



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Edinburgh Research Explorer

Stuck in the past? The influence of a leader's past cultural experience on group culture and positive and negative group deviance

Citation for published version:

Kim, Y & Toh, SM 2019, 'Stuck in the past? The influence of a leader's past cultural experience on group culture and positive and negative group deviance', *Academy of Management Journal*, vol. 62, no. 3, pp. 944-969. <https://doi.org/10.5465/amj.2016.1322>

Digital Object Identifier (DOI):

[10.5465/amj.2016.1322](https://doi.org/10.5465/amj.2016.1322)

Link:

[Link to publication record in Edinburgh Research Explorer](#)

Document Version:

Peer reviewed version

Published In:

Academy of Management Journal

General rights

Copyright for the publications made accessible via the Edinburgh Research Explorer is retained by the author(s) and / or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing these publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

Take down policy

The University of Edinburgh has made every reasonable effort to ensure that Edinburgh Research Explorer content complies with UK legislation. If you believe that the public display of this file breaches copyright please contact openaccess@ed.ac.uk providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.





Stuck in the Past? The Influence of a Leader's Past Cultural Experience on Group Culture and Positive and Negative Group Deviance

Journal:	<i>Academy of Management Journal</i>
Manuscript ID	AMJ-2016-1322.R4
Manuscript Type:	Revision
Keywords:	Organizational culture < Organization and Management Theory < Topic Areas, Group/team processes (General) < Group/team processes < Organizational Behavior < Topic Areas, Leadership < Organizational Behavior < Topic Areas, Group/team characteristics (General) < Group/team characteristics < Organizational Behavior < Topic Areas, Behavior (General) < Behavior < Organizational Behavior < Topic Areas
Abstract:	Extant research on the antecedents of cultures posits that cultures result from the internal and external changes experienced by the group (the functionality perspective) and from a group leader's personal values and personality traits (the leader-trait perspective). The current study proposes another important, but neglected, antecedent of cultures: a leader's past cultural experience. Specifically, we theorize that group leaders enact cultures based on their past cultural experiences, essentially transferring cultures from their former groups to their current groups. Two studies, one in the field (Study 1) and another in the laboratory (Study 2), reveal that the levels of cultural tightness in current groups are predicted by group leaders' past experience with cultural tightness in their former groups in which they were followers. This relationship becomes stronger when the group leaders identified with or had longer tenure in their former groups. In addition, the cultural tightness that leaders transferred from their former groups to their current groups influences negative (counterproductive work behavior) and positive (promotive and prohibitive voice) forms of group deviance. The theoretical and managerial implications for leadership and culture are discussed.

1
2
3
4
5
6 **Stuck in the Past? The Influence of a Leader's Past Cultural**
7 **Experience on Group Culture and**
8 **Positive and Negative Group Deviance**
9
10
11
12
13
14
15

16 **Yeun Joon Kim**

17 University of Toronto
18 105 St. George Street
19 Toronto, Ontario. M5S 3E6
20 Tel: 647-891-7519
21 yeunjoon.kim13@rotman.utoronto.ca
22
23

24 **Soo Min Toh**

25 University of Toronto Mississauga
26 3359 Mississauga Road
27 Mississauga, Ontario, L5L 1C6
28 Tel: 905-569-4971
29 soomin.toh@utoronto.ca
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48

49 *Authors' notes.* We wish to thank Lisa M. Leslie and three anonymous reviewers for their insightful and
50 constructive feedback. We also thank Marlys Christianson and Sojin Park for their thoughtful comments
51 on drafts. The two authors equally contributed to this paper. Correspondence concerning this article
52 should be addressed to Yeun Joon Kim, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. E-mail:
53 YeunJoon.Kim13@Rotman.utoronto.ca.
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Stuck in the Past? The Influence of a Leader's Past Cultural Experience on Group Culture and Positive and Negative Group Deviance

ABSTRACT

Extant research on the antecedents of cultures posits that cultures result from the internal and external changes experienced by the group (the functionality perspective) and from a group leader's personal values and personality traits (the leader-trait perspective). The current study proposes another important, but neglected, antecedent of cultures: a leader's past cultural experience. Specifically, we theorize that group leaders enact cultures based on their past cultural experiences, essentially transferring cultures from their former groups to their current groups. Two studies, one in the field (Study 1) and another in the laboratory (Study 2), reveal that the levels of cultural tightness in current groups are predicted by group leaders' past experience with cultural tightness in their former groups in which they were followers. This relationship becomes stronger when the group leaders identified with or had longer tenure in their former groups. In addition, the cultural tightness that leaders transferred from their former groups to their current groups influences negative (counterproductive work behavior) and positive (promotive and prohibitive voice) forms of group deviance. The theoretical and managerial implications for leadership and culture are discussed.

Keywords: Cultural transfer, group cultures, cultural tightness, leadership, positive and negative deviance.

Where do group cultures come from? This basic question may be one of the toughest for both researchers and practitioners to answer because cultures are deeply entrenched in people's minds and taken for granted. Once formed, cultures become, in Schein's (2006) words, "nonnegotiable assumptions" that groups accept without question. Over time, groups gradually become less conscious of not only the origins of their cultures, but also the cultures per se. Nevertheless, cultures continuously offer implicit guidelines for how people should think, feel, and behave in groups. For example, cultures provide groups with ways of interpreting and judging others' behaviors, resolving conflicts that arise from competing demands, managing social relationships, and organizing resources to accomplish collective goals (e.g., Gelfand, Leslie, Keller, & de Dreu, 2012; Gelfand, Nishii, & Raver, 2006; Gelfand, Raver, Nishii, Leslie, Lun, Lim et al., 2011; Haidt, 2013; Schein, 2006). Because group cultures have such important

1
2
3 organizational implications for the achievement of collective goals, researchers have sought
4
5 ways to better understand and manage cultures by investigating their antecedents.
6

7
8 The culture literature contains two disparate perspectives on the antecedents of cultures:
9
10 the functionality perspective and the leader-trait perspective. According to the functionality
11
12 perspective, cultures help groups achieve internal integration and external adaptation by
13
14 effectively addressing various problems that result from the changing contingencies faced by a
15
16 group (Kluckhohn & Strodtbeck, 1961; Schein, 2006). The primary assumption of this
17
18 perspective is that groups pay attention to changing environments, accurately identify problems,
19
20 generate a set of potential solutions to the problems, select effective solutions, and enact systems
21
22 (e.g., work procedures, rules, norms, rituals, reward-punishment systems) that reflect the chosen
23
24 solutions. Over time, such systems become a culture by continuously offering successful
25
26 solutions. If groups observe another round of turbulence in their internal and/or external
27
28 environments, they repeat this process. The leader-trait perspective argues that leaders may
29
30 disproportionally influence cultures, and in doing so, they rely on their personal values and
31
32 personality traits to shape group cultures (e.g., Berson, Oreg, & Dvir, 2008; Gelfand et al., 2012;
33
34 Giberson, Resick, & Dickson, 2005; O'Reilly, Caldwell, Chatman, & Doerr, 2014). This is
35
36 because leaders have the formal authority and social power to enact group cultures, which
37
38 incentivizes group members to be attentive to and follow their leaders' opinions and behaviors
39
40 (Gelfand et al., 2012; Northouse, 2009; Yukl, 2010). In addition, people who are powerful (e.g.,
41
42 leaders who have control over important organizational resources such as pay, promotions, and
43
44 job resources) tend to overweigh their personal preferences over other factors in their decision
45
46 making (see for a review, Hirsh, Galinsky, & Zhong, 2011; Keltner, Gruenfeld, & Anderson,
47
48 2003; Magee & Galinsky, 2008).
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 The primary objective of this research is to introduce another neglected, but important,
4 antecedent of cultures: the past cultural experience of leaders. In line with the leader-trait
5 perspective, we argue that leaders have a disproportional influence on group cultures based on
6 their unique viewpoints. However, our research questions whether the scope of such viewpoints
7 should be limited to leader traits. Leaders, by virtue of their roles as representatives of their
8 groups, are required to take full responsibility for the failures and low performance of their
9 groups (Northouse, 2009; Yukl, 2010). For this reason, when enacting group cultures, leaders are
10 unlikely to solely rely on their traits and completely overlook the functionality of cultures.
11 Instead, we propose that leaders consider the functionality of cultures in a different way from
12 what the functionality perspective suggests. That is, while seeking functional cultural solutions,
13 leaders may pay more attention to their past cultural experiences, than to current contingencies.
14 Theories of bounded rationality (Gersick & Hackman, 1990; March & Simon, 1958) and the
15 career history literature (Dokko, Wilk, & Rothbard, 2009; Higgins, 2005; Marquis & Tilcsik,
16 2013) help support our view. They suggest that people have a limited cognitive capacity. which
17 disincentivizes careful analyses of the problems at hand and thorough searches for solutions from
18 scratch. Thus, people are inclined to rely on learned solutions from the past with a firm belief
19 that old solutions will also effectively resolve new problems. Drawing on these theories, this
20 research proposes that leaders may create group cultures based on a limited search for cultural
21 solutions that they have acquired in the past. Therefore, the cultures enacted by leaders resemble
22 the cultures in the groups where they obtained their past cultural experience – essentially
23 *transferring the cultural traits from the former groups to the current groups*. We test this cultural
24 transfer hypothesis using the concept of cultural tightness, which refers to a group's shared
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 perception concerning the extent to which a group has many strictly enforced norms (Gelfand et
4 al., 2006; Gelfand et al., 2011).
5
6

7
8 In addition to contributing to our understanding of the antecedents of cultures, the current
9
10 research investigates the key behavioral consequences of transferred cultural tightness for
11
12 groups. We argue that cultural tightness, which is created by group leaders based on their past
13
14 cultural experience, reduces both positive (promotive and prohibitive voice behaviors) and
15
16 negative (counterproductive work behavior) forms of group deviance. In tight cultures, groups
17
18 have a number of strongly reinforced norms that clearly define boundaries between acceptable
19
20 and unacceptable behaviors. They readily punish deviance using a variety of means such as
21
22 negative comments, peer pressure, and social ostracism. Therefore, members in tight cultures
23
24 feel compelled against deviating from norms. This is so even if the deviance is intended to
25
26 benefit groups (e.g., voice) because the pervasiveness of strong norms and conformity pressures
27
28 cause group members to find any type of deviance less cognitively approachable (Gelfand,
29
30 Harrington, & Jackson, 2017; Gelfand et al., 2006; Gelfand et al., 2011). In contrast, loose
31
32 cultures have fewer norms and more lenient reinforcement. Members in loose cultures interpret
33
34 group norms in various ways, which allows them to display heterogeneous and counternormative
35
36 opinions and behaviors with little fear of repercussion (Gelfand et al., 2017; Gelfand et al.,
37
38 2006). Therefore, we expect that the transferred cultural tightness from leaders' past cultural
39
40 experience is likely to reduce both positive and negative group deviance.
41
42
43
44
45
46

47 We test our hypotheses in two studies – one field survey and one laboratory experiment.
48
49 The multi-method approach makes it possible to replicate the findings across two different
50
51 research contexts and to demonstrate both internal and external validities. Our theory and
52
53 empirical findings provide important contributions to the knowledge of cultures and leadership in
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 groups. Relying on a diverse set of theories – including the functionality and leader-trait
4 perspectives of culture formation, bounded rationality, and career history – we introduce cultural
5 transfer by group leaders as a novel process of group culture formation that has not been
6 previously investigated. By doing so, our research offers new insights into the importance of
7 leadership in group culture formation and the way in which group leaders make heuristic
8 decisions when enacting their groups' cultures. In addition, the current research provides theories
9 and empirical evidence regarding both the antecedents and consequences of cultural tightness at
10 the group level. Together, these contributions push the boundaries of both the culture and
11 leadership literatures by examining how group leaders create their groups' cultures as well as the
12 behavioral implications of those cultures (Gelfand et al., 2017; Gelfand et al., 2006).

26 **THEORY AND HYPOTHESES**

28 **Group Cultural Tightness**

30
31 Group cultures vary in tightness, which refers to the shared perception among group
32 members regarding the extent to which the group has many strictly enforced norms (Gelfand et
33 al., 2006; Gelfand et al., 2011). Normally stemming from a strong need for coordination to
34 survive in challenging work environments, culturally tight groups stipulate many prescriptions
35 and norms for what are considered acceptable and unacceptable behaviors, and they vigorously
36 reinforce the norms (Gelfand et al., 2011; Harrington & Gelfand, 2014). Members of tight
37 cultures tend to perceive and experience shared norms that emphasize order, predictability, and
38 control. They also have a strong sense of felt accountability, or “the subjective experience that
39 one's actions are subject to evaluation and that there are potential punishments based on these
40 evaluations” (Gelfand et al., 2006: 1229). In contrast, culturally loose groups have greater
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 tolerance for a variety of alternative expressions of norms and a lack of formality, order, and
4 discipline (Gelfand et al., 2006). They enable members to freely exercise their own preferences.
5
6

7
8 This research focuses on cultural tightness as a representative cultural concept to
9
10 investigate antecedents and consequences of group cultures for two reasons. First, cultural
11 tightness is particularly relevant to organizational research because it reflects the process of
12 group norming – setting and reinforcing norms – which is one of the most important group
13 processes (Bandura, 2001; Gersick & Hackman, 1990; Kozlowski & Bell, 2003). Second,
14 cultural tightness is a well-established cultural concept that has strong explanatory power in
15 predicting behaviors. For example, Gelfand and her colleagues (e.g., Gelfand et al., 2017;
16 Gelfand et al., 2011; Gelfand, Severance, Lee, Bruss, Lun, Abdel-Latif et al., 2015; Harrington
17 & Gelfand, 2014) found that members in tight (versus loose) cultures are more (versus less)
18 likely to regulate their behavior, demonstrate prevention-focused (versus promotion-focused)
19 behaviors, and adopt a more adaptive (versus innovative) approach in deriving organizational
20 solutions, and tend to be less (versus more) creative in their jobs (see for a further review,
21 Gelfand et al., 2006). Furthermore, such predictive validity of cultural tightness has been
22 consistently shown in several different social contexts (e.g., 33 nations in Gelfand et al., 2011).
23
24 Given its relevance to organizational research and its considerable explanatory power in
25 predicting human behavior, cultural tightness is particularly germane for studying group cultures
26 in the workplace.
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

