Analyzing the Relationship between Psychological Effects of COVID-19 and Administrative Corruption: A Study from Egyptian Context

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Abstract

The objective of the research is to examine the impact of psychological effects of COVID-19 on Administrative Corruption (AC). The research population consists of all employees at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt. The researcher adopted a sampling method to collect data for the study. The appropriate statistical methods were used to analyze the data and test the hypotheses.

The research has reached a number of results, the most important of which are (1) The negative psychological effects of COVID-19 have increased in Egyptian society, such as Obsessive Compulsive Disorders (OCD), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and General Anxiety Disorders (GAD) among individuals in Egyptian society, (2) there is a statistically significant relationship between the psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and the AC among employees in the organization. In other words, there is a negative relationship between the study variables, so the more negative psychological effects COVID-19 have, the lower the degree of AC, (3) there is a statistically significant relationship between the psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and the job link among the organization's workers. In other words, there is a negative relationship between the study variables, so the more negative psychological effects COVID-19 have, the lower the degree of AC, and (4) there is a statistically significant relationship between the psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC among the organization's workers. In other words, there is a negative relationship between the study variables, so the more negative psychological effects COVID-19 have, the lower the degree of work association.

The study referred to a number of recommendations, the most important of which are (1) the necessity of making strategic alliances in the medical field and the technological field between South Korea and the rest of the world in order to benefit from its experience in the field of confronting COVID-19, (2) the necessity of conducting many research and studies in the field of artificial intelligence as one of the tools that can be used in facing COVID-19, (3) increasing awareness campaigns on COVID-19 and viewing it as a disease like other diseases that require diagnosis and treatment, (4) seeking assistance from specialists in awareness programs and disseminating all information through social media for the purpose of awareness and prevention of infection COVID-19, (5) providing psychological service to COVID-19 patients inside hospitals in a manner that raises their spirits and confronts this virus, (6) the necessity for the Egyptian Ministry of Health to enhance the level of mental health for all members of society by establishing a psychological aid unit and taking over work to reduce the psychological anxiety from COVID-19, (7) spreading positive feelings among enough community members through the media, explaining that COVID-19 will be overcome, and providing the necessary awareness programs to reduce anxiety problems and sleep disorders, (8) researchers and scholars in the field of psychology and mental health conduct research and studies through which counseling and validation programs for community members are published, and (9) expanding the study of psychological immunology, and focusing on the psychological immunity variables in reducing the negative effects of COVID-19.

Keywords: Psychological Effects, COVID-19, Administrative Corruption

1. Introduction

Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) appeared in Wuhan, China at the end of 2019, and then spread to most countries of the world at the beginning of 2020 (Chan et al, 2020).

COVID-19 has recorded 228,376 deaths, 3229966 infected, 1006,988 cures spread over 212 countries. The United States of America, Spain, Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Turkey, Iran and China are the countries most affected by the spread of COVID-19 (Elflein, 2020 A).

The number of COVID-19 cases in South Korea has escalated frighteningly after 31 cases were recorded, while the number of deaths from the first COVID-19 infection to April 20, 2020, has reached 247 deaths (Elflein, 2020 B).

The numbers recorded in South Korea are very good, as the deaths and injuries are among the least countries compared to other countries, and the United States of America recorded 228,376 deaths until April 2020 compared to South Korea, which recorded 247 deaths until April 2020 (Elflein, 2020 C).

COVID-19 has created a state of fear and anxiety among all peoples, and the patterns of life and social relations have changed, as stress, anxiety, and depression increased in Chinese society specifically in the initial period of its spread (Wang et al, 2020).

The pressures that an individual hears through the news every day about injuries and deaths in the media are among the most important reasons behind fear of COVID-19, which led to individuals feeling fear, terror and anxiety (Lin, 2020).

Fear of COVID-19 is one of the most important predictors of pressures exerting on it, and that is why it is called Corona Phobia or Corona Anxiety, all of which are emotional states that accompany the individual because there is a source of threat (Sun et al, 2020).

The spread of COVID-19 has led to the exposure of all categories of societies to unprecedented changes in a short period of time, such as changes in lifestyle, health care systems, prevention of movement, suspension of flights, and devastation of the economy in many countries (Viswanath & Monga, 2020).

The spread of COVID-19 has also led to home quarantine procedures, travel restrictions, constant examination and monitoring of all individuals in the community, and the spread of a large amount of misinformation through social media (Baberjee, 2020).

Community members live in a state of anxiety and tension on a large scale that humanity has not witnessed before due to the frightening figures that were reported by local and international media on the numbers of injuries and deaths due to COVID-19 (Velavan & Meyer, 2020).

Community members also feel alienated, and symptoms of depression, stress, and stress increased (Dong & Bouey, 2020).

COVID-19 has turned into a global pandemic, with very frightening numbers that surpassed the SARS epidemic. In general, there is a state of boredom and panic among all members of society (Zhai & Du, 2020).

COVID-19 has caused a psychological and social impact on the world level, as well as collective fear, economic burdens and financial losses, which led to the emergence of a large number of negative psychological manifestations such as tension, anxiety, depression, stress, boredom, and distress among all classes of society (Dubey et al, 2020).

COVID-19 has caused many more disturbances in Egyptian society than its counterpart in other cultures, and perhaps this is related to the fact that some studies have been conducted in other societies, especially in Chinese society, which made them deal with COVID-19 and work to limit its spread, unlike the Egyptian environment.

