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**THE INFLUENCE OF EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP ON PROACTIVITY OF EMPLOYEE: THE ROLE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY AS A MEDIATING VARIABLE**

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SAFETY AS A MEDIATING VARIABLE**

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**ABSTRACT**

Recent years have shown Indonesia to be one of the most prominent ecosystems for the rise of start-ups, indicated by the high number of start-ups that are undergoing rapid growth. This study put emphasis on the importance of proactive behaviours of employee to propel the organization amidst a dynamic environment. Past research shows that empowering leadership had emerged to be a leadership style that fit this context. However, there seems to be a gap between the expectations of leaders and employees, particularly millennials, that may affect the strength in the influence of the leadership style. To further explore the issue, this study aims to explore the influence of empowering leadership towards proactive behaviours of employees and further explore the role of psychological safety as a possible mediator that further explains and strengthens the relationship between empowering leadership and employee proactivity. Partial Least Square – Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM) was utilized as the method of analysis, targeting millennial employees of Indonesian start-ups. The result shows that empowering leadership has a positive and significant direct and indirect influence towards employee proactivity as well as supporting the hypothesis that psychological safety serve as a positive mediator.

**Keywords:** Empowering Leadership, Proactivity, Psychological Safety, Start-Up



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**INTISARI**

*Beberapa tahun terakhir menunjukkan Indonesia menjadi salah satu ekosistem terkemuka dalam kebangkitan start-up, ditandai dengan tingginya jumlah start-up yang mengalami pertumbuhan pesat. Penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya perilaku proaktif karyawan untuk mendorong organisasi di tengah lingkungan yang dinamis. Penelitian sebelumnya menunjukkan bahwa kepemimpinan pemberdayaan telah muncul menjadi gaya kepemimpinan yang sesuai dengan konteks ini. Namun, nampaknya terdapat kesenjangan antara ekspektasi pemimpin dan karyawan, khususnya generasi milenial, yang mungkin mempengaruhi kuatnya pengaruh gaya kepemimpinan. Untuk mendalami permasalahan tersebut lebih lanjut, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menguji pengaruh kepemimpinan pemberdayaan terhadap perilaku proaktif karyawan dan mengeksplorasi lebih jauh peran keamanan psikologis sebagai mediator yang mungkin menjelaskan dan memperkuat hubungan antara kepemimpinan pemberdayaan dan perilaku proaktif karyawan. Partial Least Square – Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) digunakan sebagai metode analisis, dengan sasaran karyawan milenial di start-up Indonesia. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kepemimpinan pemberdayaan mempunyai pengaruh langsung dan tidak langsung yang positif dan signifikan terhadap proaktifitas karyawan serta mendukung hipotesis bahwa keamanan psikologis berperan sebagai mediator positif.*

**Kata Kunci:** Kepemimpinan Pemberdayaan, Perilaku Proaktif, Keamanan Psikologis, Start-Up