46
47 In what follows, using the concept of cultural tightness, we present our theory and
48 hypotheses that a group leader's past cultural experience influences the cultures and outcomes of
49 the leader's group. Specifically, we hypothesize that group leaders transfer their past cultural
50 experience to their own groups such that their past experience with the cultural tightness in their
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 former groups is positively related to the cultural tightness of the groups where the leaders
4 currently lead (Hypothesis 1). The transfer of cultural tightness is stronger when the leaders have
5 internalized their past cultural experience through high identification with (Hypothesis 2) or long
6 tenure in (Hypothesis 3) their former groups. Further, we investigate the consequences – positive
7 and negative forms of group deviances – of the transferred cultural tightness (Hypothesis 4).
8
9
10
11
12
13
14 Lastly, we examine how the indirect relationships between the leaders' past cultural experience
15 and the group outcomes through the cultural tightness of the current groups are moderated by
16 identification and tenure (moderated mediation; Hypothesis 5). Figure 1 illustrates our theoretical
17 model.
18
19
20
21
22
23

24 -----
25 Insert FIGURE 1 about here
26 -----
27

28 **Extant Theories and Research on Antecedents of Group Cultures**

29
30 The culture literature contains two distinctive perspectives that provide unique insights
31 regarding antecedents of cultures – the functionality perspective and the leader-trait perspective.
32
33 The functionality perspective argues that internal and external changes predict cultures (Schein,
34 2006). Internal and external changes generate new problems, and cultures adapt to such changes
35 by incorporating effective solutions to the problems. In other words, cultures – defined as a set of
36 collective solutions to problems faced by groups (Kluckhohn & Strodtbeck, 1961) – help groups
37 successfully resolve the problems at hand. By doing so, cultures help groups achieve both
38 internal integration and external adaptation (Schein, 2006). For successful internal adaptation,
39 groups accurately identify internal problems (e.g., group members' diverse needs; task and
40 relational conflicts within groups) and address them by setting up proper systems or a set of
41 solutions (Taggar & Ellis, 2007). For successful external adaptation, groups correctly diagnose
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 new problems that arise from external changes (e.g., changes in customer needs; a new policy set
4 by higher institutions; an introduction of new technology), search for a set of possible solutions,
5 and select effective solutions (Hughes, 1993). Over time, those solutions become cultures that
6 continuously help groups resolve problems. The functionality perspective thus suggests that the
7 cultures maintained are those that are most suited to group success, or at the very least, the
8 survival of the group. For instance, if a group diagnoses that external situations (e.g., ecological
9 or human threats that require greater coordination) require a tight group culture, the group will
10 seek to enact a tight culture. In contrast, if a group recognizes that a high level of discretion for
11 group members to carry out their tasks is more effective for goal achievement (e.g., creative
12 tasks), the group will enact fewer rules and norms and leniently enforce them; this represents a
13 loose culture (Harrington & Gelfand, 2014).
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

28 The second stream of research on antecedents of cultures – the leader-trait perspective –
29 argues that cultures in a group may be a function of a leader’s personal values and personality
30 traits (e.g., Berson et al., 2008; Gelfand et al., 2012; Giberson et al., 2005). This perspective
31 argues that the “true origins of culture can be found in the fundamental dispositions
32 (idiosyncratic values, personality, and behavior) of the organization’s leaders” (O’Reilly et al.,
33 2014: 597) for three reasons. First, leader traits cause leaders to demonstrate consistent patterns
34 of thought, emotion, and behavior, which become “a salient source of information about the
35 normative order” for the group (O’Reilly et al., 2014: 598). Second, leaders are in positions
36 where they can realize their personal values, personality traits, and preferences in group cultures.
37 The leadership role offers them the formal authority and power to establish a variety of
38 procedures, routines, rituals, rules, and reward-punishment systems, all of which significantly
39 influence employee collective mindsets and behaviors (Yukl, 2010). Third, as they hold
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 substantial social power, leaders tend to pay less attention to and be less constrained by
4
5 situational contingencies in their decision making, but they rely heavily on their personal
6
7 preferences (see for a review, Hirsh et al., 2011; Keltner et al., 2003; Magee & Galinsky, 2008).
8
9

10 In support of these arguments, researchers have found that leader traits predict cultures.
11
12 For example, in their study of the Big-Five personality traits of leaders, O'Reilly et al. (2014)
13
14 found that when leaders had personality traits such as openness to experience, conscientiousness,
15
16 and agreeableness, cultures became more adaptive, more detail-oriented, and less results-oriented,
17
18 respectively. Giberson et al. (2005) also found that leaders' Big-Five personality traits explained
19
20 a significant amount of variance (21%) of aggregated measures of the Big-Five cultures.
21
22 Similarly, Berson et al. (2008) found that a leader's self-directive, security, and benevolence
23
24 values were associated with innovation-oriented cultures, bureaucratic cultures, and supportive
25
26 cultures, respectively. Lastly, Gelfand et al. (2012) conducted a study in 159 branches of a large
27
28 bank in the United States and found that managers' collaborative, dominating, and avoidance
29
30 conflict management behaviors were positively related to collaborative, dominating, and
31
32 avoidance conflict cultures, respectively, in the branches.
33
34
35
36

37 The main objective of our research is to find another important, but neglected, antecedent
38
39 of cultures by drawing on the insights offered by the two perspectives. We take the view that
40
41 group leaders, compared with any other factor, disproportionally influence group cultures based
42
43 on their own viewpoints (in line with the leader-trait perspective). At the same time, we believe
44
45 that leaders are likely to form such viewpoints not only by anchoring on their personal values
46
47 and personality traits, but also by seeking ways to engage their groups in successful problem
48
49 solving (in line with the functionality perspective). However, despite their consideration of the
50
51 functionality of cultures, group leaders may not be able to enact group cultures that are
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 “objectively” functional. Instead, they may rely on the most accessible solutions they learned in
4 the past with a “subjective,” but ungrounded, belief that those solutions will still be functional in
5 the current situation. Schein (2006), one of the proposer of the functionality perspective, also
6 acknowledged this possibility stating that “we do not develop new assumptions about each of
7 these areas in every group or organization we join. Members of any new group will bring their
8 own cultural learning from prior groups, from their education, and from their socialization into
9 occupational communities” (p. 35). We elaborate upon this next.

19 **Cultural Transfer by Group Leaders**

21 Relying on the bounded rationality literature (Gersick & Hackman, 1990; March &
22 Simon, 1958), we argue that group leaders are less likely to attempt to find objectively functional
23 cultural solutions by analyzing internal and external changes; however, they are more likely to
24 search for seemingly satisfactory ones by scanning their past cultural experiences. March and
25 Simon (1958) were the first to suggest that when group leaders craft group cultures to resolve the
26 problems faced by their groups, they begin the search process with familiar cultural solutions in
27 mind. They draw on solutions that had been employed for similar problems in the past and apply
28 them to problems in the present with a firm belief that the past solutions will still be effective.
29 This is because they, like any other decision makers, have limited cognitive capacity to evaluate
30 problems, generate several alternatives, assess each alternative against the problems, and select
31 effective alternatives (March & Simon, 1958). Thus, group cultures are necessarily suboptimal or
32 even ineffective in reality because when leaders are faced with a situation in which they should
33 re-evaluate their assumptions, their selective perception and limited rationality incline them to
34 apply outdated cultural solutions they learned in the past to current problems.

1
2
3 The theories and empirical evidence in the career history literature also support this
4
5 argument. This literature suggests that employees' cognitive schemas or scripts acquired from
6
7 past work experiences in a former group or organization create cognitive and behavioral
8
9 rigidities that carry over to a new group or organization (Dokko et al., 2009), and they interfere
10
11 with employees' ability and motivation to accurately evaluate a new situation (Dokko et al., 2009;
12
13 Gioia & Poole, 1984). In a sample of mental health specialists, for example, Adkins (1995)
14
15 found that past work experience led to workers' overconfidence in their ability to do a job and
16
17 inattentiveness to task-relevant cues in a new situation. Similarly, with a sample of call-center
18
19 employees, Dokko et al. (2009) found that after accounting for knowledge and skill, past work
20
21 experience negatively affected employee job outcomes because of cognitive and behavioral
22
23 rigidities, norms from prior experiences that potentially conflict with the new employer's
24
25 expectations, and the misapplication of acquired skills.
26
27
28
29

30
31 By expanding these findings, researchers have also suggested the concept of career
32
33 imprinting, which refers to a process where past work experience marks a set of motivations,
34
35 cognitions, and behaviors that employees consistently experience and demonstrate throughout
36
37 their work careers (see for a review, Marquis & Tilcsik, 2013). This research has shown that
38
39 employees' past experience affects their assumptions about how work should be performed and
40
41 creates expectations, knowledge, routines, and habits that are continuously perceived as useful in
42
43 different organizational contexts (Higgins, 2005; Tilcsik, 2014). In her ethnographic study on the
44
45 career imprinting of young executives in the biotechnology industry, Higgins (2005) found that
46
47 early career cultural experiences affected their assumptions about how to lead and manage a firm
48
49 in the long run. These studies showed that employees respond to changing environments based
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 upon past organizational experiences instead of beginning a new experience with a “blank slate,”
4
5 or tabula rasa (Adkins, 1995).
6

7
8 Taken together, given people’s bounded rationality, difficulty in shedding past
9
10 experiences once they have been incorporated in a script, and their tendency to prefer familiar
11
12 and well-learned solutions rather than adapting to new contingencies (see for a review, March &
13
14 Simon, 1958; Marquis & Tilcsik, 2013), we propose *the cultural transfer hypothesis*. We expect
15
16 that leaders are likely to create group cultures based on the cultures they have experienced in the
17
18 past. Specifically, we suggest that group leaders may come to assume that tight (loose) cultures
19
20 are necessary for group success based on their past cultural experience of tight (loose) cultures in
21
22 their former groups. For example, having experienced of a tight culture in a former group, a
23
24 leader likely holds assumptions about the effectiveness of high degrees of control, order,
25
26 predictability, stability, and coordinated effort. Consequently, the leader likely creates a tight
27
28 culture in his or her group by clarifying a large number of norms, defining a narrow range of
29
30 tolerable behavior, and severely punishing any norm deviation (Gelfand et al., 2006). In contrast,
31
32 a leader who has experienced a loose culture in a former group may see such a culture as an
33
34 effective set of solutions to the problems faced by the current group; thus, the leader is likely to
35
36 sanction fewer behavioral expectations and to grant group members greater discretion (Gelfand,
37
38 Bhawuk, Nishii, & Bechtold, 2004).
39
40
41
42
43

44
45 *Hypothesis 1: A group leader transfers past cultural experience to his or her group such*
46 *that cultural tightness experienced in the past is positively related to cultural tightness in*
47 *the leader’s group.*
48

49 **Moderators of the Cultural Transfer: Identification with and Tenure in a Former Group**

50
51 Cultural transfer is more likely to occur when group leaders have deeply internalized
52
53 their former groups’ cultures. Employees who have internalized a set of certain cultures make
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 decisions and demonstrate behavior that are closely in line with those that the culture
4 recommends and approves. They do so even without a conscious effort because the cultural
5 characteristics are already deeply entrenched in their minds and thus offer reference points for
6 behavior at the sub-conscious level (see for a review, Schein, 2006). We propose two factors that
7 influence the extent to which the former group culture is internalized: identification and tenure.
8
9

10
11
12
13
14 We argue that leaders who highly identify themselves with their former groups are more
15 likely to transfer the cultural tightness of their former groups to their current groups. According
16 to group identification theory (Henry, Arrow, & Carini, 1999), group identification increases
17 when members begin to view themselves as belonging to the group such that their self-concept is
18 intertwined with their group (Tajfel & Turner, 1979). Low identifiers are less committed to the
19 group and thus are less likely to adopt the beliefs and norms of the group (Jetten, Postmes, &
20 McAuliffe, 2002). High identifiers, in contrast, are more likely to believe that the cultural
21 assumptions in their group are effective and efficient for managing the problems faced by the
22 group, and thus, they deeply internalize group cultures. In other words, they become “patriots”
23 who fervently try to sustain group cultures and actively attempt to enforce them to other
24 members through the use of diverse social sanctioning strategies, such as social ostracism, peer
25 pressures, rewards and punishments. (Alvesson & Willmott, 2002). Therefore, a group leader,
26 who identified strongly with his/her former group, is more likely to internalize the group’s level
27 of cultural tightness, and thus bring it to the group he/she comes to lead. We hypothesize the
28 following:
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48

49 *Hypothesis 2: The positive relationship between the cultural tightness of a leader’s*
50 *former group and current group is stronger when the leader has higher identification*
51 *with the former group.*
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 We also suggest that the length (or tenure) of the past cultural experience influences
4 cultural internalization, and thus strengthens cultural transfer. According to the attraction-
5 selection-attribution theory (Schneider, 1987), groups have a natural tendency to attract, select, and
6 retain people who have characteristics that best fit the group cultures (Kristof, 1996). Over time,
7 employees may either come to identify with their groups or choose to exit; the ones who remain
8 longer are often those who identify with their group and thus are more likely to internalize the
9 group cultures (Giberson et al., 2005). However, it is certainly possible that employees remain in
10 their groups without identifying with them. They may maintain their group membership simply
11 because they need to secure their salary or because they feel obliged to do so (Meyer, Allen, &
12 Smith, 1993). However, even if employees do not identify with their group, they must conform
13 to the group norms to maintain their group membership. Conformity and repeated exposure to
14 the same group norms may result in members' internalization of those norms into their
15 behavioral scripts without necessarily changing their group identification levels (March & Simon,
16 1958). Therefore, irrespective of their identification with the group, employees with a longer
17 group tenure are more likely to internalize the group cultures. With longer tenure, group leaders
18 create cultural tightness in their current groups that is more likely to reflect their past experience
19 of cultural tightness in their former groups.
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40

41
42 *Hypothesis 3: The positive relationship between the cultural tightness of a leader's*
43 *former group and current group is stronger when the leader had longer tenure in the*
44 *former group.*
45

