWSS-OID relationship, we undertook the same analysis in a sample comprising employees of similar ethnicity only. We found that for indigenes sample, the moderation relationship was negative and but non-significant with $\beta = -0.20$ $t(1) = -1.13$, $p < .26$. However, a significant moderation effect was observed in the non-indigene sample $\beta = -0.10$, $t(1) = -1.83$, $p = .05$ respectively. See Table 2. The conditional effect of co-worker support on organisational identification on the sample of non-indigenes was calculated at three levels ESE, one standard deviation below the mean (low-ESI) $\beta = 0.40$, at the (mean-ESI) $\beta = 0.31$ and one standard deviation above the mean (high-ESI) $\beta = 0.25$. All three levels reported significant p-value < 0.05 . These data indicate that for non-indigenes higher perception of ESI is associated with weaker CWSS-OID relationship. This is further supported by the flatter slope for high ESI and steeper slope for low ESI in Figure 1. The hypothesis that the moderation of ESI on CWSS-OID relationship is weaker for

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3 indigenes than for non-indigenes (Hypothesis 3) is therefore supported. We did not find
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5 significant results after controlling for tenure in organisation, sector and position in
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7 organisation in the overall data set.
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15 **Contributions, implication and conclusions**

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18 Based on the assumption that organisational identification and ethnic self-identification are
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20 competing forms of self-identification (Barron et al., 2011), we proposed a positive
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22 association between employees' perception of co-worker social support and organisational
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24 identification and that ethnic self-identification would moderate this relationship. Moreover,
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26 our investigation provides a deeper understanding of the way ESI influences CWSS-OID
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28 relationship by proposing that ESI may be dormant and not challenged for indigenes
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30 compared to non-indigenes.
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35 We find that co-worker social support positively influenced organisational
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37 identification. Our model extends the CWSS theorisation of Farmer and Van- Dyne (2010)
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39 by suggesting that positive group interactions result in members' enhanced overall
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41 identification with their organisation. Where employees enjoy positive interactions with co-
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43 workers, they are likely to identify with the organisation as a whole. Our results complement
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45 findings from other studies that have identified positive workplace characteristics such as
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47 perceived organisational support (Edwards and Peccei, 2010, He et al., 2014, Rhoades and
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49 Eisenberger, 2002), supervisor support (Reade, 2001) and leadership (Bass et al., 2003) as
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51 antecedents of OID. We suggest a positive CWSS-OID relationship because CWSS may
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53 influence employees' view of their environmental social context by signalling what an
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55 organisation's culture and values are.
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3 Our findings on the moderating role of ESI contributes to ethnic diversity literature.
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5 Whereas existing studies have investigated the implications of ethnicity mainly in terms of
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7 the influence of different demographic categorisations (Cho and Mor Barak, 2008, Leonard
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9 et al., 2008), we focus on ethnicity in terms its meaning for individuals' sense of self-identity.
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11 Our findings showed that employees with stronger sense of ESI experience weaker CWSS-
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13 OID relationship, suggesting that ESI and OID are competing forms of self-identity.
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18 We extend the analysis further to examine whether the cultural differences, in this
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20 instance between indigenes and non-indigenes may impact on the underpinning relationships.
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22 We found that the interaction effect of ESI in CWSS-OID relationship was not significant in
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24 the sample of indigenes in contrast to a significant relationship observed in the sample of
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26 non-indigenes. These findings suggest that the influence of ESI is salient in the context of
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28 particular situational, social and historical factors (Atewologun et al, 2017). So, indigenous
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30 employees who experience congruence between their ethnic group and the prevailing
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32 ethnicity of their organisation may feel a sense of psychological safety and consequently
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34 relate freely with co-workers (Darwish and Hubber, 2003). The tensions and suspicions
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36 arising from demographic dissimilarity may not manifest and there will not be a need for sub
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38 categorisations based on ethnicity. On the other hand, non-indigenes who originate from a
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40 different ethnic and cultural context, are likely to be more sensitive to workplace relationship
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42 and compare their treatment with indigenes.
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49 We contribute to literature by presenting a dynamic CWSS-OID relationship that is
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51 influenced by an employee's ethnic self-identification and the ethnicity mix of an
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53 organisation's employee composition.
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57 There are clear organisational implications of this study for managers in Nigerian
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59 organisations and those in other countries with a similar demography. One of the
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3 consequences of the FCP maybe heightened ethnic self-identification (Agbiboa, 2012, Pepple
4 et al., 2018) and we have demonstrated how this can result in a lowered sense of
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6 organisational identification. Paradoxically, although FCP intended to foster societal unity by
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8 ensuring greater ethnic representation in organisations (Ukiwo, 2005, Musa, 2015), we find
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10 that it has exacerbated ethnicity-based categorisations at work and lowered sense of OID.
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15 Our results showing a positive CWSS-OID relationship at different levels of ESI
16 suggest that CWSS has the potential to mitigate the inherent bias arising from employees
17 working with co-workers of different ethnicity. Managers are encouraged to develop a strong
18 sense of cohesion between co-workers, and which ensure a climate that allows for employees
19 to interact and relate socially. This might be able to improve organisational identification
20 among those employees with strong ethnic identification. One way to achieve this is for
21 managers and supervisors to be trained on the effective management of workplace social
22 interactions. Such training may expose managers and supervisors to how to design task and
23 work environment to foster social interactions. For example, designing collaborative task,
24 sharing work spaces and providing private spaces for employees to chat (Tschan et al., 2004).
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39 The study presented in this paper is not without limitations. For example, although
40 there are other social identities that people may poses, our study focuses on ethnic identity.
41 Our study has however provided a theoretical context for investigating other forms of social
42 identities. We also note that contexts with less collectivist ideology may yield quite different
43 results. Future studies are needed from a different context to enable comparisons and to make
44 inferences on the effect of context. Another limitation to this study is that data was collected
45 from a single source using a cross-sectional research design. Although we controlled for
46 method bias and conducted appropriate tests to ensure the reliability of the study, we
47 recommend that future studies should collect data from different sources. For example, a
48 longitudinal design would be able to determine the relationship between CWSS and OID over
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3 a period of time. Our results on the control variables warrants future investigation. We found
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5 that while the variables controlled for were in general not significant, position in organisation
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7 was significant for non-indigenes. Future qualitative study may provide explanation for this
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10 outcome.

