

## PSYCHOLOGICAL CAPITAL AND FEMALE TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERS FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE.

## **Extended Summary**

The concept of leadership has been studied by several authors, but Pérez and Gardey (2008) defined it as "leadership is the function occupied by a person who differs from the rest who is able to make sound decisions for a specific group either at the organizational level or from a set of random people, being the inspiration of the mass, the tool used by the leader to achieve a common goal". But not all leaders exercise the same kind of leadership.

While women have all the limitations, they can think of to be leaders, they have managed to occupy some managerial positions exercising in most cases a transformational leadership style (Eagly, Gartzia, and Carli, 2014; Gartzia and Van Engen, 2012; Hernandez Bark, Escartín and Van Dick, 2014).

Transformational leadership is defined by 4 facets: individualized consideration of intellectual stimulation, inspiring motivation, and idealized influence (Avolio and Bass, 1991). On the other hand, there are studies that believe that characteristics such as creativity or ethics define transformational people (Bass and Avolio, 2006). Bas and Avolio (1991,2006) define transformational leadership as a process that is focused on stimulating worker consciousness so that they improve productivity by moving away from individual interest and focusing on a collective interest. In short, a transformational leader is one who manages to empower people in organizations to achieve their personal and work objectives (Machín Rincón, 2021). Despite all the favorable characteristics for the development of employees, this is exercised primarily by women, although they have greater difficulty to exercise in high-ranking positions in an organization due to the so-called glass ceiling (Burin, Mabel, 1996), a veiled limitation of the job promotion of people within organizations. The metaphor of the glass ceiling is thus stipulated due to the lack of awareness between work-life balance and the role of women within the family.

As we have already mentioned, gender interacts with the work environment. This stipulates what are the ideas and behavior in the exercise of female leadership based on 3 theories on the gender perspective. The first, the theory of the incongruity of the role of Eagly and Karau, (2002) which shows the differences between the roles of men and women, as well as the difficulties that women have to exercise leadership. Second, Spence's (1993) multifactorial gender theory, which explains the different elements that make up gender identity. And finally, the theory of Mabel Burin (2004,2008) about the different characteristics of the subjective barriers that women have when it comes to exercising as leaders.

On the other hand, psychological capital is favorably related to job performance, job well-being, and life satisfaction (Avey, Wernsing, & Mhatre, 2011; Bakker and Xanthopoulou, 2013; Chawla and Sharma 2019) as well as the prediction of work engagement (Wang, Li and Li 2017; Ouweneel et al. 2012). In other words, psychological capital provides the motivation to continue striving for your goals despite having to overcome the relevant obstacles to success (Pitichat et al, 2018).



That is why the general objective of this TFG is to analyze the characteristics of transformational leadership and psychological capital from a gender perspective in order to clarify what are the characteristics of women as transformational leaders and what is the influence of psychological capital on it. In order to achieve this objective, the integration of different psychological phenomena studied from the gender perspective has been required. Thus, this work, despite integrating different psychological concepts within the psychology of organizations and positive psychology, does not intend to create a new integrative framework if it does not consider whether information on the subject is advancing in gender studies within studies on transformational leadership and psychological capital.

# Methodology

The present study is based on the PRISMA *methodology* (*Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses*) (Liberati et al., 2009. To determine the goals of the review, we started from the following research questions:

- What role does the gender perspective play in transformational leadership from the point of view of women leaders?
- What is it like to exercise leadership in an environment with gender stereotypes?

For the eligibility of the articles which are part of the review, an average of 20 years of difference between them was established, from 2022 to 2002. The review of the articles was carried out between December 2021 and February 2022. As for the sources of information, the platforms of Dialnet, Redalyc, Repositori UJI, Google Academic, Scielo and Research Gate were used. The keywords that guided the systematic review in both Spanish and English and Catalan were: "psychological capital", "transformational leadership", "gender perspective" and "women leaders".

A total of 654,319 articles were found among all search platforms, from which they were selected using inclusion and exclusion criteria. Once the duplicate articles were discarded (640 articles), 146 articles were selected which after a second screening 83 were discarded. Once the articles that did not correspond to our eligibility criteria were discarded, we proceeded to read the summary of the 63 selected. Once the reading was finished, a final sample of 14 articles was left. They were subsequently registered in the Excel database.

## Results

The results were divided into 3 groups: female gender perspective, psychological capital and transformational leadership.

As for the female gender perspective, she has a dualistic and ancient vision regarding the "own" characteristics of each sex. The conclusion we reach is that the perception of the "masculine" and the "feminine" is an old vision of society and that this gender perspective has to be modernized since people are not 100% "masculine" or "feminine" but there are different degrees of these in a single person and not because you identify in a specific sex you have a certain behavior.



When talking about transformational leadership we can highlight that the main function of these leaders is to encourage the motivation and positive development of followers. While it seems that women tend to exercise more as transformational leaders, not all authors agree.