46 47 **Consequences of Transferred Cultural Tightness** 48

49 Cultural tightness has been linked to a number of cognitive and behavioral outcomes.
50 Data from 33 nations showed that tight cultures were related to higher cautiousness, dutifulness,
51 self-regulation, and need for structure (Gelfand et al., 2011). Tight cultures emphasize risk
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 avoidance, homogeneity, and a preference for stability, whereas loose cultures encourage risk
4 taking and allow for idiosyncrasies across individuals (Gelfand et al., 2006; Gelfand et al., 2011).
5
6 Among many behavioral outcomes of cultural tightness, a particularly relevant one is norm
7 deviation (Gelfand et al., 2006). Tight cultures, compared with loose cultures, reduce deviance
8 from social norms because they clearly outline appropriate and inappropriate behavior, reward
9 conformity, and punish deviance. In support of this argument, Gelfand et al. (2011) found that
10 tight cultures (versus loose cultures) suppress norm deviation regardless of whether the
11 underlying intention of the deviation is positive or negative. For example, tight societies are
12 more likely to enact policies to reduce negative deviance such as increasing police presence and
13 retaining the death penalty, which tends to lower murder, burglaries, and crime rates. At the
14 same time, tight cultures are negatively related to positive deviation such as challenges to
15 institutions (e.g., signing petitions, attending demonstrations, joining strikes) and innovation (e.g.,
16 the number of patents). Although those characteristics of cultural tightness should have
17 important implications for behaviors and outcomes in organizations, the focus of past research on
18 cultural tightness has been limited to levels beyond the organizations, e.g., state, regional, and
19 national levels (Gelfand et al., 2006).
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39

40 The current research expands the cultural tightness literature by demonstrating that
41 cultural tightness decreases both positive and negative forms of group deviance in the
42 organizational context. To do so, we focus on counterproductive work behaviors, as a form of
43 negative group deviance, and promotive and prohibitive voice, as a form of positive group
44 deviance. From an organizational perspective, negative workplace deviance refers to “voluntary
45 behavior that violates significant organizational norms and in so doing threatens the well-being
46 of an organization, its members, or both” (Robinson & Bennett, 1995: 556). It includes various
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 types of counterproductive work behaviors, such as stealing company property, intentionally
4 withholding effort on one's tasks, and taking unscheduled breaks (Ambrose, Schminke, &
5 Mayer, 2013; Skarlicki & Folger, 1997). Positive workplace deviance includes norm-deviating
6 behaviors that are intended to benefit the organization (Bashshur & Oc, 2015), and employee
7 voice is among the most frequently studied forms of positive or constructive deviance in the
8 organizational research (Vadera, Pratt, & Mishra, 2013). Scholars have distinguished employee
9 voice as promotive or prohibitive. Promotive voice refers to the "expressions of ways to improve
10 existing work practices and procedures to benefit organizations" (Liang, Farh, & Farh, 2012: 71).
11 It represents specific suggestions and solutions for future improvements to existing work
12 processes for the purpose of helping groups realize group ideals and achieve collective goals.
13 Prohibitive voice refers to the "expressions of individuals' concern about existing or impending
14 practices, incidents, or behaviors that may harm their organization" (Liang et al., 2012: 72). In
15 this case, members seek to warn the organization of any problems, but they may or may not
16 present solutions. Drawing on the past findings of Gelfand and her colleagues (Gelfand et al.,
17 2017; Gelfand et al., 2006; Gelfand et al., 2011), we suggest that the cultural tightness of a
18 leader's current group, which is created based on the leader's past cultural experience, is
19 negatively related to counterproductive work behaviors, promotive voice, and prohibitive voice.
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41

42 *Hypothesis 4: The cultural tightness of the leader's current group mediates the negative*
43 *relationships between the cultural tightness of the leader's former group and*
44 *counterproductive work behavior, promotive voice, and prohibitive voice in the current*
45 *group.*
46

47
48 Finally, based on the above, the indirect relationships between the cultural tightness of a
49 leader's former group and the group deviances through the cultural tightness of the leader's
50 current group should be moderated, respectively, by the leader's identification with and tenure in
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 the former group where the leader obtained his or her past cultural experience. Therefore, we
4
5 hypothesize the following:
6

7
8 *Hypothesis 5a: A group leader's identification with a former group moderates the*
9 *indirect relationships between the cultural tightness of the leader's former group, the*
10 *cultural tightness of the leader's current group, and both positive and negative group*
11 *deviances such that the indirect relationships become stronger when the identification is*
12 *high.*
13

14
15 *Hypothesis 5b: A group leader's tenure in a former group moderates the indirect*
16 *relationships between the cultural tightness of the leader's former group, the cultural*
17 *tightness of the leader's current group, and both positive and negative group deviances*
18 *such that the indirect relationships become stronger when the tenure is long.*
19

20 21 **OVERVIEW OF STUDIES**

22
23 We test our hypotheses in two studies. Study 1 is a field study with a sample of
24
25 employees in sales groups at a start-up manufacturing company in Korea. This study involves
26
27 three waves of data collection. At the point of Wave 1 data collection, the company had newly
28
29 created groups within its sales department, and the leaders of these groups were hired from
30
31 outside the company. This field setting is well-suited for investigating our hypotheses for two
32
33 reasons. First, testing our hypotheses requires a clear empirical distinction between the former
34
35 groups, in which the group leaders obtained their past cultural experience, and the groups, in
36
37 which the leaders currently lead. This setting allowed us to clearly identify the borderline
38
39 between the leaders' past and current cultural experiences. Second, this setting naturally controls
40
41 for any group cultures and characteristics that may have been present before the group leaders
42
43 influenced group cultures. That is, it naturally controls for any group cultures and characteristics
44
45 prior to the time point when group leaders were assigned to these groups because no groups
46
47 existed before the leaders arrived. Thus, we believe that the field setting in Study 1 is suitable for
48
49 testing our research questions. Study 2, which is a laboratory experiment involving three-person
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 groups in two waves, further tests our cultural transfer hypothesis. Study 2 builds on Study 1 to
4
5 establish causality and replicate the cultural transfer we found in Study 1.
6

7 8 **STUDY 1: FIELD STUDY**

9 10 **Sample and Procedure**

11
12 We collected multi-wave (three waves) and multi-source (employee, group leader, division
13
14 head, archival records) data on 404 employees in 91 sales groups at a manufacturing company in
15
16 South Korea. The company manufactures a variety of office supplies, including desks, chairs,
17
18 and partitioning walls, and the majority of its customers are other organizations. Sales employees
19
20 visit, for example, universities, government offices, and other companies to explain their
21
22 products and make product sales agreements. To do that, they must be knowledgeable about not
23
24 only the characteristics of the products but also sales protocols to ensure that sales activities do
25
26 not cause legal issues (related to, e.g., legal regulations for visiting and treating customers and
27
28 laws regarding dumping sales). In addition, they need to be well informed of manufacturing
29
30 processes because customers frequently request product customizations, which become an
31
32 important issue in finalizing a deal. We contacted the top management team and explained the
33
34 purpose of the study. The company allowed this study on two conditions: the surveys collected
35
36 within the company had to be destroyed once the data were entered into a spreadsheet, and that
37
38 the aggregated findings had to be provided to the top management team. There were 108 sales
39
40 groups at the time of the study, and we sent an email invitation to all group leaders. Ninety-nine
41
42 of the 108 group leaders agreed to participate in the survey.
43
44
45
46
47
48

49
50 Data collection in Wave 1 occurred about 15 months after the company was founded. For
51
52 the first 14 months, the company did not have sales groups but had a single sales department
53
54 where one department head and two deputy heads loosely supervised the entire sales force. As
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 the company grew, sales activities became increasingly complex, and the department head felt
4 the need for subsystems to coordinate sales employees. The department thus decided to create
5 several groups and to search for group leaders from outside the company. The recruitment for the
6 new group leaders lasted about four months (9-13 months after the company's founding). When
7 the company recruited group leaders, there were two specific criteria for selection. The first
8 criterion was that the candidates had to have at least two years of experience working in sales
9 groups. The second criterion was that candidates who had not been group leaders in sales groups
10 were preferred. The CEO set the second criterion because he held a lay belief that those who
11 were not leaders would better preserve the existing company routines and cultures.¹ In our
12 research, this criterion contributed to the validity of our research design. If new group leaders in
13 this company were also group leaders in their former companies, it is possible that our
14 observations would not reflect cultural transfer but rather demonstrate that leaders simply re-
15 create the same culture in their former and current groups. Our research setting, in which the
16 group leaders were not leaders in their former groups, resolves this issue.

17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

The new leaders joined the company about 14 months after it was founded (one month in advance of the Wave 1 data collection). In Wave 1, we collected data from group leaders regarding the levels of cultural tightness of their past groups, their identification with and tenure in those groups, and their demographic information. Among the 99 group leaders who agreed to participate in the survey, four were group leaders in their former companies, and three were internally promoted. Therefore, we excluded these seven leaders, which resulted in a sample of

¹ In an interview with the CEO of this start-up company about the second criterion, he stated, "*I thought they (new leaders who were not leaders in their former companies) would easily assimilate themselves to our company's cultures. From my experience, leaders have their own ways (of managing groups) and, to some extent, they are stubborn. So, hiring new leaders who were leaders in their former companies will resist the ways that I believe right. I wanted to select leaders who can go together with me*" (parentheses added).

1
2
3 92 group leaders in Wave 1.² One year after Wave 1, we collected data from group members
4 regarding the cultural tightness of their groups (Wave 2). Between Waves 1 and 2, one group
5 leader left the company. Hence, we surveyed group members of the remaining 91 groups. We
6 made an effort to invite all group members. However, given the nature of their job, some of them
7 were working off-site (e.g., meeting clients) and thus were not available to participate in the
8 survey. We obtained responses from an average of 3.44 members per group ($SD=.77$).
9

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17 About 8 months later (Wave 3), we collected data on counterproductive work behavior by
18 surveying 6 division heads who were the supervisors of the group leaders. The division heads
19 were in a good position to report on the counterproductive work behavior of the groups they
20 oversaw because they regularly monitor each group's activities, are physically close to the
21 groups they oversee, and are less likely to intentionally bias their responses regarding groups'
22 negative deviance than are group leaders who are directly responsible for any negative activities
23 of their groups. Objective data regarding voice behaviors – the number of task-related
24 suggestions (promotive voice behavior) and the number of grievances (prohibitive voice
25 behavior) – were collected from the human resources (HR) department. The company began
26 collecting these data two months in advance of Wave 3. Thus, the data represent the total number
27 of suggestions and grievances reported to the HR department over the previous two months.
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Across waves 1, 2, and 3, the overall response rate was 71.63% (404 out of 564 employees;
leader response rate=84.26%; group member response rate=68.64%).

Measures

We followed the survey translation procedures recommended by Brislin (1990). All items were rated using a 7-point Likert scale (1=strongly disagree to 7=strongly agree).

² Inclusion of the seven leaders did not change the results to the extent that it influences our hypothesis testing.

1
2
3 *The cultural tightness of a leader's former group.* We adapted the 6-item scale of cultural
4 tightness developed by Gelfand et al. (2011). This scale was originally developed for a nation-
5 level culture and had to be modified to represent a group-level culture. A sample item includes,
6 “In this group, there are very clear expectations for how group members should act in most
7 situations” ($\alpha=.92$).

8
9
10 *The cultural tightness of a leader's current group.* We assessed the cultural tightness of a
11 leader's current group with the same measure, which was used to assess the cultural tightness of
12 a leader's former group. However, this time, group members evaluated it, and their ratings were
13 aggregated to form the group-level cultural tightness. To justify aggregation, we examined
14 interrater reliability. The ICC 1 estimate was .47 ($p<.000$). ICC 2 estimate was .78 ($p<.000$). We
15 also assessed the within-group agreement by calculating Rwg. The average Rwg was .88
16 ($SD=.10$; Ranging from .60 to 1.00). Those estimates exceeded the conventional cut-offs
17 suggested by LeBreton and Senter (2007). Cronbach alpha for this scale was .95.

18
19 *Leader identification with his/her former group.* We assessed leader identification with
20 his/her former group using Priesemuth, Schminke, Ambrose, and Folger's (2014) group
21 identification scale. In our survey, group leaders reported on this variable. A sample item
22 includes, “I identified with other group members when I was in the former group” ($\alpha=.93$).

23
24 *Leader tenure in his/her former group.* We measured the length of a leader's tenure in
25 his/her former group in months. The average tenure was 35.14 months ($SD=11.29$).

26
27 *Counterproductive work behavior.* We measured counterproductive work behavior by
28 modifying Bennett and Robinson's (2000) 12-item organizational deviance scale. The six
29 division heads rated the extent to which groups displayed counterproductive work behaviors in
30

1
2
3 the previous 8 months, the period between Waves 2 and 3. A sample item includes, “The
4 members in this group come in late to work without permission” ($\alpha=.98$).