COVID-19 has left negative psychological effects in Egyptian society such as anxiety, distress, fear, and boredom. This is in addition to other social problems such as lack of communication with family and friends, as well as economic problems such as financial pressures, loss of work, and the many demands of life.

Administrative Corruption (AC) is a global phenomenon, and the degree of its inclusiveness varies from one society to another. The phenomenon of corruption has recently gained the attention of researchers in various disciplines, such as economics, law, political science and sociology.

There is almost unanimity that AC is the most important problem facing development plans in all societies. AC is more effective in developing societies that suffer from the absence of democratic participation.

Corruption in third world countries results from the degree of backwardness and the increase in unemployment rates. Corruption may spread to the infrastructure of the state and society, and in this case it expands and spreads in the functional apparatus and the pattern of community relations, slowing down the movement of society's development and restricting the incentives for economic progress.

2. Literature Review

2.1. COVID-19

2.1.1. COVID-19 Concept

COVID-19 is an animal-based virus that is transmitted to humans upon close contact with farm animals or wild animals infected with this virus, but despite this, this virus remains and needs more research to determine its exact source (Word Health Organization, 2020).

COVID-19 is a broad strain of viruses that may cause disease in animals and humans. It is known that a number of corona viruses cause respiratory diseases in humans, whose severity ranges from common colds to more severe diseases such as MERS and SARS (World Health Organization, 2020).

COVID-19 is an animal virus that developed and turned into a human virus that is transmitted from one person to another, that is, it is one of the diseases that affect the respiratory system. COVID-19 spreads through infection from an infected person and has symptoms of the disease such as heat, cough, difficulty breathing, through droplets resulting from coughing and sneezing, close personal contact with an infected person, touching an object or surface with the virus on it, and then touching the mouth, nose, or eyes without washing hands (US Public Health Administration).

2.1.2. Psychological Effects of COVID-19

The psychological effects of COVID-19 on all individuals in society varied. Many studies have been carried out in all countries of the world, such as the United States of America, China, and the United Kingdom, in order to identify the psychological effects resulting from the spread of COVID-19 and its reflection on the behavior of individuals within society, and some of these effects are as follows:

- 1. COVID-19 does not affect the physical health of the individual, but rather negatively affects the mental health of the patient and non-patient, and these effects appear in the form of fear, anxiety, tension, and instability in general (Lima et al, 2020)
- 2. The psychological effects resulting from COVID-19 are fear, depression, OCD, panic, anxiety, tension and others, and all of these factors are negatively reflected on workers in all organizations of all types and sizes in a way that leads to a decrease in the degree of employee engagement and low performance (Dubey et al, 2020).
- 3. Anxiety and fear are among the most important psychological effects resulting from COVID-19, and this reflects negatively on students in different educational stages. Therefore, family stability and support are among the most important factors that contribute to reducing anxiety and fear among their members (Cao et al. 2020).
- 4. Anxiety, depression, stress, and OCD are among the most important negative effects resulting from COVID-19, which negatively affects the morale of workers, which leads to difficulty in carrying out the tasks assigned to them (Rajkumar, 2020).
- 5. Anxiety, depression, and stress are among the most important negative psychological effects on workers, which is reflected in the level of their general performance within the organization. Therefore, psychological support plays an important role in reducing the psychological effects resulting from COVID-19 and thus improving the level of performance of staff (Wang et al, 2020).
- 6. The psychological effects affecting employees as a result of COVID-19 are fear for their families, fear of infecting colleagues, fear of infection risks, and depression. Psychological support plays an important role in reducing the negative psychological effects of COVID-19 (Dai et al, 2020).
- 7. The bad psychological effects of COVID-19 are anxiety, stress, depression, fear, insomnia, and others. Therefore, safety measures that must be followed such as rest periods, psychological support, and the provision of a healthy lifestyle contribute to reducing the negative psychological effects of on COVID-19 (Blake et al, 2020).
- 8. Women are more likely than men in terms of psychological effects from the spread of COVID-19, and the most important of these effects are anxiety, mental stress, depression, stress, and fear (Badahdah et al, 2020).
- 9. Anxiety and depression are among the most important negative psychological effects resulting from COVID-19, which leads to social problems among community members (Bhat et al, 2020).
- 10. Anxiety and depression are among the most important negative psychological effects of COVID-19, which leads to an increase in psychological and mental symptoms among community members (Cullen et al, 2020).
- 11. Anxiety, stress, and depression are among the most important negative effects resulting from COVID-19, which greatly affect young people with chronic diseases compared to others (Ozamiz et al, 2020).

- 12. High anxiety and disease delusions are among the most important negative effects of COVID-19, and there is also an inverse relationship between knowledge of COVID-19 and anxiety about infection (Jungmann & Witthoft, 2020).
- 13. OCD, personal sensitivity, phobia, and anxiety are among the most important psychological symptoms resulting from COVID-19, and there are no differences between males and females in terms of psychological symptoms resulting from COVID-19 (Wang et al, 2020).
- 14. Students in rural areas are less likely than students in big cities in terms of the psychological effects of COVID-19 (Cao et al, 2020).
- 15. Teachers in various destinations have turned to virtual education, and adherence to quarantine procedures, in order to reduce the negative effects of COVID-19 (Joy & Toquero, 2020).
- 16. The level of anxiety increases when infected with COVID-19, which results in an increase in the manifestations of disorder, drug abuse, and the spread of suicidal thoughts among community members (Lee, 2020).
- 17. The level of anxiety increases, and symptoms of depression increase in young people compared to the elderly, in addition to sleep disturbances and other negative effects resulting from COVID-19 (Huang & Zhao, 2020).
- 18. Females are the most vulnerable groups to anxiety and depression. In addition to that, urban residents are the most common groups that have mental disorders resulting from COVID-19 (Ozdin & Ozdin, 2020).

