

Abstract

In order to explore the known relationship between work stress and unethical behaviour, 78 current workers were asked to complete a survey. They completed a questionnaire (either online or hard-copy) which captures their moral attentiveness, work stress, burnout and unethical behaviour. After controlling for confounds, data analyses revealed that (1) moral attentiveness moderates the relationship between work stress and unethical behaviour; (2) burnout intensity mediates the aforementioned relationship; (3) among the three factors of burnout intensity, emotional exhaustion is the best predictor of unethical behaviour. Results of the study show that the relationship between work stress and unethical behaviour is not simple as previous studies have shown and more investigation is needed. Further implications and future direction are also discussed.