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13 In conclusion, this paper presents a case for organisational behaviour scholars and
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15 practitioners to pay attention to the quality of co-worker support as a dimension of
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17 organisational climate, particularly in the context of ethnically diverse organisations. The
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19 results have shown that the strength of employees' identification with their ethnicity may the
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21 subject the ethnic diversity composition of employees. The paper also provides new insight
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23 into to implications of FCP and similar policies by suggesting that increased ethnicity
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25 composition may adversely affect OID due to heightened ESI. Furthermore, the overall
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27 influence of CWSS on OID suggests that CWSS is an important variable for managers and
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29 organisational theorist.
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Table 1: Descriptive statistics and correlation relationships among variables

Variables	Mean	SD	ESI	CWSS	OID	Tenure in organisation	Sector	Position in organisation
ESI	3.88	0.72	1					
CWSS	3.81	0.74	0.55**	1				
OID	3.97	0.70	0.44**	0.42**	1			
Tenure in organisation	2.44	0.77	0.12**	0.10**	0.10**	1		
Sector	1.41	0.49	0.24**	0.21**	0.18**	-0.32**	1	
Position in organisation	1.72	0.48	-0.02	-0.01	-0.04	0.32**	0.12**	1

Keys:

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Tenure in the organisation (employed for 5 years and below = 1, more than 5 years to 10 years = 2 and greater than 10 years = 3). Sector (public sector=1 and private sector=2). Position in organisation (junior staff = 1, senior staff = 2).

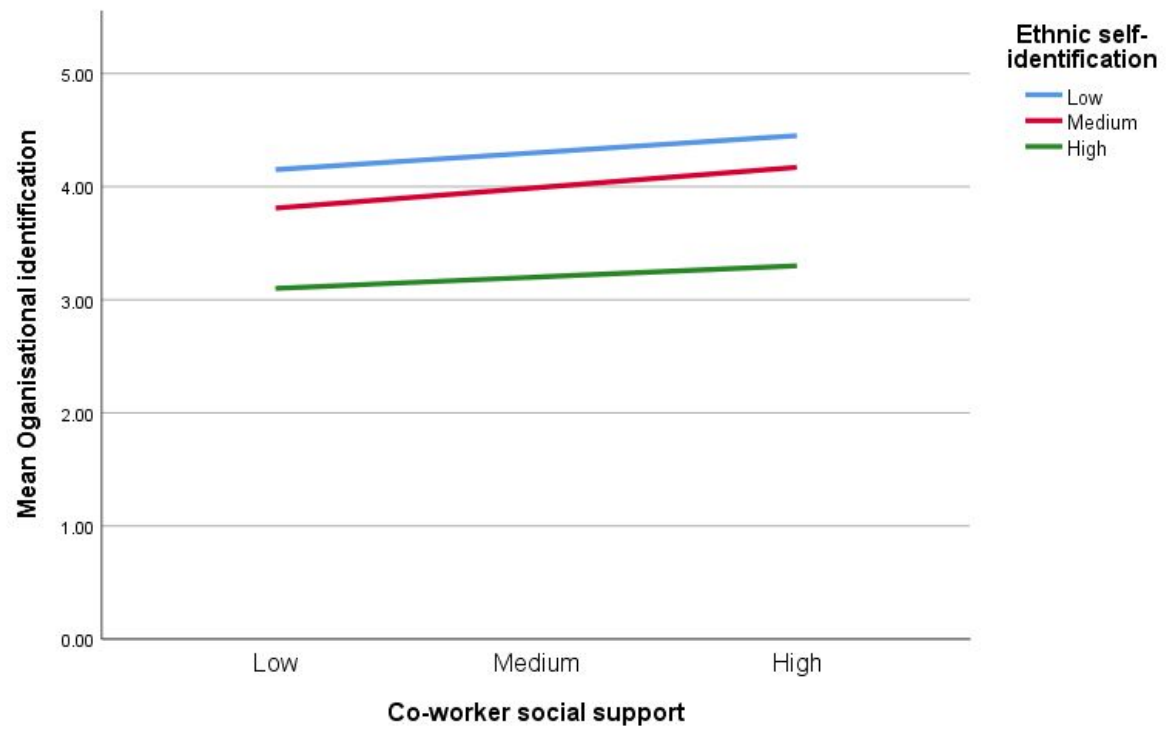
Table 2: Regression output for CWSS, ESI and OID relationship for all respondent, indigenes only and non-indigenes.