After examining the previous psychological effects of COVID-19, the researcher can limit these effects to the following (Rajkumar, 2020, Wang et al, 2020):

2.1.2.1. Obsessive Compulsive Disorders

The spread of COVID-19 has led to the infection of many community members with OCD such as fears of contracting the virus, and exaggerated application in terms of hand washing, sterilization, and others (Liu et al., 2020).

The spread of COVID-19 has also led to social distancing, quarantine, increased feelings of detachment and isolation, depression, and a general sense of instability (Fineberg, 2020).

2.1.2.2. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

There are many and varied disorders that may affect an individual after psychological trauma, and these symptoms are depression, headache, difficulty concentrating, anger attacks, inability to express, and difficulty solving problems, which is reflected in the individual's personal life path (Lee, 2020).

Anxiety plays an important role in affecting individuals suffering from OCD, which leads to the emergence of new symptoms that have implications for the psychological state of the individual (Liu, 2020).

2.1.2.3. Generalized Anxiety Disorder

Anxiety is a disorder, and it has multiple effects such as mental illnesses for community members (Cao et al, 2020).

Anxiety disorder refers to a group of mental disorders characterized by feelings of anxiety, dysphoria, and fear, including Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD), Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) (Wittchen, 2002).

Anxiety is a general mood that occurs in the individual without knowing the motives behind it. Anxiety is different from fear, in that fear occurs in the presence of a perceived threat while anxiety is the result of threats that cannot be controlled or avoided. Fear is associated with specific behaviors such as fleeing and avoiding, while anxiety is associated with fatigue, muscle spasms, and problems with concentration. In general, the feeling of anxiety and fear appears in the form of an exaggerated reaction to a particular situation (Barker, 2017).

Anxiety is considered a normal response to a state of stress that the individual feels, and when anxiety increases, it falls under the classification of anxiety disorders (Sylvers, et al, 2011).

Anxiety is an unpleasant feeling that is accompanied by fear of anticipated events such as fear of death or the occurrence of a certain accident (Davison, 2008).

Anxiety is a future-oriented mood in which the individual is prepared to try to deal with upcoming negative events (Stolker et al, 2001).

Anxiety is a physiological condition that occurs in an individual as a result of an unpleasant feeling associated with discomfort and fear. Anxiety is often accompanied by behaviors that reflect a state of tension and discomfort, and the individual also shows physical symptoms that reflect the state of anxiety he feels (Barlow, 2000).

2.2. Administrative Corruption

2.2.1. Administrative Corruption Concept

Corruption means the degradation of immoral moral values in society, as well as the loss of trust and dishonesty due to taking bribes (Oxford, 2007).

Corruption is the misuse of a public office for private gain. Corruption usually occurs when an employee accepts, requests, or extorts a bribe, to facilitate a public bidding contract and procedures. It also takes place when companies' agents or brokers offer bribes to take advantage of general policies or procedures to defeat competitors, and to achieve profits outside the framework of the laws in force. Corruption can also occur through the exploitation of the public office without resorting to bribery by appointing relatives or stealing state funds directly (Vaknin, 2003).

Corruption is the behavior of a public employee that deviates from the standards agreed upon to achieve special goals and objectives. This definition limits the corrupt act to the behavior of a public employee that deviates from standards he did not specify (Yadav, 2005).

AC is the appropriation or influence of the process of making laws, regulations and government decisions for the benefit of individuals and groups, whether in public or private sector organizations, for the purpose of carrying out illegal acts (Hellman et al, 2003).

AC is due to political and economic reasons. AC related to political causes resulting from the use of the power of compulsory authority and the extent of its influence on the exercise of other political rights. AC is also related to economic causes in terms of the level of economic progress, meaning that the lower the level of economic progress, the greater the level of AC (Nam, 2018).

There are many and varied strategies to combat AC, as increased follow-up, tightening penalties by criminalizing AC, and preventing bribery leading to a decrease in the level of AC, as increasing the effectiveness of anti-corruption strategies plays an important role in influencing the behavior and ethics of individuals and organizations within society (Min, 2019).

AC is the misuse of government authorities to meet personal needs, or in other words, AC is the misuse of public power in order to obtain private personal benefits (Taboli et al; 2013).

2.2.2. Administrative Corruption Dimensions

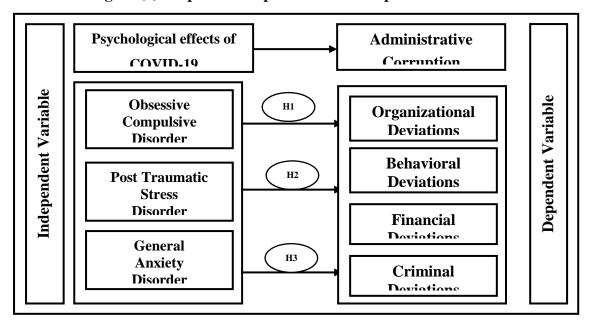
The dimensions of AC are represented by a group of deviations. They are organizational, behavioral, financial, or criminal. These deviations can be illustrated as follows (Abd al-Rahman, 2011, Muhammad, 2015):

- 1. Organizational deviations, which are the deviations that occur from the employee during his performance of work, including lack of respect for work, failure of the employee to perform work, failure to abide by the orders and instructions of the superiors, failure to assume responsibility, and disclosure of work secrets.
- 2. Behavioral deviations, which are the administrative violations committed by the employee and related to his personal behavior and his behavior within the work, such as failure to maintain the dignity of the job, abuse of authority, favoritism, and mediation.
- 3. Financial deviations, which are related to the workflow assigned to the employee to do it, such as violating financial rules and provisions, imposing royalties, and excessive use of public money.
- 4. Criminal deviations, which are related to the violation of the rules that govern work, such as bribery, embezzlement, and forgery.