Finally, psychological capital is the engine that drives transformational leadership. It is the one that makes transformational leaders able to create feelings of satisfaction in the employees of a company to promote mutual success.

## Conclusions

In the research carried out through the literature of different authors in relation to the research questions, what role does the gender perspective play in transformational leadership from the point of view of women leaders? and What is it like to exercise leadership in an environment with gender stereotypes? the results of this study obtained 3 vortices of information: the gender perspective, transformational leadership, and psychological capital.

If those who exercise transformational leadership are based on maintaining the motivation of the work team to achieve work objectives, psychological capital aims to provide that motivation to continue striving to meet the objectives. On the other hand, it has not been shown that women exercise exclusively transformational leadership with respect to men. It is true that different authors differ, on which gender exercise this type of leadership, but what everyone agrees on is that currently, the perspective of what is only feminine or masculine, seems to be much more diluted than in previous moments. But it is true that it is still difficult for us to assume that women can exercise in leadership positions that have previously been occupied by men.

Women suffer from the so-called glass ceiling or vertical segregation. These barriers are not always obvious and make it impossible in most cases to promote a woman to certain higher positions within a company. To give voice to these women, it is necessary that there be a change at the cultural and organizational level in companies to stop determining as better the most stereotypically masculine behavior and as worse the stereotypically feminine behavior and thus stop cataloguing by gender who is a good leader and who is not.

That is why the limitations that we have found when carrying out this systematic review has not only been the lack of contemporaneity of many articles, but these 3 concepts seems in view of this review that if they have been studied separately but not together something that we think should change since the gender perspective brings a little light on the classic differentiation between the roles of gender which helps us understand that to be a good leader you just have to rely on your team and grow with it and that is not typical of any specific genre.

On the other hand, we propose that an investigation be done a posteriori of this review with the terms, leadership, psychological capital and gender perspective and that it observes the reality of the different gender stereotypes that we have in terms of a good leader and how psychological capital plays a fundamental role for the motivation of the team and that is what makes a person a good leader.

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# LÍDERES TRANSFORMACIONALES FEMENINAS Y CAPITAL PSICOLÓGICO DESDE UNA PERSPECTIVA DE GÉNERO.



## INTRODUCCIÓN

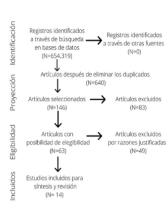
Bas y Avolio (1991,2006) definen el liderazgo transformacional como ur proceso que está enfocado en la estimulación de la conciencia del trabajado para que estos mejoren la productividad apartando el interés individual y centrándose en un interés colectivo. En definitiva, un lider transformacional es aquel que logra empoderar a las personas en las organizaciones para que estas logren sus objetivos tanto personales como laborales (Machin Rincón, 2021).

El género interactúa con el ambiente laboral. Este estipula cuales son las ideas y el comportamiento en el ejercicio del liderazgo femenino basándose en 3 teorías sobre la perspectiva de género. La primera, la teoría de la incongruencia del rol de Eagly y Karau, (2002) la cual muestra las diferencias entre los roles de los hombres y las mujeres, así como las dificultades que tienen las mujeres para ejercer el liderazgo. En segundo lugar, la teoría multifactorial de género de Spence (1993), la cual explica los diferentes elementos que forman la identidad del género. Y finalmente, la teoría de Mabel Burin (2004,2008) acerca de las diferentes características de las barreras subjetivas que tienen las mujeres a la hora de ejercer como líderes.

Por otro lado, el capital psicológico se relaciona favorablemente con el desempeño laboral, el bienestar laboral y la satisfacción con la vida (Avey, Wernsing y Mhatre, 2011; Bakker y Xanthopoulou, 2013; Chawla y Sharma 2019) así como la predicción del compromiso laboral (Wang, Li y Li 2017; Ouweneel et al. 2012). En otras palabras, el capital psicológico brinda la motivación para seguir esforzándose en sus objetivos a pesar de tener que sortear los obstáculos pertinentes para llegar al éxito (Pitichat et al. 2018).

Es por ello por lo que el objetivo general de esta revisión es analizar las características del liderazgo transformacional y del capital psicológico desde una perspectiva de género para así esclarecer cuales son las características de la mujer como líder transformacional y cuál es la influencia del capital psicológico sobre este. Para poder conseguir este objetivo se ha requerido la integración de diferentes fenómenos psicológicos estudiados desde la perspectiva de género. Así pues, este trabajo, a pesar de integrar diferentes conceptos psicológicos dentro de la psicología de las organizaciones y la psicología positiva no pretende crear un nuevo marco integrador si no considerar si la información sobre el tema está avanzando en los estudios de género dentro de los estudios sobre el liderazgo transformacional y del capital psicológico.