All respondents (indigenes and non-indigenes) N=1525							Indigenes only N=1096						Non-indigenes N=429					
Variables	coefficient	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	coefficient	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	coefficient	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
Constant	0.87	0.41	2.16	0.31	0.08	1.67	1.29	0.52	2.47	0.14	0.27	2.31	0.43	0.68	0.63	0.53	-0.91	1.77
CWSS	0.49	0.11	4.41	0.00	0.27	0.72	0.37	0.15	2.55	0.01	0.08	0.65	0.66	0.19	3.47	0.00	0.29	1.03
ESI	0.55	0.11	5.03	0.00	0.33	0.77	0.48	0.14	3.51	0.00	0.21	0.74	0.62	0.19	3.16	0.00	0.24	1.00
CWSS X ESI	-0.06	0.03	-2.30	0.02	-0.12	-0.08	-0.20	0.04	-1.13	0.26	-0.11	0.03	-0.10	0.05	-1.82	0.05	-0.19	-0.07
Tenure in organisation	0.02	0.02	-2.39	0.22	-0.12	0.01	-0.07	0.03	-2.52	0.11	-0.14	0.02	-0.02	0.05	-0.50	0.62	-0.12	0.71
Sector	0.01	0.08	0.18	0.86	-0.14	0.16	-0.16	0.45	-0.36	0.72	-0.11	0.07	0.12	0.07	1.62	0.10	-0.24	0.26
Position in organisation	-0.03	0.03	-1.58	0.11	-0.12	0.00	0.04	0.02	1.73	0.08	-0.05	0.82	-0.13	0.56	-2.36	0.02	-0.24	-0.02
Conditional effect of CWSS on OID at values of ESI																		
Levels of moderator	Effect	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	Effect	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	Effect	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
Low level ESI	0.29	0.03	8.92	0.00	0.22	0.35	0.32	0.04	8.37	0.00	0.24	0.39	0.40	0.06	6.30	0.00	0.27	0.53
Medium level ESI	0.24	0.03	8.46	0.00	0.18	0.29	0.29	0.03	8.92	0.00	0.22	0.35	0.31	0.05	6.41	0.00	0.21	0.39
High level ESI	0.20	0.03	5.55	0.00	0.13	0.27	0.25	0.05	5.59	0.00	0.16	0.34	0.25	0.61	4.41	0.00	0.13	0.37

Tenure in the organisation (employed for 5 years and below = 1, more than 5 years to 10 years = 2 and greater than 10 years = 3). Sector (public sector=1 and private sector=2). Position in organisation (junior staff = 1, senior staff = 2).

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Figure 1: Slope showing the moderation of CWSS-OID relationship at different levels of ESI for non-indigenes



Journal of Managerial Psychology

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2
3 Dear Prof Raymond
4

5 We thank the reviewer for considering the improvements made to our revised manuscript. We are
6 especially grateful to you for considering our paper for publication subject to minor amendments.
7

8 Our amendments address the issues raised. First, we have attempted to strengthen the relationship
9 between CWSS and OID. We suggest that CWSS may send strong signal of overall workplace
10 relationships. Thus, influencing OID. See page 5.
11

12 Second, we have presented the Chi-square results and compared our model to a two factor and
13 single factor model. Our results show that the three-factor model used in our study presented the
14 best fit. See page 10. We have also shown how the control variables were coded. See page 8.
15

16 Third, we have amended Table 1 to be consistent with the control variables included in the study
17 and corrected the figures. See page 21.
18

19 Fourth, we have included the codes for the control variables as notes to Table 2. See page 22. We
20 have also corrected the p value statement for ESI interaction of non-indigenes to be consistent with
21 the results in Table 2 see page 11.
22

23 Lastly, we have revised the manuscript in line with the word count limit.
24

25 We hope that these changes address the issues raised and look forward to your progressing our
26 paper
27

28 Kind regards
29

30 Dr Dennis Pepple
31

32 For authors.
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