According to the previous dimensions, combating AC is linked to the previous dimensions in terms of combating organizational, behavioral, financial and criminal deviations. It is represented in all the measures that are taken to eliminate the violations and all kinds of deviations that the employee commits while working.

3. Research Model

Figure (1) Proposed Comprehensive Conceptual Model



The diagram shows that there is one independent variable of psychological effects of COVID-19. There is one dependent variable of AC.

Psychological effects of COVID-19 is measured in terms of OCD, PTSD and GAD (Rajkumar, 2020; Wang et al., 2020).

AC is measured in terms of organizational deviations, behavioral deviations, financial deviations and criminal deviations (Abd al-Rahman, 2011, Muhammad, 2015).

4. Research Questions

The topic of COVID-19 is one of the modern topics of the day, as time has become available for conducting academic and scientific research and studies in this field. Therefore, this study is of great importance in providing an academic reference on which researchers rely in studying such topics in the future.

There is a group of viruses known to cause diseases ranging from colds to more serious diseases, as happened with MERS and SARS (World Health Organization, 2020).

The world is currently witnessing a new health pandemic, which specialists initially called COVID-19. After that, it was agreed on the scientific name for it COVID-19. It is a respiratory disease that causes SARS to attack the respiratory system and lead to many diseases such as fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. It may also lead to death by 3.4% of the number of infected people (World Health Organization, 2020).

COVID-19 appeared in mid-December 2019, and spread to China and then to the rest of the world. This virus has caused several negative effects on various social, economic, political, cultural and other fields, which prompted countries of the world to adopt different methods to confront this virus, which was classified as a pandemic in March 2020 (Word Health Organization, 2020).

The spread of COVID-19 has affected global mental health, as it has led to a high rate of psychological stress, anxiety, symptoms of depression, anger, and pathological violations among all members of society (Torales et al, 2020).

The spread of COVID-19 has changed human life in various countries of the world, whether developed or developing, and problems of fear, trauma, depression, and anxiety have spread (Joy & Toquero, 2020).

COVID-19 has become the main source of fear, tension, and anxiety around the world (Kim & Su, 2020, Reznik, 2020).

COVID-19 has led to the spread of anxiety among all members of society, as rates of anxiety and depression ranged between 16-28% during COVID-19. Also, psychological stress reached 8%, in addition to other psychological disorders such as hypochondria and sleep disorders (Rajkumar, 2020).

Mental immunity plays an important role in mitigating the negative effects of COVID-19, and these variables are resilience, recovery, coping strategies, mindfulness, social support, and orientation towards long-term goals (Polizzi, et al, 2020).

The research problem has two sources. The first source is to be found in previous studies. There is a lack in the number of literature review that dealt with the analysis of the relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 and AC. This called for the researcher to test this relationship in the Egyptian environment.

In light of the review of previous studies towards psychological effects of COVID-19, there is a study aimed at exploring the effects of COVID-19 on mental health, economics, and social life. The study found that 67.5% of the sample individuals had increased psychological problems such as anxiety and depression, and that 53.5% had social problems (Bhat et al, 2020).

There is another study that aimed at identifying mental health in the period of COVID-19 in a Chinese city. The study found an increase in anxiety symptoms in 29% of the sample, and an increase in depression symptoms in 17% of the sample, which led to an increase in psychological and mental symptoms (Cullen, et al, 2020).

There is another study interested in identifying levels of stress, anxiety, and depression in the first period of COVID-19 in a Spanish city. The study found high rates of stress, anxiety, and depression among the sample members, and it also increased significantly among young people with chronic diseases compared to others (Ozamiz et al, 2020).

There is a study that aimed at identifying health anxiety during the COVID-19 period in a German city. The study found a rise in anxiety associated with COVID-19 and hypochondria. The study also indicated that there is an inverse relationship between knowledge of COVID-19 and anxiety about infection (Jungmann & Witthoft, 2020).

There is another study concerned with learning about psychological diseases of Chinese citizens during the first period of COVID-19. The study found an increase in the psychological symptoms of OCD, personal sensitivity, phobia, and anxiety. The study indicated that there are no differences between males and females in terms of psychological symptoms of COVID-19 (Wang et al, 2020).

The phenomenon of AC is one of the most important reasons behind the deficit of the state's public budget, as it has many negative effects on society. The economic effects are the decline in economic growth, and the waste of resources of organizations of all types and sizes. AC is considered a deviant phenomenon which takes many and varied behavioral forms. It also costs society a lot in terms of economic, social and cultural aspects. This is in addition to the turmoil and chaos that ensues, which have effects on all members of society. Many countries have recently taken many measures to combat an important issue of the most important society issue, which is AC.

There are many manifestations of AC prevalent in the Arab world, the most important of which are bribery, favoritism, plundering public money, extortion, and money laundering. The recent report of Transparency International showed that all Arab countries still maintain their ranking in the global corruption ladder, and Arab countries got an average of 35 points out of the index's score of 100.