7
8 *Voice.* We obtained objective data regarding the promotive and prohibitive voice
9 behaviors of groups from archival records of the company. Every week, sales groups gather
10 together for a meeting. In this meeting, group leaders collect job-relevant suggestions and
11 grievances and report them to the HR department. Since the company was a start-up, the top
12 management team had a strong desire to define efficient and effective work procedures and
13 environment by embracing employees’ suggestions and fixing problems. As an example of job-
14 relevant suggestions, one group suggested a need for a telephone hotline for sales employees to
15 directly contact division heads when they are drawing up a contract with a client. Examples of
16 grievances include observations of sales practices that are ineffective or that may raise legal
17 concerns. A HR manager counted the number of suggestions and grievances submitted in the
18 previous two months by each group, and reported the final numbers to the researchers.
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

33 *Control variables.* We controlled for two demographic variables of group leaders: age
34 and gender. Also, because leaders’ personality traits may influence group cultures they create,
35 we controlled for the Big-Five personality traits, measured by the mini-IPIP scale (Donnellan,
36 Oswald, Baird, & Lucas, 2006). In this scale, each of the five personality traits –
37 conscientiousness, openness to experience, extraversion, agreeableness, and emotional stability –
38 is measured by four items. Examples include, “I get chores done right away (conscientiousness;
39 $\alpha=.79$),” “I have a vivid imagination (openness to experience; $\alpha=.86$),” “I am the life of the party
40 (extraversion; $\alpha=.88$),” “I sympathize with others’ feelings (agreeableness; $\alpha=.86$),” and “I
41 seldom feel blue (emotional stability; $\alpha=.83$).” Lastly, we controlled for group size to address the
42 possibility that it influences group processes (Madrid, Totterdell, Niven, & Barros, 2016).
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Confirmatory Factor Analysis

The variables were collected from different sources. Leaders measured the cultural tightness of their former groups, and their identification with and tenure in their former groups (single item measure). Group members measured the cultural tightness of their current group. Division heads measured counterproductive work behavior. Archival records provided by HR indicated promotive and prohibitive voice (each by a single item). To test the psychometric validity of the four multi-item measures – the cultural tightness of a leader's former group, leader identification with the former group, the cultural tightness of a leader's current group, counterproductive work behavior – we conducted confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). Results showed that the four-factor model provided an excellent fit to the data ($\chi^2_{(340)}=382.81, p=.025$; TLI=.98; CFI=.98; RMSEA=.04), meeting the standards proposed by Hu and Bentler (1998). Also, we compared the four-factor model with several alternative models.³ An alternative three-factor model combining the cultural tightness of a leader's current group and leader identification showed the highest model fit among the alternatives ($\chi^2_{(343)}=675.81, p<.001$; TLI=.88; CFI=.89; RMSEA=.10). However, the results of the chi-square difference test showed that the four-factor model fit the data significantly better than the alternative three-factor model ($\Delta\chi^2_{(1)}=293.00, p<.001$). Thus, the CFA demonstrated the discriminant validity of the variables.

Results of Study 1

The means, standard deviations, and correlations for all variables are presented in Table 1. Hypotheses were tested using multiple hierarchical regressions. The cultural tightness of a leader's former group and the two moderators were mean-centered to reduce multicollinearity

³ Examples of the alternative models are: a 3-factor model combining the cultural tightness of a leader's former group and leader identification ($\chi^2_{(343)}=682.62, p<.001$; TLI=.88; CFI=.89; RMSEA=.11); a 3-factor model combining two cultures ($\chi^2_{(343)}=723.51, p<.001$; TLI=.87; CFI=.88; RMSEA=.11); and a 2-factor model combining all the variables except for group deviance ($\chi^2_{(345)}=1005.85, p<.001$; TLI=.77; CFI=.79; RMSEA=.15).

1
2
3 and increase interpretability of the zero point of each variable in the regression results (Aiken &
4 West, 1991; Cohen, Cohen, West, & Aiken, 2003). We also used the PROCESS macro (Hayes,
5
6 2013) to analyze indirect effects in the proposed mediation (Hypothesis 4) and moderated
7
8 mediation (Hypothesis 5a and 5b) models.
9
10

11
12 Hypothesis 1 stated that the cultural tightness of a leader's former group is positively
13
14 related to the cultural tightness of a leader's current group. Results in Table 2 showed that the
15
16 cultural tightness of a leader's former group was positively related to the cultural tightness of the
17
18 group that the leader currently leads ($b=.33$, $SE=.09$, $\beta=.36$, $t=3.52$, $p=.001$). The result thus
19
20 supported Hypothesis 1.
21
22

23
24 Hypothesis 2 predicted that the greater a leader's identification with his/her former group,
25
26 the stronger the positive relationship between cultural tightness of the leader's former and
27
28 current groups. Hypothesis 3 predicted that the longer a leader's tenure in the former group, the
29
30 stronger the positive relationship between cultural tightness of the leader's former and current
31
32 groups. The two moderations were simultaneously tested. We operationalized high and low
33
34 levels of the two moderators using one standard deviation above and below the mean. The results
35
36 in Table 2 showed that the interaction between the cultural tightness of a leader's former group
37
38 and leader identification with the former group in predicting the cultural tightness of a leader's
39
40 current group was significant ($b=.19$, $SE=.08$, $\beta=.22$, $t=2.31$, $p=.023$). Similarly, there was a
41
42 significant interaction between the cultural tightness of a leader's former group and leader tenure
43
44 in the former group in predicting the cultural tightness of a leader's current group ($b=.03$,
45
46 $SE=.01$, $\beta=.35$, $t=3.62$, $p=.001$). Figure 2a depicts the former interaction. There was a non-
47
48 significant positive relationship between cultural tightness of a leader's former and current
49
50 groups when leader identification was low (simple slope=.15, $SE=.13$, $p=.250$). However, the
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 relationship became significantly positive when leader identification was high (simple slope=.52,
4 $SE=.11$, $p<.001$). Figure 2b depicts the latter interaction. There was a non-significant positive
5
6 relationship between cultural tightness of a leader's former and current groups when leader
7
8 tenure in the former group was low (simple slope=.06, $SE=.11$, $p=.587$). However, the
9
10 relationship became significantly positive when leader tenure in the former group was high
11
12 (simple slope=.61, $SE=.12$, $p<.001$). Thus, Hypotheses 2 and 3 were supported.
13
14
15

16
17 Hypothesis 4 predicted that the cultural tightness of a leader's former group have indirect
18
19 negative relationships with counterproductive work behavior, promotive voice, and prohibitive
20
21 voice in the leader's current group via the cultural tightness of the leader's current group. Results
22
23 in Table 3 showed that the cultural tightness of a leader's former group had significant negative
24
25 relationships with counterproductive work behavior ($b=-.27$, $SE=.09$, $\beta=-.29$, $t=-2.93$, $p=.004$),
26
27 promotive voice behavior ($b=-1.35$, $SE=.56$, $\beta=-.26$, $t=-2.40$, $p=.019$), and prohibitive voice
28
29 behavior ($b=-.94$, $SE=.34$, $\beta=-.29$, $t=-2.75$, $p=.007$). Then, using Hayes' (2013) PROCESS macro
30
31 with 10,000 bias-corrected bootstrapping, we tested whether these relationships are mediated by
32
33 the cultural tightness of a leader's current group. We found that the cultural tightness of a
34
35 leader's current group significantly mediated the relationships that the cultural tightness of the
36
37 leader's former group had with counterproductive work behavior (indirect effect=-.12, Boot
38
39 $SE=.05$, 95% CI [-.26, -.03]), promotive voice behavior (indirect effect=-.58, Boot $SE=.29$, 95%
40
41 CI [-1.29, -.11]), and prohibitive voice behavior (indirect effect=-.48, Boot $SE=.21$, 95% CI [-
42
43
44
45
46
47 1.02, -.14]). Therefore, Hypothesis 4 was supported.
48
49

50 -----
51 Insert Tables 1, 2, and 3, and Figure 2 about here
52 -----
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 Hypothesis 5 predicted that the indirect relationships, that the cultural tightness of a
4 leader's former group has with counterproductive work behavior, promotive voice, and
5
6 prohibitive voice via the cultural tightness of the leader's current group, is stronger when leader
7
8 identification with the former group is higher (Hypothesis 5a) or when the leader has longer
9
10 tenure in the former group (Hypothesis 5b). We tested both hypotheses simultaneously using the
11
12 PROCESS macro – i.e., moderated mediation where the two moderators influence the first stage
13
14 of the mediation. Results showed that when leader identification with the former group was high,
15
16 the cultural tightness of a leader's former group had significant indirect relationships with
17
18 counterproductive work behavior (indirect effect = $-.21$, Boot $SE=.08$, 95% CI [$-.40$, $-.06$]),
19
20 promotive voice (indirect effect = -1.01 , Boot $SE=.46$, 95% CI [-2.00 , $-.20$]), and prohibitive
21
22 voice (indirect effect = $-.80$, Boot $SE=.33$, 95% CI [-1.57 , $-.26$]) through the cultural tightness of
23
24 the leader's current group. However, when leader identification with the former group was low,
25
26 the cultural tightness of a leader's former group has *non-significant* indirect relationships with
27
28 counterproductive work behavior (indirect effect = $-.06$, Boot $SE=.06$, 95% CI [$-.24$, $.03$]),
29
30 promotive voice (indirect effect = $-.28$, Boot $SE=.33$, 95% CI [-1.29 , $.15$]), and prohibitive voice
31
32 (indirect effect = $-.22$, Boot $SE=.25$, 95% CI [$-.90$, $.14$]) through the cultural tightness of the
33
34 leader's current group. Similarly, when leader tenure in the former group was high, the cultural
35
36 tightness of a leader's former group had significant indirect relationships with counterproductive
37
38 work behavior (indirect effect = $-.24$, Boot $SE=.09$, 95% CI [$-.43$, $-.09$]), promotive voice
39
40 (indirect effect = -1.17 , Boot $SE=.50$, 95% CI [-2.18 , $-.24$]), and prohibitive voice (indirect
41
42 effect = $-.93$, Boot $SE=.33$, 95% CI [-1.66 , $-.34$]) through the cultural tightness of the leader's
43
44 current group. In contrast, when leader tenure in the former group was low, the cultural tightness
45
46 of a leader's former group had *non-significant* indirect relationships with counterproductive
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 work behavior (indirect effect = $-.02$, Boot $SE=.05$, 95% CI $[-.15, .05]$), promotive voice
4
5 (indirect effect = $-.11$, Boot $SE=.24$, 95% CI $[-.77, .25]$), and prohibitive voice (indirect effect =
6
7 $-.09$, Boot $SE=.19$, 95% CI $[-.57, .21]$) through the cultural tightness of the leader's current
8
9 group. Thus, Hypothesis 5 was supported.

12 Discussion of Study 1

14
15 Study 1 showed that group leaders' past cultural experiences affected the cultures of the
16
17 groups they led. Specifically, the group leaders, who had not been leaders in their former groups,
18
19 transferred the cultural tightness of their former groups to the groups they currently led. This
20
21 relationship became stronger when they had highly identified themselves with or held long
22
23 tenure in their former groups. In addition, the cultural tightness that the leaders transferred from
24
25 their former groups to their current groups reduced both negative (counterproductive work
26
27 behavior) and positive (promotive and prohibitive voices) forms of group deviance. Lastly,
28
29 leaders' identification with and tenure in their former groups respectively moderated the indirect
30
31 relationships between the cultural tightness of their former groups and the three group outcomes
32
33 through the cultural tightness of their current groups.

34
35
36
37 Although Study 1 supported our hypotheses, there may be alternative explanations that it
38
39 could not fully account for. We certainly do not suggest that a leader's past cultural experience is
40
41 the only antecedent of group cultures. As mentioned earlier, we acknowledge insights from both
42
43 functionality and leader-trait perspectives, rather than go against them. However, the question of
44
45 whether cultural transfer exists above and beyond the effects of the variables suggested by the
46
47 functionality perspective (i.e., information regarding the effectiveness of certain cultural
48
49 characteristics) and the leader-trait perspective (i.e., leader values and personality traits) still
50
51 remains. Specifically, we identified the following issues.
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 First, as proposed by the functionality perspective (Schein, 2006), it is possible that group
4 leaders may thoroughly analyze current contingencies, seek to identify effective cultural
5 solutions, and craft group cultures accordingly. In this case, their current groups' cultural
6 tightness could also be enacted by information about its effectiveness in problem solving, in
7 addition to their leaders' past cultural experience. Study 1 did not explicitly test whether the
8 influence of a leader's past cultural experience on group cultures (i.e., the cultural transfer
9 hypothesis) exists above and beyond the effects of information about the functionality of cultures.
10
11 Second, the leader-trait perspective suggests that group leaders' personal values and personality
12 traits influence group cultures. This means that the group leader's other traits, beyond the Big-
13 Five personality traits that we controlled in Study 1, may also influence group cultures. Study 1
14 only showed that cultural transfer occurs above and beyond the influences of a leader's Big-Five
15 personality traits; other leader traits were not controlled for.

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31 Third, Study 1 did not fully resolve the possible influences of group members on group
32 cultures. Despite the past theories and empirical findings suggesting that leaders, rather than
33 group members, influence group cultures (e.g., Berson et al., 2008; Gelfand et al., 2012;
34 Giberson et al., 2005; O'Reilly et al., 2014), researchers have not directly examined the
35 competing influences that leaders and members have on group cultures. It is possible that if
36 group members, who are the numerical majority in their group, happen to have the same past
37 cultural experience (of, e.g., loose cultures), this common cultural experience may influence
38 group cultures (e.g., loose cultures) even when their group leader has a different past cultural
39 experience (of, e.g., tight cultures). As mentioned before, our argument is opposite to this. We
40 argued that asymmetries in the formal authority and social power between group leaders and
41 members give leaders a disproportionate influence (Magee & Galinsky, 2008) in enacting group
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 cultures. However, without empirically examining the group members' past cultural experience
4 and pitting it against the leaders' past cultural experience, the validity of our theory may be
5
6 uncertain.
7
8
9

10 The main purpose of Study 2 is to address those three issues and to establish causality for
11 the cultural transfer phenomenon in a controlled laboratory environment. To address the first
12 issue, we create a manipulation where a group leader receives information regarding the
13 effectiveness of a culture that is opposite to the culture that the leader experienced in the past. In
14 this way, Study 2 is able to test whether cultural transfer occurs above and beyond the effects of
15 information regarding the functionality of countercultures. To address the second issue, we
16 randomly assign participants to the role of group leader. The random assignment minimizes
17 systematic variation in leader traits across groups. To address the third issue, Study 2
18 manipulates followers' past cultural experience as well as a leader's past cultural experience in
19 order to observe whether the latter, not the former, influences group cultures.
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

34 **STUDY 2: LABORATORY EXPERIMENT**

35 **Participants and Procedure**

36 Five hundred and twenty-seven undergraduate students at a large North American
37 university participated to the 2-wave experiment in exchange for course credit. Five hundred and
38 sixty-seven students participated in Wave 1 (236 males, 291 females, 40 unreported). However,
39 40 of these participants failed to attend Wave 2. Therefore, the final dataset consisted of 527
40 participants in 176 three-person groups (220 male, 276 female, 31 unreported).⁴ Participants
41 were randomly assigned to one condition out of a 2 (a leader's past experience with cultural
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52

53
54 ⁴ In one group, there were only two participants (one leader, one follower). We included it in the final dataset. The
55 results do not change without this group.
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 tightness: tight vs. loose) × 2 (members' past experience with cultural tightness: tight vs. loose) ×
4
5 2 (the perceived effectiveness of countercultures: no information vs. information supporting the
6
7 effectiveness of countercultures) factorial experimental design.
8
9