#### Método



| Identidad del lider<br>transformacional | liderazgo                  | Perspectiva de géner<br>femenina y liderargo |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| Lidenzgo                                | Psychological capital for  | Lidenzzgo femenino en lo                     |
| transformacional:                       | leader development.        | negocios ¿cómo se                            |
| investigación actual y retos            | Journal of Leadership &    | percibe?                                     |
| faturos                                 | Organizational             |  |
| El lider transformador y el             | Liderazgo                  | Does valuing androgyny                       |
| lider rutinario: sus                    | transformacional y capital | and femininity lead to a                     |
| manifestaciones en hombre               | psicológico                | female advantage? The                        |
| y mujer                                 | positivo: un estudio de    | relationship between                         |
|   | caso en una empresa de     | gender-role,                                 |
|   | construcción               | transformational                             |
|   | 1                          | leadership and                               |
|   |                            | identification                               |
| Estilos de liderazgo: un                | 1                          | Valores y rasgos                             |
| enfoque de género                       |                            | esterentipicos de género d                   |
|   |                            | mujeres lideres                              |
| El Lidenzgo                             | 1                          | An exploration of                            |
| transformacional en las                 | 1                          | stereotypical beliefs about                  |
| organizaciones: variables               | 1                          | leadership styles: Is                        |
| mediadoras y                            | 1                          | transformational                             |
| consecuencias a largo                   | 1                          | leadership a route to                        |
| pluzo                                   |                            | women's promotion?                           |
| The Relationship Between                | 1                          | Women and leadership:                        |
| Transformational                        |                            | Gender barriers to senior                    |
| Leadership and Emotional                |                            | Management positions                         |
| Intelligence from a                     |                            | Estilos de liderazgo: un                     |
| Gendered Approach                       | 1                          | enfoque de género.                           |

Método

La investigación de Tipán Tapia (2019) refleja que durante la revisión de su literatura que perspectiva de género cuando hablamos de líderes refiere a la búsqueda constante de l mujeres por alcanzar la igualdad de género y su lucha para la posterior vinculación a espaci de poder donde la diferencia entre los roles masculinos y femeninos sea se vea como u fuente de riqueza y no como una limitación depende de tu comportamiento

n resumen, para todos los autores anteriormente descritos, la perspectiva de género tiene una isión dualista y antiguada en cuanto a las características "propias" de cada sexo. La conclusión la que llegamos es que la percepción de lo "masculino" y lo "femenino" es una visión ntiguada de la sociedad y que esta perspectiva de género tiene que modernizarse ya que las ersonas no son 100% "masculinas" o "femeninas" sino que existen diferentes grados de esto: n una sola persona y no porque te identifiques en un sexo concreto tienes un comportamiento eterminado.

in conclusión, entre todos estos autores podemos destacar que la principal función del líde ransformacional es alentar la motivación y el desarrollo positivo de los seguidores. Mientra ue parece ser que las mujeres tienden a ejercer más como líderes transformacionales no todo os autores están de acuerdo.

### Conclusión

i aquellos que ejercen un liderazgo transformacional se basan en mantener la notivación del equipo de trabajo para así conseguir los objetivos laborales, e apital psicológico pretende brindar esa motivación para seguir esforzándote ara así cumplir con los objetivos. Por otro lado, no se ha demostrado que las nujeres ejercen un liderazgo exclusivamente transformacional respecto a los ombres. Es cierto que diferentes autores difieren, sobre que género ejercer ste tipo de liderazgo, pero en lo que todos están de acuerdo es en que ctualmente, la perspectiva de lo que únicamente es femenino o masculino arece estar mucho más diluida que en momentos anteriores. Pero es cierto ue nos sigue costando asumir que la mujer puede ejercer en cargos de derazgo que han sido ocupados por anterioridad por hombres.

as mujeres sufren el llamado techo de cristal o segregación vertical. Esta arreras no son siempre evidentes e imposibilitan en la mayoría de la casiones la promoción de una mujer a ciertos cargos más elevados dentro d na empresa. Para poder dar voz a estas mujeres es necesario que se produzc. n cambio a nivel cultural y a nivel organizacional en las empresas para as ejar de determinar como mejor el comportamiento más estereotipadament nasculino y como peor el comportamiento estereotipadamente femenino y as ejar de catalogar por géneros quien es un buen líder y quien no.

Es por ello que las limitaciones que hemos encontrado a la hora de realiza esta revisión sistemática no solo ha sido la falta de coeteanidad de mucho artículos, sino que estos 3 conceptos parece a vista de esta revisión que si s han estudiado por separado pero no juntos cosa que nos parece que deberí cambiar ya que la perspectiva de género aporta un poco de luz sobre la clásic diferenciación entre los roles de género lo cual nos ayuda a entender que par ser un buen líder solo tienes que apoyarte en tu equipo y crecer junto a él y es no es propio de ningún género en concreto.

Por otro lado, proponemos que se haga a posteriori de esta revisión una investigación con los términos, liderazgo, capital psicológico y perspectiva de género y que esta observe la realidad de los diferentes estereotipos de género que tenemos en cuanto a un buen lider y como el capital psicológico juega un papel fundamental para la motivación del equipo y eso es lo que hace a una persona un buen líder.



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