The rate of AC in Egypt has decreased in the recent period, and perhaps this is due to the efforts made by the government in preventing and combating AC within the framework of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, which made the United Nations entrust Egypt with the task of organizing the International Anti-Corruption Conference, which will be held in December 2021.

The second source is the pilot study, which was conducted an interview with (30) employees at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt. The research questions are as follows:

- Q1: What is the relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and AC at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt?
- Q2: What is the nature of the relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and AC at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt?
- Q3: What is the extent of the relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt?

5. Research Hypotheses

In the light of a review of previous studies towards psychological effects of COVID-19, there is a study that aimed at identifying the psychological impact of COVID-19 on university students in a major Chinese city. The study found that 90% of the total sample have severe anxiety, 2.7% have moderate anxiety, and 21.3% have low anxiety. The study also indicated that students in rural areas are less anxious than students in large cities (Cao et al, 2020).

Another study aimed at learning how teachers in a Philippine city deal with the anxiety associated with COVID-19. The study found that teachers turned to virtual learning, and adhering to quarantine measures, in order to reduce anxiety associated with COVID-19 (Joy & Toquero, 2020).

Another study aiming to identify the anxiety associated with COVID-19 found a high level of anxiety during COVID-19 infection, higher manifestations of disorder, drug abuse, and the spread of suicidal thoughts during COVID-19 (Lee, 2020).

Another study aimed at identifying anxiety, depression, and sleep quality during the period of COVID-19 in a Chinese city. The study found a higher level of anxiety and more depressive symptoms among young people compared to the elderly, in addition to multiple disturbances during sleep (Hung & Zhao, 2020).

There is also another study aiming at identifying levels of anxiety, depression, and health anxiety during COVID-19 in a Turkish city. The study found that females are the most vulnerable groups to health anxiety and depression. In addition, individuals who inhabit geographical regions are more groups with mental disorders compared to others (Ozdin & Ozdin, 2020).

Regarding to AC, there is a study aiming at identifying the effects of anti-corruption policies on achieving integrity in organizations. The study examines the role of anti-corruption policies in reducing the practices of AC. The study found the application of anti-corruption policies plays an important role in increasing the level of integrity in the organizations, meaning that there is a positive and statistical significance between anti-corruption policies and the level of integrity in organizations (Min, 2019).

There is a study aiming at identifying the impact of e-government on the level of combating AC in light of cultural, economic and political conditions as a mediating variable. The study found that there is a moral relationship between the e-government and the fight against AC, as the e-government contributes to reducing the fight against AC. In addition, cultural, economic and political conditions play the role of a mediating variable between e-government and combating AC. The study also indicated that the differences among countries in cultural, economic and political conditions play a major role in the extent of the impact of e-government on combating AC (Nam, 2018).

The following hypotheses were developed to decide if there is a significant correlation between psychological effects of COVID-19 and AC.

- H1: There is no statistically significant relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and AC at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt.
- H2: Psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) have no statistically significant effect on AC at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt.
- H3: There is no relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt.

6. Research Population and Sample

The total population of employees at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt is 12873. The sample size was calculated using the formula (Daniel, 1999) as follows:

n=
$$\frac{N \times (Z)^2 \times P(1-P)}{d^2(N-1) + (Z)^2 \times P(1-P)}$$

A number of samples, obtained by 373 employees at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt, are shown in Table (1).

Table (1) Distribution of the Sample Size

Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt	Numbers	Percentage	Sample Size
1. Cairo	3398	26%	373X 26% = 97
2. Giza	2326	18%	373X 18% = 67
3. Qalyubia	941	7%	373X 7% = 26
4. Menoufia	1603	13%	373X 13% = 48
5. Tanta	2021	16%	373X 16% = 60
6. Dakahlia	2078	16%	373X 16% = 60
7. Demietta	506	4%	373X 4% = 15
Total	12873	100%	373X 100% = 373

Source: Personnel Department at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt, 2020
Table (2) Characteristics of Items of the Sample

Table (2) Characteristics of Items of the Sample					
Demographio Variables	c	Frequency	Percentage		
	Male	200	67%		
1. Gender	Female	100	33%		
	Total	300	100%		
	Single	120	40%		
2. Marital Status	Married	180	60%		
	Total	300	100%		
	From 30 to 45	160	53%		
3. Age	Above 45	140	47%		
	Total	300	100%		
	University	210	70%		
4. Educational Level	Post Graduate	90	30%		
	Total	300	100%		
5. Period of Experience	From 5 to 10	170	57%		
	More than 10	130	43%		
	Total	300	100%		

7. Procedure

The goal of this study was to identify the impact of psychological effects of COVID-19 on AC. A survey research method was used to collect data. The questionnaire included three questions, relating to psychological effects of COVID-19, AC, and biographical information of employees at Real Estate Tax Authority in Egypt. About 344 survey questionnaires were distributed. Multiple follow-ups yielded 300 statistically usable questionnaires. Survey responses were 80%.

8. Research Variables and Methods of Measuring

The 13-item scale psychological effects of COVID-19 section is based on Rajkumar, 2020; Wang et al., 2020. There were five items measuring OCD, five items measuring PTSD, and five items measuring GAD.

The 18-item scale AC section is based on Rich et al., 2010. There were six items measuring cognitive engagement, six items measuring emotional engagement, and six items measuring physical engagement.

Responses to all items scales were anchored on a five (5) point Likert scale for each statement which ranges from (5) "full agreement," to (1) for "full disagreement".