10 In Wave 1, participants were randomly assigned to either the tight or loose culture
11
12 condition. On the arrival of participants, the experimenter formed a group and told them that they
13
14 will take part in three rounds of group discussion tasks. One anonymous confederate joined the
15
16 group and was appointed by the experimenter as a group discussion leader. Before the first round
17
18 task began, the experimenter provided groups with task instructions. In the instructions, groups
19
20 were either presented (in the tight culture condition) or not presented (in the loose culture
21
22 condition) with a set of 11 rules and norms for group discussions. In addition to the instructions
23
24 presented, cultural tightness was manipulated by varying the degree to which rules and norms
25
26 were implemented and reinforced by the leader confederate as will be further explained later.
27
28 Note that the cultural tightness manipulation in Wave 1 is the basic setup for manipulating a
29
30 leader's past cultural experience with cultural tightness and the followers' past cultural
31
32 experience with cultural tightness in Wave 2.
33
34
35
36
37

38 After reading the task instructions, the groups participated in three rounds of the group
39
40 ideation tasks using the in-basket exercise developed by Shalley (1991). In this task, participants
41
42 took on the role of employees at the HR department of a steel company, and they had to respond
43
44 to HR-related problems in the company. Out of the 22 HR issues in the original exercise, we
45
46 selected three issues for the group ideation tasks. In addition, the task instructions informed
47
48 participants of the lottery system where two winners would be selected at the end of the
49
50 semester. Each participant had one lottery ticket to begin with, and the leader could distribute
51
52 three more tickets per participant after each round of the group discussion tasks. This means that
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 the leader could distribute a maximum of nine additional tickets to each participant (3 tickets \times 3
4 rounds), and thus each participant in Wave 1 could gain tickets ranging from 1 to 10. With more
5 tickets, participants could increase their chances of winning the lottery. After the three rounds of
6 the group ideation tasks, participants completed a questionnaire that included manipulation check
7 items and demographic information questions.
8
9

10
11
12
13
14
15 In Wave 2, approximately 10 days after Wave 1, participants were re-invited to another
16 one-hour study session. On arrival, participants were assigned into a three-person group where
17 one participant was assigned to the role of group leader and the other two were assigned to the
18 role of follower. Four distinct group compositions were created based on the participants' past
19 experience with cultural tightness in Wave 1: (1) all participants experienced a tight group
20 culture, (2) all participants experienced a loose group culture, (3) the group leader experienced a
21 tight group culture while the followers experienced a loose group culture, and (4) the group
22 leader experienced a loose group culture while the followers experienced a tight group culture.
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33 Groups were again provided with task instructions that contained the list of the 11 rules, used in
34 Wave 1, so that they could, if they wanted, refer to it. Group leaders had full discretion whether
35 to enact discussion rules for the group discussion as well as which of the 11 rules to enact. It was
36 also up to group leaders whether to involve the two followers in the rule-setting process. The
37 task instructions also informed participants of the lottery system where leaders could provide
38 three lottery tickets to each member after the group discussion. Therefore, the total number of
39 tickets that each participant could earn from participating in Waves 1 and 2 ranged from 1 to 13
40 tickets.
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

51 **Manipulations**

52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 *Past experience with cultural tightness.* Participants in Wave 1 were randomly assigned
4
5 to one of the two conditions – a tight culture and loose culture. In the tight culture condition,
6
7 participants read the task instructions that they had to conform to the 11 rules adapted from
8
9 Handelsman, Ebert-May, Beichner, Bruns, Chang, DeHaan et al. (2004), and that the leader
10
11 confederate was asked to enforce the rules. The task instructions stated that whenever a rule
12
13 violation is observed, the leader should subtract one ticket from the three tickets that each
14
15 participant could potentially receive after each discussion round. In addition, the leader had to
16
17 verbally reinforce these rules during three rounds. When a violation was observed, the leader
18
19 confederate had to stop such behavior and announce that he would subtract one lottery ticket out
20
21 of the three from the violator. Examples of the 11 rules were: using inclusive language; treating
22
23 each other with respect; being open to different and potentially dissenting opinions and ideas; not
24
25 using certain stereotypes or language that potentially discriminate specific groups of people or
26
27 make group members feel uncomfortable; and not expressing a sense of superiority and self-
28
29 importance. In the loose culture condition, the task instructions stated that the leader would play
30
31 the role of a facilitator, and there were no rules or norms for the group discussion. Also,
32
33 participants read that the lottery ticket distribution was left to the leader's discretion. Note that
34
35 this manipulation is the basis of the next manipulation – a leader's and followers' past cultural
36
37 experiences with cultural tightness.
38
39
40
41
42
43

44 To check the manipulation, we adapted the 6-item cultural tightness scale developed by
45
46 Gelfand et al. (2011) to the group context. A sample item is “there are many rules that group
47
48 members are supposed to abide by in this group.” The Cronbach alpha was .85 for this scale.
49
50

51 *A leader's and followers' past cultural experiences with cultural tightness.* On the basis
52
53 of the manipulation of the past experience with cultural tightness in Wave 1, we manipulated a
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 leader's and followers' past cultural experiences in Wave 2. That is, we manipulated a leader's
4
5 past cultural experience with a tight (loose) culture by randomly assigning participants who
6
7 experienced a tight (loose) culture in Wave 1 to the role of leader in Wave 2. We manipulated
8
9 followers' past cultural experience with a tight (loose) culture by randomly assigning two
10
11 participants who experienced a tight (loose) culture in Wave 1 to the role of follower in Wave 2.
12
13

14
15 *Perceived effectiveness of countercultures.* In Wave 2, the experimenter verbally
16
17 manipulated the perceived effectiveness of countercultures when handing out the task
18
19 instructions. In the effective counterculture condition, groups received verbal information from
20
21 the experimenter that the culture which is opposite to the one the leader experienced in Wave 1 is
22
23 more effective in performing the task. Specifically, when the leaders experienced a tight (loose)
24
25 culture in Wave 1, the experimenter mentioned that, "*we have run this study over the past two*
26
27 *months with about 200 groups. Your participation in today's session will be a valuable part of*
28
29 *our research together with the data collected from the previous groups. For better performance,*
30
31 *I would like to give you an important tip. According to the interview after the task, it seemed that*
32
33 *the past groups in general believed setting fewer (more) rules and lowering (increasing)*
34
35 *emphasis on conformity to the rules are more effective in performing the task you will soon*
36
37 *conduct. As a result, they tended to set fewer (more) and put low (high) emphasis on rule*
38
39 *conformity."* In the no counterculture condition, the experimenter mentioned that, "*we have run a*
40
41 *similar study for the past two months with about 200 groups. Your participation in today's*
42
43 *session will be a valuable part of our research together with the data collected from the previous*
44
45 *groups."*
46
47
48
49
50

51
52 To check the manipulation, participants answered one question about the experimenter,
53
54 "*The experimenter mentioned that she has conducted this study over the previous two months*
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 *with about 200 groups. What were the beliefs and experience that the majority of past groups*
4 *had on setting and emphasizing rules in order to perform well in the task?"* Participants were
5
6 provided three options: (1) "setting more rules and strongly emphasizing rule-conformity," (2)
7
8 "setting less rules and lowering emphasis on rule-conformity," and (3) "I have not heard of such
9
10 information." In the effective counterculture condition where leaders came from a loose culture,
11
12 participants should check the first option. In the effective counterculture condition where leaders
13
14 came from a tight culture, participants should choose the second option. In the no counterculture
15
16 condition, participants should check the third option. Correct answers were coded as '1' and
17
18 incorrect answers were coded as '0.'

23 **Measures**

24
25
26 We measured cultural tightness in Wave 2, which is our dependent variable, in two ways.
27
28 First, we used the 6-item cultural tightness scale adapted from Gelfand et al. (2011). After the
29
30 group discussion task in Wave 2, the two followers rated the cultural tightness of their group
31
32 with this measure. As the interrater reliability and within-group agreement ($ICC\ 1=.84, p<.001$;
33
34 $ICC\ 2=.91, p<.001$; Average Rwg=.77, ranging from .38 to 1.00) were above the values
35
36 suggested by LeBreton and Senter (2007), we aggregated the two ratings into the group level.
37
38 Second, we measured the number of rules set by groups by asking group leaders to check which
39
40 rules they collectively enacted out of the 11 rules that were presented in the task instruction. Six
41
42 teams set additional rules outside the 11 rules (e.g., not disrupting group discussion by doing
43
44 other activities). We included these additional rules in the measure. On average, groups set 5.32
45
46 rules ($SD=3.59$).
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Results of Study 2

To check the manipulation of the past experience with cultural tightness in Wave 1, we submitted the 6-item manipulation check scale to an analysis of variance (ANOVA) with the past experience with cultural tightness as the independent variable. Results showed that participants in the tight culture condition ($M=5.07$, $SD=1.07$) perceived the culture of their groups tighter than those in the loose culture condition ($M=3.60$, $SD=1.39$; $F(1, 565)=199.37$, $p<.001$, $\eta^2=.26$). Thus, the manipulation of the past experience with cultural tightness was successful. Next, we checked the manipulation of the perceived effectiveness of countercultures. Because this manipulation was done (10 days) after the manipulation of the past experience with cultural tightness in Wave 1, the latter might influence the former. We thus added the latter manipulation into the ANOVA when we check the manipulation of the perceived effectiveness of countercultures. Before performing the ANOVA, we counted the number of correct answers for the manipulation; the result showed that 485 (92%) participants responded correctly to the manipulation check question. The results of the ANOVA revealed that a significantly greater number of participants in the no counterculture condition selected the option, "I have not heard of such information" than those in the counterculture condition ($F(1, 523)=2382.92$, $p<.001$, $\eta^2=.82$). Neither the manipulation of the past experience with cultural tightness in Wave 1 ($F(1, 523)=.28$, $p=.600$, $\eta^2=.00$) nor the interaction between the two manipulations ($F(1, 523)=.99$, $p=.321$, $\eta^2=.00$) influenced the selection of this option.

Within the counterculture condition, we further investigated whether group members chose the right option. Results showed that in the groups where leaders came from a tight culture, the significantly greater number of participants selected the option indicating the effectiveness of a loose culture ($F(1, 254)=457.76$, $p<.001$, $\eta^2=.64$). Neither the manipulation of

1
2
3 the past experience with cultural tightness in Wave 1 ($F(1, 254)=.15, p=.697, \eta^2=.00$) nor the
4 interaction between the two manipulations ($F(1, 254)=.01, p=.931, \eta^2=.00$) influenced the
5 selection of this option. Also, in the groups where leaders came from a loose culture, a
6 significantly greater number of participants selected the option indicating the effectiveness of a
7 tight culture ($F(1, 254)=503.28, p<.001, \eta^2=.67$). Neither the manipulation of the past experience
8 with cultural tightness in Wave 1 ($F(1, 254)=1.40, p=.238, \eta^2=.01$) nor the interaction between
9 the two manipulations ($F(1, 254)=.31, p=.576, \eta^2=.00$) influenced the selection of this option.
10 Therefore, this manipulation was also successful.
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

22 The means, standard deviations, correlations, and scale reliabilities for all variables are
23 presented in Table 4. To test our hypothesis, we conducted multiple hierarchical regressions. In
24 the first step, we entered the three conditions – a leader’s past experience with cultural tightness
25 (0=loose cultures; 1=tight cultures), followers’ past experience with cultural tightness (0=loose
26 cultures; 1=tight cultures), and the perceived effectiveness of countercultures (0= no
27 information; 1=information supporting the effectiveness of countercultures) – in order to observe
28 main effects of the three conditions on the two dependent variables – the cultural tightness scale
29 and the number of rules enacted by groups. In addition, we entered the two-way interactions in
30 the second step and the three-way interaction in the third step in order to observe if the three
31 conditions interact with one another in predicting the dependent variables.
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

44 Hypothesis 1 stated that a leader’s past experience with cultural tightness predicts the
45 cultural tightness of the current group. Results in Table 5 shows that a leader’s past experience
46 with cultural tightness had significant positive effects on the cultural tightness scale ($b=1.49,$
47 $SE=.16, \beta=.57, t=9.06, p<.001$) as well as the number of rules set by groups ($b=3.49, SE=.48,$
48 $\beta=.49, t=7.33, p<.001$). However, the influences of followers’ past experience with cultural
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 tightness were not significant on the cultural tightness scale ($b=.01$, $SE=.16$, $\beta=.00$, $t=.08$,
4 $p=.937$) and on the number of rules set by groups ($b=.12$, $SE=.48$, $\beta=.02$, $t=.26$, $p=.794$). The
5
6 influences of the perceived effectiveness of countercultures were neither significant on the
7
8 cultural tightness scale ($b=.07$, $SE=.16$, $\beta=.03$, $t=.43$, $p=.666$) nor on the number of rules set by
9
10 groups ($b=-.02$, $SE=.48$, $\beta=.00$, $t=-.03$, $p=.972$). In addition, none of the two-way and three-way
11
12 interactions were significant as shown in Table 5. Therefore, further support for Hypothesis 1
13
14 was found.
15
16
17
18
19

20 -----
21 Insert Tables 4 and 5 about here
22 -----

23 **Discussion of Study 2**

24
25 We believe that Study 2 adds important insights. With the experimental research design,
26
27 Study 2 ruled out alternative explanations and established causality for the cultural transfer –
28
29 group leaders created the cultural tightness of their groups based on their past experience with
30
31 cultural tightness in the former groups. By examining the perceived effectiveness of
32
33 countercultures, we showed that the cultural transfer existed above and beyond the effect of the
34
35 effectiveness, or functionality, of cultures. By randomly assigning participants to the role of
36
37 leader, we controlled for leader traits (e.g., personality, values, etc.) that might influence our
38
39 results as suggested by the leader-trait perspective. In addition, Study 2 confirmed that it was a
40
41 leader's past cultural experience with cultural tightness, rather than the followers' past cultural
42
43 experience with cultural tightness, that influenced the cultural tightness of their current group.
44
45
46
47