9. Data Analysis and Hypotheses Testing

9.1. Coding of Variables

The research consists of two main variables. The first is psychological effects of COVID-19 (independent variable). The second is AC (dependent variable). Each variable consists of sub-variables. Description and measuring of the research variables is presented in Table (3) as follows:

Table (3) Description and Measuring of the Research Variables

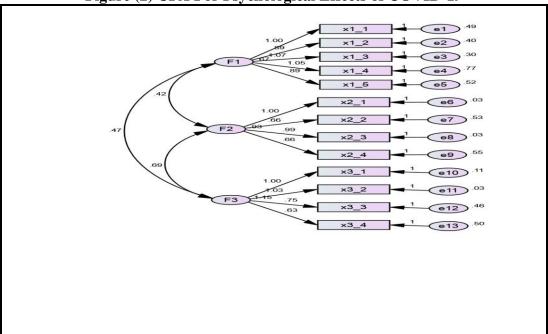
	Main Variables	Sub-Variables	Number of Statement	Methods of Measuring Variables
a t a	Psychological	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	5	
Indep indent Varia ble	Effects of COVID-	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	4	Rajkumar, 2020
A aria Notice of Coving Section 19		General Anxiety Disorder	4	Wang et al., 2020
	Total Psychological	Effects of COVID-19	13	
e e		Organizational Deviations	7	
Depende nt Variable	Administrative	Behavioral Deviations	5	Abd al Dahman 2011
epe nt nria	Corruption	Financial Deviations	5	Abd al-Rahman, 2011, Muhammad, 2015
Ď Vs		Criminal Deviations	4	iviulialilillau, 2013
	Tota	al AC	21	

9.2. Construct Validity

9.2.1. Psychological Effects of COVID-19

The researcher used Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) for psychological effects of COVID-19. This can be illustrated by the following figure:

Figure (2) CFA For Psychological Effects of COVID-19



From the previous figure, it is clear that all the statement of psychological effects of COVID-19 are greater than 0.50, which corresponds to GFI. This is a good indicator of all other statistical analysis. The quality indicators for psychological effects of COVID-19 can be illustrated in the following table:

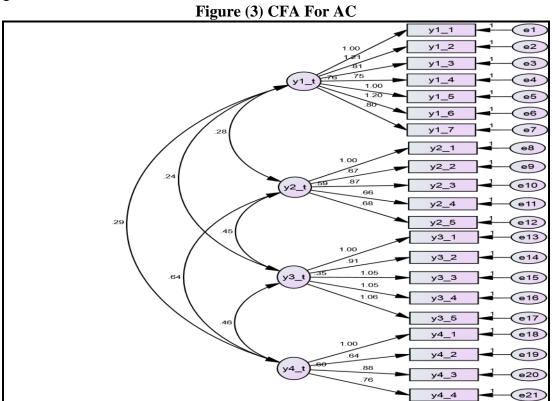
Table (4)
Quality Indicators for Psychological Effects of COVID-19 Using AMOS Analysis

Test the Quality of the Model Acceptance Condition (Daire et al., 2008)	Test Value
X^2 / Degree of freedom >5	774.425
P. value > 0.5	0.000
Goodness of fit Index (GFI) > 0.90	0.779
Tuker-Lewis Index (TLI) > 0.95	0.769
Comparative Fit Index (CFI) > 0.90	0.816
Normed Fit Index (NFI) > 0.90	0.804
Incremental Fit Index (IFI) > 0.95	0.817
Relative Fit Index (RFI) > 0.90	0.754
Root Mean Square Residual (RMR) < 0.5	0.104
Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) < 0.5	0.196

In light of the above-mentioned indicators, it is clear that the previous indicators are good for making all other statistical analysis.

9.2.2. Administrative Corruption

The researcher used CFA for AC which consists of three dimensions. This can be illustrated by the following figure:



According to Figure (2), it is clear that all the statement of AC are greater than 0.50. This is a good indicator of all other statistical analysis. The quality indicators for AC can be illustrated in the following table:

Table (5) Quality Indicators for AC Using AMOS Analysis

Test the Quality of the Model Acceptance Condition (Daire et al., 2008)	Test Value
X^2 / Degree of freedom < 5	454.656
P. value > 0.5	0.000
Goodness of fit Index (GFI) > 0.90	0.746
Tuker-Lewis Index (TLI) > 0.95	0.749
Comparative Fit Index (CFI) > 0.95	0.807
Normed Fit Index (NFI) > 0.90	0.798
Incremental Fit Index (IFI) > 0.95	0.808
Relative Fit Index (RFI) > 0.90	0.738
Root Mean Square Residual (RMR) < 0.5	0.074
Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) < 0.5	0.182

In light of the above-mentioned indicators, it is clear that the previous indicators are good for making all other statistical analysis.

9.3. Descriptive Analysis

Table (6)
Mean and Standard Deviations of Psychological Effects of COVID-19 and AC

Variables	The Dimension	Mean	Standard Deviation
	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	2.81	0.865
Psychological Effects of	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	2.67	0.874
COVID-19	General Anxiety Disorder	2.43	0.961
	Total Measurement	2.65	0.766
	Organizational Deviations	2.47	0.917
	Behavioral Deviations	1.95	0.627
Administrative Corruption	Financial Deviations	1.87	0.658
	Criminal Deviations	1.90	0.674
	Total Measurement	2.09	0.624

According to Table (6), most of the respondents identified the presence of psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) (M=2.81, SD=0.865), psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) (M=2.67, SD=0.874), psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) (M=2.43, SD=0.961), and total psychological effects of COVID-19 (M=2.65, SD=0.766).

Regarding to AC, most of the respondents identified the presence of organizational deviations (M=2.47, SD=0.916). This was followed by behavioral deviations (M=1.95, SD=0.627), financial deviations (M=1.87, SD=0.658), criminal deviations (M=1.90, SD=0.674) and total AC (M=1.90, SD=0.624).

9.4. Evaluating Reliability

Table (7) presents the reliability of psychological effects of COVID-19. The 13 items of psychological effects of COVID-19 are reliable because the ACC is 0.928. OCD, which consists of 5 items, is reliable because the ACC is 0.865. The 5 items related to PTSD, are reliable because the ACC is 0.918 while the 4 items of GAD are reliable because the ACC is 0.918. Thus, the internal consistency of psychological effects of COVID-19 can be acceptable.

Table (7) Reliability of Psychological Effects of COVID-19 and AC

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Variables	Dimension	Number of Statement	ACC		
	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	5	0.865		
Psychological Effects of	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	4	0.918		
COVID-19	General Anxiety Disorder	4	0.918		
	Total Measurement	13	0.928		
	Organizational Deviations	7	0.950		
Administrative Corruption	Behavioral Deviations	5	0.918		
	Financial Deviations	5	0.829		
	Criminal Deviations	4	0.903		
	Total Measurement	21	0.951		

The 18 items of JP are reliable because the ACC is 0.951. Organizational deviations, which consists of 7 items, is reliable because the ACC is 0.950. The 5 items related to behavioral deviations are reliable because ACC is 0.918 while the 5 items related to financial deviations is reliable because the ACC is 0.829. The criminal deviation, which consists of 4 items, is reliable because the ACC is 0.903. Thus, the reliability of AC can be acceptable.

9.5. The Means, St. Deviations and Correlation among Variables

Table (8) Means, Standard Deviations and Intercorrelations among Variables

Variables	Mean	Std. Deviation	Psychological Effects of COVID-19	AC
Psychological Effects of COVID-19	2.65	0.766	1	
Administrative Corruption	2.09	0.624	0.740**	1

Table (8) shows correlation coefficients between psychological effects of COVID-19 and AC. Psychological effects of COVID-19 is (Mean=2.65; SD=0.766), while AC is (Mean=2.09; SD= 0.624). Also, the correlation between psychological effects of COVID-19 and AC is (R=0.740; P<0.01).

9.6. The Correlation between Psychological Effects of COVID-19 and AC

Table (9) Correlation Matrix between Psychological Effects of COVID-19 and AC

	0			
Research Variables	1	2	3	4
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	1			
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	0.517**	1		
General Anxiety Disorder	0.558**	0.715**	1	
Administrative Corruption	0.532**	0.611**	0.764**	1

Based on Table (9), correlation between psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and AC is 0.744 whereas psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and AC shows correlation value of 0.532. Also, psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC is 0.611. The overall correlation between psychological effects of COVID-19 and AC is 0.740.

9.6.1. Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and AC

Table (10) MRA Results for Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and AC

	Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (OCD)	Beta	R	\mathbb{R}^2
1.	I have the power to overcome bad thoughts related to the epidemic.	0.327**	0.507	0.257
	I can overcome the idea of my inevitable infection with the virus.	0.070	0.423	0.178
3.	I follow the moderation in prevention measures and not exaggerate the pathology.	0.099	0.455	0.207
4.	I do not doubt that everyone around me may be infected.	0.022	0.369	0.136
5.	I do not resort to the drugs used to treat the virus as long as I am not infected.	0.139*	0.392	0.153
-	MCC		0.551	
	DC		0.303	
•	Calculated F		25.609 5, 294	
•	Degree of Freedom		3.01	
•	Indexed F		0.000	
•	Level of Significance			

As Table (10) proves, the MRA resulted in the R of 0.551 demonstrating that the 5 independent variables of psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) construe AC significantly. Furthermore, the value of R², 5 independent variables of psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) can explain 0.33% of the total factors in AC level. Hence, 67% are explained by the other factors. Therefore, there is enough empirical evidence to reject the null hypothesis that it said there is no relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and AC.

9.6.2. Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and AC

Table (11) MRA Results for Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and AC

Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (PTSD)	Beta	R	R2	
1. I have no difficulty falling asleep and concentrating.	0.495**	0.593	0.351	
2. I can control my emotions.	0.044	0.506	0.256	
3. I do not resort to taking sedative medications.	0.053	0.575	0.330	
4. I do not tend to be alone at rest.	0.195	0.512	0.262	
■ MCC		0.621		
■ DC		0.385 46.230		
Calculated F		4, 295		
■ Degree of Freedom		3.31		
■ Indexed F		0.000		
■ Level of Significance				

As Table (11) proves, the MRA resulted in the R of 0.621. This means that AC has been significantly explained by the 5 independent variables of psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD). As a result of the value of R², the four independent variables of psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) justified 38% of the total factors in AC. Hence, 62% are explained by the other factors. So, there is enough empirical

evidence to reject the null hypothesis that it said there is no relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and AC.