48 **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

49
50 Our research suggests that a group leader's past cultural experience shapes group culture
51
52 – essentially, the leader transfers the culture that he or she learned in the past to the current
53
54 group. In two studies, we provide empirical evidence showing that a leader transfers the cultural
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 tightness of his/her former group to the current group. This relationship becomes stronger when
4
5 the leader identified strongly with or had a longer tenure in his or her former group. Just as
6
7 important, our research shows that the cultural tightness of the current group, which was created
8
9 by a leader's past experience with cultural tightness in the former group, subsequently reduces
10
11 both negative and positive forms of group deviance. Specifically, the leader's past experience
12
13 with cultural tightness reduces counterproductive work behavior, promotive voice, and
14
15 prohibitive voice in the current group through its influence on the cultural tightness of the current
16
17 group. Lastly, two moderators – the leader's identification with and tenure in the former group –
18
19 moderate the indirect relationships between the leader's past experience with cultural tightness
20
21 and the group deviances in the current group via the cultural tightness of the current group. The
22
23 indirect relationships are present only when the leader highly identified with or had a longer
24
25 tenure in the former group.
26
27
28
29

30
31 Our research makes significant contributions to organizational research. It offers a novel
32
33 answer to the question of where group cultures come from. Our review of the culture literature
34
35 identified two distinct perspectives regarding the antecedents of cultures. The functionality
36
37 perspective argues that cultures are a set of solutions to problems and thus help groups adapt to
38
39 internal and external contingencies. The leader-trait perspective argues that cultures are a
40
41 function of a leader's personal values and personality traits. Our research introduces another
42
43 important antecedent, a leader's past cultural experience, and proposes *cultural transfer*,
44
45 whereby leaders transfer the cultures of their former groups, in which they acquired their past
46
47 cultural experience as followers, to their own groups. Although theories of cultural transfer build
48
49 on the functionality and leader-trait perspectives, it significantly differs from them. Unlike the
50
51 leader-trait perspective, we acknowledge that leaders attempt to create functional cultures
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 because the leaders are responsible for group effectiveness and performance (Yukl, 2010).
4
5 However, their limited cognitive capacity (March & Simon, 1958) and the trajectory of their past
6
7 career (Marquis & Tilcsik, 2013) deter them from enacting objectively functional cultures and
8
9 cause them to rely on accessible solutions learned in the past. Hence, contrary to the
10
11 functionality perspective, we argue that the enacted cultures are likely to be suboptimal and not
12
13 sufficiently updated to reflect the real contingencies that the groups face. Our research clarifies
14
15 the role of leaders in shaping group cultures and identifies another important source of group
16
17 cultures.
18
19
20

21
22 The current research further substantiates our theory by comparing it to an alternative
23
24 antecedent of group cultures – followers' past cultural experience. Followers' past cultural
25
26 experience may have a stronger influence on group cultures than a leader's past cultural
27
28 experience does. Although past research has argued that cultures tend to be created by a leader,
29
30 not by followers (e.g., Berson et al., 2008; Gelfand et al., 2012; Giberson et al., 2005; O'Reilly et
31
32 al., 2014), this argument has not been directly tested in the culture literature. Extant evidence
33
34 merely correlates a leader's characteristics with group or organizational cultures without
35
36 examining followers' characteristics. In our case, followers' past cultural experience may
37
38 influence group cultures above and beyond the influence of a leader's past cultural experience.
39
40 Study 2 tested this possibility by examining whether the past cultural experience of the leader,
41
42 the followers, or both predicts group cultures. The results showed that a group leader enacted
43
44 group cultures relying on his or her past cultural experience even though followers, who were the
45
46 numerical majority, had an opposite cultural experience. In contrast, followers' past cultural
47
48 experience did not influence group cultures. This evidence persuasively demonstrates that a
49
50 group leader exerts a greater influence on group cultures than group members do.
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 Our research also takes an important step toward answering calls to investigate the
4 antecedents and consequences of cultural tightness in organizations (Gelfand et al., 2006).
5
6 Although cultural tightness is a relevant cultural concept that may significantly influence
7
8 organizational behavior and performance (Gelfand et al., 2006), research on cultural tightness in
9
10 the organizational context is lacking. Gelfand et al. (2006:1226) maintained that “perhaps
11
12 because of the sheer focus on values, there has been almost no research attention to this
13
14 dimension (cultural tightness) in modern societies, and discussions of cultural tightness–
15
16 looseness as they relate to organizations are largely nonexistent.” Furthermore, most of the
17
18 previous work on cultural tightness investigated nation-wide or state-wide cultural influences
19
20 (e.g., Gelfand et al., 2011; Harrington & Gelfand, 2014) or only provided theoretical
21
22 propositions in organizational contexts (e.g., Gelfand et al., 2006). Our research addresses these
23
24 issues by investigating both the antecedents and consequences of cultural tightness at the group
25
26 level. As mentioned above, we find that a leader’s past experience with cultural tightness is an
27
28 antecedent of a group’s cultural tightness. In addition, we demonstrate both the positive and
29
30 negative consequences of a group’s cultural tightness. Our findings showed that although
31
32 cultural tightness increases predictability and stability in groups by establishing clear behavioral
33
34 norms and reducing counterproductive work behavior, it also inhibits constructive deviance, i.e.,
35
36 voice behavior. Loose cultures, in contrast, welcome heterogeneity and provide a safe
37
38 environment in which members can point out work-related problems. However, such loosely
39
40 disciplined environments also promote counterproductive work behaviors. In other words, our
41
42 research suggests that cultural tightness is a double-edged sword – it increases stability but
43
44 decreases constructive changes.
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Limitations and Future Research Directions

The current research also has several limitations and raises important related questions that warrant future research. Our study strategically chose to focus on cultural tightness, rather than cultural values (e.g., individualism, collectivism, power distance), to study cultural transfer. However, it remains to be seen whether cultural values also work in the same way as cultural tightness in supporting the cultural transfer hypothesis. It would also be interesting to investigate how the cultural values of a group interact with cultural tightness in predicting group outcomes. Our research demonstrates that tight cultures reduced both positive and negative group deviance. However, it is possible that if a group values voice, tight cultures can even increase employee voice because tight cultures may uphold and reinforce the voice norm. In this case, the voice norm may turn the relationship between cultural tightness and voice positive. Study 1 provides an indirect answer to this question. As mentioned above, the company in Study 1 valued employee voice; they formally sought suggestions and grievances from employees through weekly meetings. Yet, the employees of this organization were still less likely to voice when they were in tight group cultures. Future researchers might more directly test whether and how the voice norm moderates the relationship between cultural tightness and voice.

In addition, our samples are limited to groups that were newly formed in the company (Study 1) and in the laboratory (Study 2). As mentioned, we intentionally chose this field setting because it is beneficial for testing the cultural transfer hypothesis – that is, our setting clearly separates past and current cultural experiences and naturally controls for any prior group cultures and characteristics since none of the groups existed before the group leaders joined. Nevertheless, it still remains an open question whether and how a leader's past cultural experience influences group culture in an ongoing group. In ongoing groups, the boundary

1
2
3 between past and present cultural experiences is unclear because the present experience
4
5 constantly becomes part of the past experience. Past cultural experience could be an experience
6
7 obtained a week, a month, or a year ago. This makes it difficult for researchers to empirically
8
9 distinguish between the two experiences. Therefore, future researchers studying cultural transfer
10
11 with a sample of ongoing groups may need a narrower and more specific definition of past
12
13 cultural experience. For instance, researchers may focus on a leader's past cultural experience
14
15 obtained during his or her early career (when he or she was a follower in another group) in
16
17 examining cultural transfer. This is closely related to the findings of our research. Our leaders in
18
19 Studies 1 and 2 had been followers in their former groups and took on the leadership position
20
21 after moving to new groups. Therefore, we expect that group leaders in ongoing groups rely on
22
23 their cultural experience gained during their early careers when they enact group cultures. The
24
25 recent research on career imprinting also supports this prediction. It shows that the work
26
27 experience formed during the first few years of one's career is entrenched in his or her mind, and
28
29 its influences last throughout his or her work career (Marquis & Tilcsik, 2013; Tilcsik, 2014).
30
31 Therefore, future research might investigate cultural transfer in ongoing groups.
32
33
34
35
36
37

38 Our experimental study (Study 2) also has limitations. First, our sample consisted of
39
40 students whose behavior may be different from employee behavior in professional organizations.
41
42 Second, members in the groups in Wave 2 interacted with one another for approximately 60
43
44 minutes. A one-hour group discussion may not be sufficient for group cultures to form because
45
46 culture formation in the real workplace often involves complex, dynamic processes that reflect a
47
48 web of social interactions between multiple people. Nevertheless, the interrater reliabilities and
49
50 within-group agreement for the cultural tightness scale in our study offered empirical evidence
51
52 that group members had formed a shared perception of cultural tightness. Our experimental
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 design is also consistent with the previous laboratory research on culture (e.g., Chatman &
4 Barsade, 1995; Chatman, Polzer, Barsade, & Neale, 1998; Mannix, Neale, & Northcraft, 1995).
5
6 Third, we manipulated the perceived effectiveness of countercultures through the groups'
7
8 *indirect* experience by having the groups receive information regarding the beliefs and
9
10 experience of (hypothetical) peer groups. This manipulation did not influence group cultures,
11
12 whereas a leader's past cultural experience did. However, it is possible that if a group leader can
13
14 directly and repeatedly observe the effectiveness of countercultures, which typically requires
15
16 sufficient time for groups to perform tasks and receive feedback, the leader may be motivated to
17
18 create group cultures that are most effective for group success (in contrast to our finding in Study
19
20 2). It is also possible that group leaders create group cultures based on their past cultural
21
22 experience initially, but after directly experiencing some failure with the enacted cultures, they
23
24 may change their approach. These possibilities cannot be addressed in a simplified and
25
26 controlled experimental environment. Despite these limitations, Study 1's strengths complement
27
28 the limitations of the laboratory experiment in Study 2. Study 1 provided empirical evidence on
29
30 the relationship between a leader's past cultural experience and group cultures with a sample of
31
32 employees in a real organization. In addition, it used a multi-wave and multi-source research
33
34 design whereby group leaders and employees had sufficient time (approximately 12 months) to
35
36 create group cultures through repeated social interactions and direct observation of the failures
37
38 and/or successes of their group cultures.
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

46
47 Our studies did not find support for the leader-trait and functionality perspectives. Study
48
49 1 did not find significant relationships between Big-Five personality traits and cultural tightness.
50
51 We believe that this is because cultural tightness is conceptually irrelevant to personality traits.
52
53 Past research tended to focus on specific cultures that are conceptually close to personality traits
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 (e.g., cultural openness to experience, cultural conscientiousness) in relation to a leader's traits
4
5 (e.g., openness to experience, conscientiousness). In our case, cultural tightness, which refers to
6
7 the extent to which groups have many strictly enforced norms, is perhaps conceptually too
8
9 distant from personality traits, and thus the two are unlikely to be related. In addition, we could
10
11 not find support for the functionality perspective in Study 2. One possible reason is that groups
12
13 may indeed pay less attention to environmental contingencies, but group leaders' past cultural
14
15 experience influences group cultures the most. Another possibility is that, as mentioned above,
16
17 our manipulation of the effectiveness of countercultures in Study 2 accounted only for indirect
18
19 experience. If groups can acquire direct experience of the (in)effectiveness of a certain culture
20
21 over time, they may actually adjust their cultures to internal and external contingencies in order
22
23 to be more effective in problem solving. More research is needed to resolve these possibilities.
24
25
26
27

28
29 Our research also limited its focus to groups managed by leaders. Our findings may not
30
31 be applicable to self-managing groups where there is no group leader, and group members have
32
33 full discretion to set their own goals and to manage their own task-related activities. In his
34
35 seminal ethnographic research, Barker (1993) found that self-managing groups tend to create an
36
37 even stronger "iron cage" in which they set more norms and reinforce them more tightly (i.e.,
38
39 tight cultures). However, the types of antecedents that lead self-managing groups to develop such
40
41 cultures remains unknown. It is possible that members of self-managing groups collectively
42
43 contribute to the creation of group cultures because the lack of formal authority and power by
44
45 any group member reduces the likelihood that cultures are influenced by a single person's
46
47 viewpoints. Another possibility is that an informal leader may emerge in the self-managing
48
49 group and create group cultures by relying on his or her past cultural experience. Future research
50
51 on the antecedents of self-managing group cultures is needed.
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

Managerial Implications

Our research has managerial implications for leader self-awareness, leader selection, and performance management. We caution leaders of the potential cognitive and behavioral biases created by their former cultural experiences – the past experiences could mislead the leader and the group. According to our findings, leaders’ past cultural experiences color what they “see” as effective solutions for their groups. However, the past cultural solutions often blindside leaders when solving new problems in a new environment in which different performance standards and contingencies make the old solutions obsolete. The awareness of the possible rigidities of the past cultural experience may help leaders to be more vigilant and responsive toward situational cues that could inform them of better cultural solutions.

When hiring group leaders, the management team should be aware of the potential for cultural transfer through leaders. Our research shows that organizations acquire new cultural characteristics by hiring new group leaders, and the followers of the group leaders come to take on those cultural characteristics. The management team should consider whether the cultures that the new group leaders bring fit well with the existing cultures or cultures that the management team thinks would be desirable for the organization. If the management team prefers specific cultures that are different from those brought by the new leaders, it is necessary to be explicit in their preference and to incentivize the leaders to implement the corresponding cultures. The management team should also expect that the more identified the new group leaders are with their former groups or the longer their tenure in their former groups, the more likely they are to transfer their past cultural experience to their new groups. Therefore, as criteria in making decisions on group leader selection, organizations may need to consider not only the nature of

1
2
3 group cultures that newly hired leaders might bring but also how much the cultures have been
4
5 internalized.
6

7
8 Our findings also show that organizations can and do have different subcultures that are
9
10 defined by group leaders' past cultural experiences. The differences in subgroup cultures, in turn,
11
12 have implications for group outcomes. Managers should expect that tight cultures may be
13
14 conducive to jobs where members should follow rules or protocols (e.g., assembly line workers).
15
16 In contrast, loose cultures may benefit jobs that require a certain level of constructive deviance,
17
18 such as voicing different ideas and opinions (e.g., software engineers). In other words,
19
20 organizations need to recognize the potential tradeoff between the system stability produced by
21
22 tight cultures versus the potential benefit of allowing constructive deviations brought by loose
23
24 cultures. The top management team in the field study (Study 1) sought both through weekly
25
26 meetings. They were eager to enact improvements through the suggestions provided by
27
28 employees while aiming to keep counterproductive behavior low. However, we found that
29
30 cultural tightness offers only one of the two: tight (loose) cultures decrease (increase) not only
31
32 counterproductive work behavior but also constructive deviance. This suggests the importance of
33
34 matching tight-loose cultures to the groups' tasks and goals.
35
36
37
38
39

40 CONCLUSION

41
42 Our research proposes that cultural transfer by group leaders is one of the important
43
44 drivers of group cultures – group leaders enact group cultures based on their past cultural
45
46 experiences, essentially transferring cultures from their former groups to their current groups.
47
48 Using the concept of cultural tightness, we found support for our cultural transfer hypothesis –
49
50 the cultural tightness of a leader's former group was positively related to the cultural tightness of
51
52 the leader's current group. Furthermore, the transferred cultural tightness reduced both positive
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 and negative forms of group deviance, and these mediated relationships were stronger when
4
5 leaders had high identification with their former groups or long tenure in their former groups. We
6
7 hope that our work stimulates future researchers to uncover other antecedents of group cultures
8
9 and to further investigate the roles of cultural tightness in the workplace.
10
11
12
13
14

15 REFERENCES

- 16 Adkins, C. L. 1995. Previous work experience and organizational socialization: A longitudinal
17 examination. *Academy of management journal*, 38(3): 839-862.
- 18 Aiken, L. S. & West, S. G. 1991. *Multiple regression: Testing and interpreting interactions*:
19 Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- 20 Alvesson, M. & Willmott, H. 2002. Identity regulation as organizational control: Producing the
21 appropriate individual. *Journal of management studies*, 39(5): 619-644.
- 22 Ambrose, M. L., Schminke, M., & Mayer, D. M. 2013. Trickle-down effects of supervisor
23 perceptions of interactional justice: A moderated mediation approach. *Journal of Applied*
24 *Psychology*, 98(4): 678-689.
- 25 Bandura, A. 2001. Social cognitive theory: An agentic perspective. *Annual review of*
26 *psychology*, 52(1): 1-26.
- 27 Barker, J. R. 1993. Tightening the iron cage: Concertive control in self-managing teams.
28 *Administrative science quarterly*: 408-437.
- 29 Bashshur, M. R. & Oc, B. 2015. When Voice Matters: A Multilevel Review of the Impact of
30 Voice in Organizations. *Journal of Management*, 41(5): 1530-1554.
- 31 Bennett, R. J. & Robinson, S. L. 2000. Development of a measure of workplace deviance.
32 *Journal of applied psychology*, 85(3): 349-360.
- 33 Berson, Y., Oreg, S., & Dvir, T. 2008. CEO values, organizational culture and firm outcomes.
34 *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, 29(5): 615-633.
- 35 Brislin, R. W. 1990. *Applied cross-cultural psychology: An introduction*: Sage Publications,
36 Inc.
- 37 Chatman, J. A. & Barsade, S. G. 1995. Personality, organizational culture, and cooperation:
38 Evidence from a business simulation. *Administrative Science Quarterly*: 423-443.
- 39 Chatman, J. A., Polzer, J. T., Barsade, S. G., & Neale, M. A. 1998. Being different yet feeling
40 similar: The influence of demographic composition and organizational culture on work
41 processes and outcomes. *Administrative Science Quarterly*: 749-780.
- 42 Cohen, J., Cohen, P., West, S. G., & Aiken, L. S. 2003. Applied multiple regression/correlation
43 analysis for the behavioral sciences.
- 44 Dokko, G., Wilk, S. L., & Rothbard, N. P. 2009. Unpacking prior experience: How career history
45 affects job performance. *Organization Science*, 20(1): 51-68.
- 46 Donnellan, M. B., Oswald, F. L., Baird, B. M., & Lucas, R. E. 2006. The mini-IPIP scales: tiny-
47 yet-effective measures of the Big Five factors of personality. *Psychological Assessment*,
48 18(2): 192-203.
- 49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

- 1
2
3 Gelfand, M. J., Bhawuk, D. P., Nishii, L. H., & Bechtold, D. J. 2004. Individualism and
4 collectivism. *Culture, leadership, and organizations: The GLOBE study of*, 62: 437-
5 512.
- 6 Gelfand, M. J., Nishii, L. H., & Raver, J. L. 2006. On the nature and importance of cultural
7 tightness-looseness. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 91(6): 1225-1244.
- 8 Gelfand, M. J., Raver, J. L., Nishii, L., Leslie, L. M., Lun, J., Lim, B. C., Duan, L., Almaliach,
9 A., Ang, S., & Arnadottir, J. 2011. Differences between tight and loose cultures: A 33-
10 nation study. *Science*, 332(6033): 1100-1104.
- 11 Gelfand, M. J., Leslie, L. M., Keller, K., & de Dreu, C. 2012. Conflict cultures in organizations:
12 How leaders shape conflict cultures and their organizational-level consequences. *Journal*
13 *of Applied Psychology*, 97(6): 1131-1147.
- 14 Gelfand, M. J., Severance, L., Lee, T., Bruss, C. B., Lun, J., Abdel-Latif, A.-H., Al-Moghazy, A.
15 A., & Moustafa Ahmed, S. 2015. Culture and getting to yes : The linguistic signature of
16 creative agreements in the United States and Egypt. *Journal of Organizational*
17 *Behavior*.
- 18 Gelfand, M. J., Harrington, J., & Jackson, J. C. 2017. The Strength of Social Norms Across
19 Human Groups: Insights from Cultural Psychology. *Perspectives in Psychological*
20 *Science*: 1-10.
- 21 Gersick, C. J. & Hackman, J. R. 1990. Habitual routines in task-performing groups.
22 *Organizational behavior and human decision processes*, 47(1): 65-97.
- 23 Giberson, T. R., Resick, C. J., & Dickson, M. W. 2005. Embedding Leader Characteristics: An
24 Examination of Homogeneity of Personality and Values in Organizations. *Journal of*
25 *Applied Psychology*, 90(5): 1002-1010.
- 26 Gioia, D. A. & Poole, P. P. 1984. Scripts in organizational behavior. *Academy of management*
27 *review*, 9(3): 449-459.
- 28 Haidt, J. 2013. *The righteous mind: Why good people are divided by politics and religion*:
29 Random House Digital, Inc.
- 30 Handelsman, J., Ebert-May, D., Beichner, R., Bruns, P., Chang, A., DeHaan, R., Gentile, J.,
31 Lauffer, S., Stewart, J., & Tilghman, S. M. 2004. Scientific teaching. *Science*, 304(5670):
32 521-522.
- 33 Harrington, J. R. & Gelfand, M. J. 2014. Tightness–looseness across the 50 united states.
34 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 111(22): 7990-7995.
- 35 Hayes, A. F. 2013. *Introduction to mediation, moderation, and conditional process analysis: A*
36 *regression-based approach*: Guilford Press.
- 37 Henry, K. B., Arrow, H., & Carini, B. 1999. A tripartite model of group identification theory and
38 measurement. *Small Group Research*, 30(5): 558-581.
- 39 Higgins, M. C. 2005. *Career imprints: Creating leaders across an industry*: John Wiley &
40 Sons.
- 41 Hirsh, J. B., Galinsky, A. D., & Zhong, C.-B. 2011. Drunk, powerful, and in the dark how
42 general processes of disinhibition produce both prosocial and antisocial behavior.
43 *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 6(5): 415-427.
- 44 Hu, L.-t. & Bentler, P. M. 1998. Fit indices in covariance structure modeling: Sensitivity to
45 underparameterized model misspecification. *Psychological methods*, 3(4): 424-453.
- 46 Hughes, R. L. 1993. *Leadership: Enhancing the lessons of experience*: ERIC.
- 47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

- 1
2
3 Jetten, J., Postmes, T., & McAuliffe, B. J. 2002. 'We're all individuals': group norms of
4 individualism and collectivism, levels of identification and identity threat. *European*
5 *Journal of Social Psychology*, 32(2): 189-207.
- 6 Keltner, D., Gruenfeld, D. H., & Anderson, C. 2003. Power, approach, and inhibition.
7 *Psychological review*, 110(2): 265-284.
- 8 Kluckhohn, F. R. & Strodtbeck, F. L. 1961. Variations in value orientations.
- 9 Kozlowski, S. W. & Bell, B. S. 2003. Work groups and teams in organizations. *Handbook of*
10 *Psychology, Second Edition*.
- 11 Kristof, A. L. 1996. Person-organization fit: An integrative review of its conceptualizations,
12 measurement, and implications. *Personnel psychology*, 49(1): 1-49.
- 13 LeBreton, J. M. & Senter, J. L. 2007. Answers to 20 questions about interrater reliability and
14 interrater agreement. *Organizational Research Methods*: 815-852.
- 15 Liang, J., Farh, C. I., & Farh, J.-L. 2012. Psychological antecedents of promotive and prohibitive
16 voice: A two-wave examination. *Academy of Management Journal*, 55(1): 71-92.
- 17 Madrid, H. P., Totterdell, P., Niven, K., & Barros, E. 2016. Leader Affective Presence and
18 Innovation in Teams. *Journal of Applied Psychology*: No Pagination Specified.
- 19 Magee, J. C. & Galinsky, A. D. 2008. Social Hierarchy: The Self-Reinforcing Nature of Power
20 and Status. *Academy of Management Annals*, 2(1): 351-398.
- 21 Mannix, E. A., Neale, M. A., & Northcraft, G. B. 1995. Equity, equality, or need? The effects of
22 organizational culture on the allocation of benefits and burdens. *Organizational*
23 *Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 63(3): 276-286.
- 24 March, J. G. & Simon, H. A. 1958. Organizations.
- 25 Marquis, C. & Tilcsik, A. 2013. Imprinting: Toward a multilevel theory. *The Academy of*
26 *Management Annals*, 7(1): 195-245.
- 27 Meyer, J. P., Allen, N. J., & Smith, C. A. 1993. Commitment to organizations and occupations:
28 Extension and test of a three-component conceptualization. *Journal of Applied*
29 *Psychology; Journal of Applied Psychology*, 78(4): 538-551.
- 30 Northouse, P. G. 2009. *Leadership: Theory and practice*: Sage Publications, Inc.
- 31 O'Reilly, Caldwell, D. F., Chatman, J. A., & Doerr, B. 2014. The Promise and Problems of
32 Organizational Culture: CEO Personality, Culture, and Firm Performance. *Group &*
33 *Organization Management*, 39(6): 595-625.
- 34 Priesemuth, M., Schminke, M., Ambrose, M. L., & Folger, R. 2014. Abusive supervision
35 climate: A multiple-mediation model of its impact on group outcomes. *Academy of*
36 *Management Journal*, 57(5): 1513-1534.
- 37 Robinson, S. L. & Bennett, R. J. 1995. A typology of deviant workplace behaviors: A
38 multidimensional scaling study. *Academy of management journal*, 38(2): 555-572.
- 39 Schein, E. H. 2006. *Organizational culture and leadership*: John Wiley & Sons.
- 40 Schneider, B. 1987. The people make the place. *Personnel psychology*, 40(3): 437-453.
- 41 Shalley, C. E. 1991. Effects of productivity goals, creativity goals, and personal discretion on
42 individual creativity. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 76(2): 179-185.
- 43 Skarlicki, D. P. & Folger, R. 1997. Retaliation in the workplace: The roles of distributive,
44 procedural, and interactional justice. *Journal of applied Psychology*, 82(3): 434-443.
- 45 Taggar, S. & Ellis, R. 2007. The role of leaders in shaping formal team norms. *The Leadership*
46 *Quarterly*, 18(2): 105-120.
- 47 Tajfel, H. & Turner, J. C. 1979. An integrative theory of intergroup conflict. *The social*
48 *psychology of intergroup relations*: 33-47.
- 49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 Tilcsik, A. 2014. Imprint–environment Fit and Performance How Organizational Munificence at
4 the Time of Hire Affects Subsequent Job Performance. *Administrative Science*
5 *Quarterly*, 59(4): 639-668.

6
7 Vadera, A. K., Pratt, M. G., & Mishra, P. 2013. Constructive Deviance in Organizations:
8 Integrating and Moving Forward. *Journal of Management*, 39(5): 1221-1276.

9 Yukl, G. A. 2010. *Leadership in organizations (7th)*: Prentice Hall.

10
11
12
13 **FIGURE 1. Theoretical Framework**

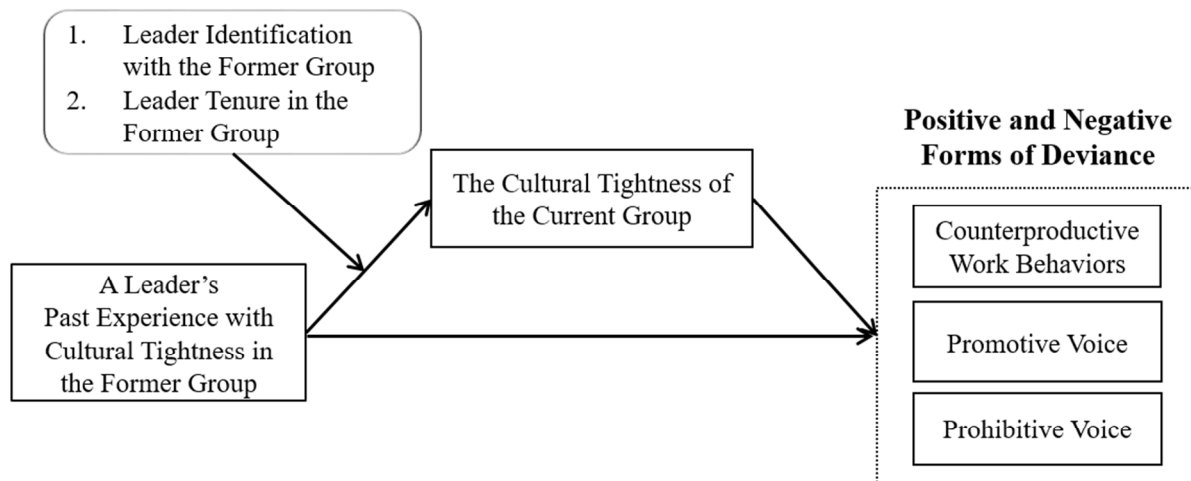


FIGURE 2. The Interactions between the Cultural Tightness of a Leader’s Former Group and Leader Identification with the Former Group and Leader Tenure in the Former Group.

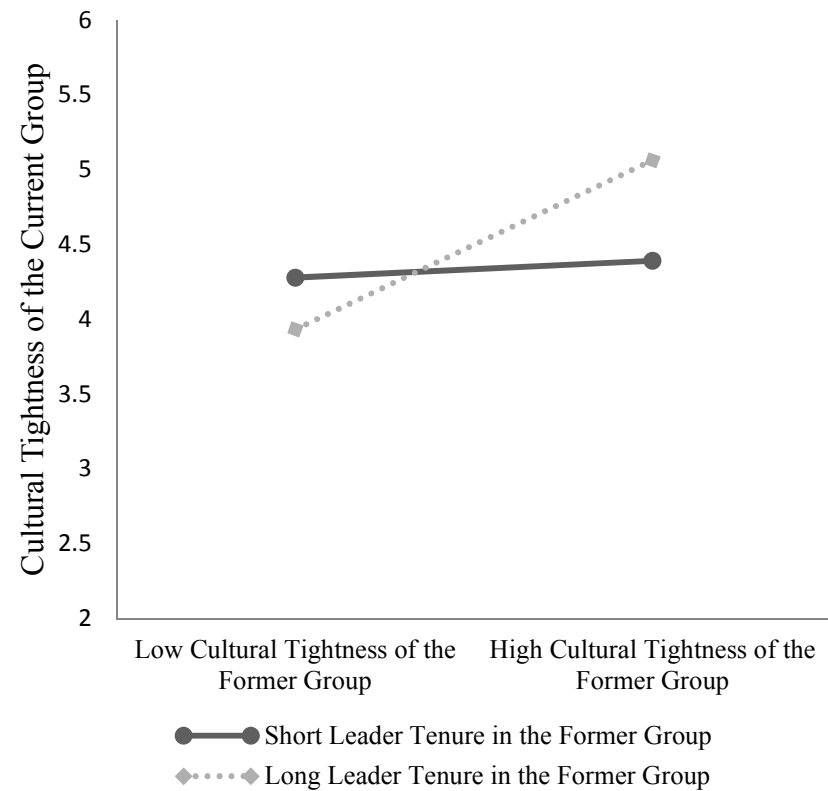
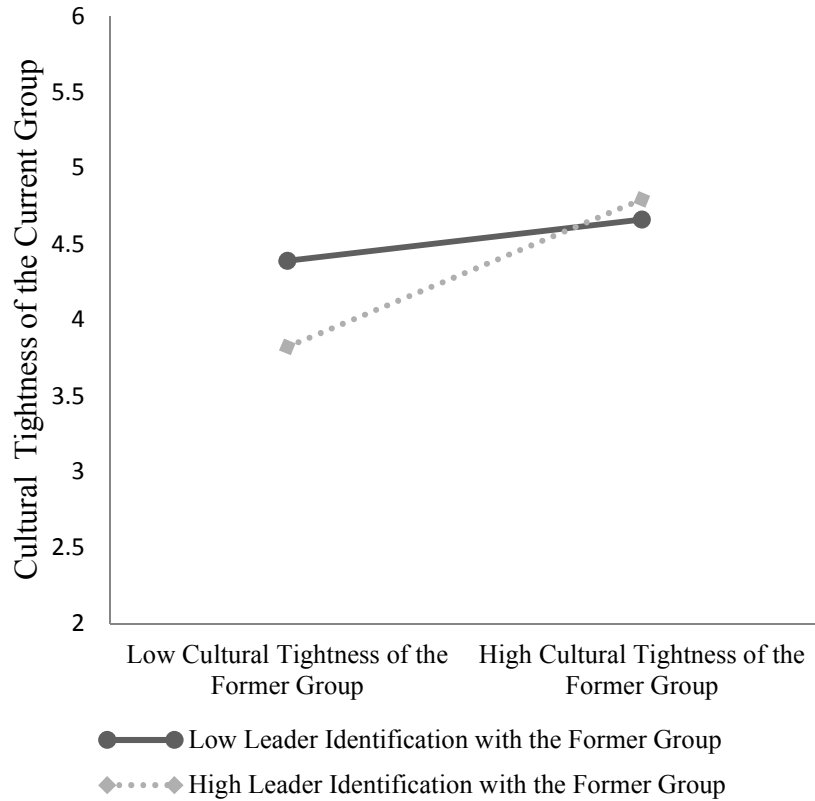


Figure 2a. The interaction between the cultural tightness of a leader’s former group and leader identification with the former group

Figure 2b. The interaction between the cultural tightness of a leader’s former group and leader tenure in the former group

TABLE 1. Means, Standard Deviations, and Correlations in Study 1.

Variables	Mean	SD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1. Group Size ^b	6.20	1.83														
2. Age ^b	33.97	4.19	.14													
3. Gender ^b	.53	.50	.01	.05												
4. Extraversion ^b	3.88	1.39	.02	-.15	.18											
5. Agreeableness ^b	4.87	1.17	.04	-.05	.01	.34**										
6. Conscientiousness ^b	4.30	1.28	.03	-.16	-.05	.02	.14									
7. Emotional Stability ^b	3.70	1.36	-.11	-.04	.21*	.10	.04	.06								
8. Openness to Experience ^b	4.52	1.23	-.06	.01	-.03	.26*	.08	.30**	.12							
9. Leader Identification with the Former Group ^b	4.97	1.02	.18	.01	.09	.21	.03	.05	.07	.09						
10. Leader Tenure in the Former Group ^b	35.14	11.29	-.27**	-.41**	-.12	.12	-.05	-.06	-.09	.07	.04					
11. Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Former Group ^b	4.22	.93	.07	-.15	.07	.12	.07	-.02	-.09	-.13	.06	.09				
12. Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Current Group ^a	4.45	.84	-.03	-.12	.00	.03	-.05	.11	-.16	.05	-.14	.17	.36**			
13. Counterproductive Work Behavior ^d	2.65	.88	.17	.22*	.10	-.12	-.05	-.13	.11	.10	.15	-.33**	-.33**	-.47**		
14. # of Suggestions ^c	14.68	4.87	.12	.19	-.06	-.07	.04	-.06	-.04	-.02	.14	-.20	-.27*	-.40**	.54**	
15. # of Grievance ^c	8.78	3.09	-.10	.14	-.04	-.17	-.06	-.03	.04	.06	.00	-.27*	-.34**	-.46**	.55**	.44**

Note. N=91. ^a Measured by group members in Wave 2 and aggregated. ^b Measured by group leaders. ^c Objective archive data. ^d Measured by division heads. * $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. All tests 2-tailed.

TABLE 2. Multiple Hierarchical Regression Analysis for Testing the Effects of the Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Former Group on the Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Current Group – Study 1.

Variables	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)
1. Group Size	-.02 (.05)	.00 (.05)	.03 (.05)
2. Age	-.02 (.02)	.00 (.02)	-.01(.02)
3. Gender	.07 (.19)	.06 (.18)	.10 (.16)
4. Extraversion	.02 (.07)	.01 (.07)	.02 (.07)
5. Agreeableness	-.06 (.08)	-.06 (.08)	-.04 (.07)
6. Conscientiousness	.07 (.08)	.09 (.07)	.05 (.07)
7. Emotional Stability	-.12 (.07)	-.08 (.07)	-.07 (.06)
8. Openness to Experience	.02 (.08)	.06 (.08)	.09 (.07)
9. Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Former Group		.33** (.09)	.33** (.09)
10. Leader Identification with the Former Group		-.15 (.09)	-.11(.08)
11. Leader Tenure with the Former Group		.01 (.01)	.01 (.01)
12. Interaction 1			.19* (.08)
13. Interaction 2			.03** (.01)
<i>F</i>	.67	2.06*	3.46**
ΔF	.67	5.48**	8.90**
<i>R</i> ²	.06	.22	.37
ΔR ²	.06	.16	.15

Note. *N*=91. Interaction 1=Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Former Group × Leader Identification with the Former Group. Interaction 2=Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Former Group × Leader Tenure in the Former Group. * *p* < .05. ** *p* < .01. All tests 2-tailed.

TABLE 3. Multiple Hierarchical Regression Analysis for Testing the Effects of Group Cultures on Counterproductive Work Behavior (CWB), Promotive Voice, and Prohibitive Voice – Study 1.

Variables	CWB			Promotive Voice			Prohibitive Voice		
	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)	<i>b</i> (<i>SE</i>)
1. Group Size	.09 (.05)	.06 (.05)	.06 (.05)	.26 (.29)	.14 (.30)	.14 (.29)	-.17 (.19)	-.28 (.18)	-.27 (.17)
2. Age	.03 (.02)	-.00 (.02)	-.00 (.02)	.20 (.13)	.09 (.14)	.09 (.13)	.09 (.08)	-.03 (.08)	-.03 (.08)
3. Gender	.17 (.19)	.14 (.17)	.17 (.16)	-.62 (1.09)	-.67 (1.06)	-.55 (1.02)	-.11 (.69)	-.22 (.65)	-.13 (.60)
4. Extraversion	-.12 (.07)	-.10 (.07)	-.10 (.07)	-.19 (.43)	-.15 (.42)	-.13 (.41)	-.40 (.27)	-.29 (.26)	-.27 (.24)
5. Agreeableness	.01 (.08)	.01 (.08)	-.01 (.07)	.30 (.48)	.32 (.46)	.21 (.45)	.02 (.30)	-.01 (.28)	-.09 (.26)
6. Conscientiousness	-.12 (.08)	-.15* (.07)	-.12 (.07)	-.17 (.44)	-.26 (.43)	-.10 (.42)	-.09 (.28)	-.19 (.26)	-.07 (.25)
7. Emotional Stability	.08 (.07)	.03 (.06)	.01 (.06)	-.00 (.40)	-.18 (.39)	-.32 (.38)	.09 (.25)	-.06 (.24)	-.17 (.22)
8. Openness to Experience	.15 (.08)	.13 (.08)	.15* (.07)	.00 (.47)	-.12 (.46)	-.02 (.44)	.27 (.30)	.22 (.28)	.30 (.26)
9. Leader Identification with the Former Group		.15 (.09)	.09 (.08)		.80 (.52)	.53 (.51)		.26 (.32)	.05 (.30)
10. Leader Tenure in the Former Group		-.02* (.01)	-.02* (.01)		-.06 (.05)	-.04 (.05)		-.08* (.03)	-.07* (.03)
11. Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Former Group		-.27** (.09)	-.15 (.09)		-1.35* (.56)	-.76 (.58)		-.94** (.34)	-.48 (.34)
12. Cultural Tightness of a Leader's Current Group			-.36** (.10)			-1.80** (.65)			-1.41** (.38)
<i>F</i>	1.79	3.13**	4.24**	.63	1.34	1.98*	.73	2.02*	3.27**
ΔF	1.79	5.84**	11.77**	.63	3.10*	7.72**	.73	5.17**	13.47**
<i>R</i> ²	.15	.30	.40	.06	.16	.23	.07	.22	.34
ΔR ²	.15	.15	.10	.06	.10	.07	.07	.15	.12

Note. N=91. * *p* < .05. ** *p* < .01. All tests 2-tailed.

TABLE 4. Means, Standard Deviations, Correlations, and Reliabilities of Variables in Study 2.

Variables	Mean	SD	1	2	3	4
1. Leader's Past Experience with Cultural Tightness	.50	.50				
2. Followers' Past Experience with Cultural Tightness	.50	.50	.00			
3. Perceived Effectiveness of Countercultures	.49	.50	.00	-.02		
4. Cultural Tightness Scale	5.32	3.59	.49**	.02	.00	(.85)
5. Number of Rules Set by Groups	4.47	1.31	.57**	.00	.03	.65**

Note. $N=176$. The value in the diagonal is Cronbach Alpha. * $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. All tests 2-tailed.

TABLE 5. Multiple Hierarchical Regression Analysis for Testing the Effects of Three Conditions on Cultural Tightness Scale and the Number of Rules – Study 2.

Variables	Cultural Tightness Scale			The Number of Rules		
	b (SE)	b (SE)	b (SE)	b (SE)	b (SE)	b (SE)
Leader's Past Experience with Cultural Tightness (LT)	1.49** (.16)	1.57** (.29)	1.51** (.33)	3.49** (.48)	3.41** (.83)	2.77** (.96)
Followers' Past Experience with Cultural Tightness (FT)	.01 (.16)	.22(.28)	.17 (.33)	.12 (.48)	.28(.83)	-.34 (.95)
Perceived Effectiveness of Countercultures (PC)	.07 (.16)	.24(.29)	.18 (.33)	-.02 (.48)	.00(.83)	-.64 (.96)
LT X FT		-.13(.33)	-.02 (.46)		-.06(.96)	1.18 (1.34)
LT X PC		-.04(.33)	.07 (.47)		.23(.96)	1.50 (1.36)
FT X PC		-.29(.33)	-.18 (.47)		-.26(.96)	1.02 (1.36)
LT X FT X PC			-.22 (.66)			-2.55 (1.92)
F	27.43**	13.71**	11.71**	17.91**	8.83**	7.86**
ΔF	27.43**	.32	.11	17.91**	.05	1.77
R^2	.32	.33	.33	.24	.25	.25
ΔR^2	.32	.01	.00	.24	.01	.00

Note. $N=176$ groups. * $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. All tests 2-tailed

Authors' Biographical Sketches

Yeun Joon Kim (yeunjoon.kim13@rotman.utoronto.ca) is a doctoral candidate in Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Management at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. He received his M.S. and B.A. from Seoul National University and another B.A. from Yonsei University. His research interests include creativity, leadership, and culture.

Soo Min Toh (soomin.toh@utoronto.ca) is Associate Professor of Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Management at the Institute for Management & Innovation, University of Toronto Mississauga. She received her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. Her research interests include cross-cultural management, leadership, and cooperation.