9.6.3. Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC

Table (12) MRA Results for Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC

Psychological Effects of COVID-19 (GAD)	Beta	R	R ²
1. I have confidence in the healing of a large number of patients.	0.085	0.647	0.418
2. I do not see this disease as dangerous, it is just a virus that can be cured.	0.345**	0.694	0.481
3. I have the ability to take fateful decisions without fear or hesitation.	0.247**	0.692	0.478
4. I do not feel tired until a long time has passed in doing my job.	0.361**	0.712	0.506
■ MCC		0.783	
■ DC		0.613	
		116.765	
■ Calculated F		4, 295	
 Degree of Freedom 		3.31	
■ Indexed F		0.000	
■ Level of Significance			

As Table (12) proves, the MRA resulted in the R of 0.783 demonstrating that the 4 independent variables of psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) construe AC significantly. Furthermore, the value of R², 4 independent variables of psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) can explain 0.61% of the total factors in AC level. Hence, 39% are explained by the other factors. Therefore, there is enough empirical evidence to reject the null hypothesis that it said there is no relationship between psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC.

10. Research Results

10.1. Research Results Related to COVID-19

- 1. The negative psychological effects of COVID-19 have increased in Egyptian society, such as OCD, PTSD, and GAD among individuals in Egyptian society in terms of:
 - Changing lifestyles and social relationships, increasing stress, anxiety, depression, changing health care systems, preventing movement, stopping flights, and spreading a large amount of misinformation through social media.
 - Individuals are living in a state of anxiety and tension on a large scale that humanity has not witnessed before, due to the frightening numbers that were reported through local and international media about the numbers of injuries and deaths due to COVID-19.
 - Feelings of fear, economic burdens and financial losses led to the emergence of a large number of negative psychological manifestations such as tension, anxiety, depression, stress, boredom, and distress among all classes of society.
 - General disorder and negative psychological effects such as anxiety, distress, fear, and boredom, in addition to social and economic problems were found among the Egyptian community.
- 2. There is a statistically significant relationship between the psychological effects of COVID-19 (OCD) and the AC among employees in the organization. In other words, there is a negative relationship between the study variables, so the more negative psychological effects COVID-19 have, the lower the degree of AC. The spread of COVID-19 has led to the infection of many members of the Egyptian community with OCD such as fears of contracting the virus, and the exaggerated application in terms of hand washing, sterilization, and others. Also, the spread of COVID-19 has also led to social distancing, quarantine, and isolation, depression, and a general sense of instability for individuals in Egyptian society.
- 3. There is a statistically significant relationship between the psychological effects of COVID-19 (PTSD) and the job link among the organization's workers. In other words, there is a negative relationship between the study variables, so the more negative psychological effects COVID-19 have, the lower the degree of AC. The spread of COVID-19 has led to the multiplicity and diversity of disorders that may

affect an individual after psychological trauma, and these symptoms are depression, headache, difficulty concentrating, outbursts of anger, inability to express, and difficulty solving problems, which has an impact on the individual's personal life path. Anxiety also plays an important role in affecting individuals suffering from PTSD, which leads to the emergence of new symptoms that have implications for the psychological state of individuals in Egyptian society.

4. There is a statistically significant relationship between the psychological effects of COVID-19 (GAD) and AC among the organization's workers. In other words, there is a negative relationship between the study variables, so the more negative psychological effects COVID-19 have, the lower the degree of work association. The spread of COVID-19 has led to a psychological state that forms in the individual as a result of an unpleasant feeling associated with uneasiness and fear, and anxiety is often accompanied by behaviors that reflect a state of tension and unease. Also, the individual shows physical symptoms that reflect the state of anxiety he feels. This is considered a natural reaction to the state of stress felt by the individual, and the state of GAD increases for individuals in the Egyptian society.

10.2. Research Results Related to Administrative Corruption

- 1. Administrative corruption is a phenomenon that exists in various places and times, due to the weakness of the supervisory, administrative and financial agencies.
- 2. Weak democratic practices and the absence of transparency in disseminating information about the corrupt in all fields of all types and sizes.
- 3. Weakness of laws, widespread bribery and favoritism, the failure to put the right person in the right place, and the weak role of civil society in fighting the corrupt lead to weak development plans, weakening of the state's credibility in front of the foreign investor, and the migration of money holders and economic minds out of the country.

11. Recommendations

11.1. Recommendations Related to COVID-19

In the light of the previous results, the researcher concluded with a set of recommendations summarized as follows:

- 1. The necessity of making strategic alliances in the medical field and the technological field between South Korea and the rest of the world in order to benefit from its experience in the field of confronting COVID-19.
- 2. The necessity of conducting many research and studies in the field of artificial intelligence as one of the tools that can be used in facing COVID-19.
- 3. Increasing awareness campaigns on COVID-19 and viewing it as a disease like other diseases that require diagnosis and treatment, and focusing on the need for the patient to contact the relevant authorities as soon as symptoms appear on him so that his health and psychological condition does not worsen.
- 4. Seeking assistance from specialists in awareness programs and disseminating all information through social media for the purpose of awareness and prevention of infection COVID-19.
- 5. Providing psychological service to COVID-19 patients inside hospitals in a manner that raises their spirits and confronts this virus. This is in addition to conducting many research studies in the field of coping with COVID-19 and reducing its psychological effects.
- 6. The necessity for the Egyptian Ministry of Health to enhance the level of mental health for all members of society by establishing a psychological aid unit and taking over work to reduce the problems of fear and psychological anxiety from COVID-19.
- 7. Spreading positive feelings among enough community members through the media, explaining that COVID-19 will be overcome, and providing the necessary awareness programs to reduce anxiety problems, sleep disorders and others.
- 8. Researchers and scholars in the field of psychology and mental health shall conduct research and studies through which counseling and validation programs for community members are published, focusing on limiting the effects of the spread of COVID-19.

- 9. Expanding the study of psychological immunology, and focusing on the psychological immunity variables in reducing and mitigating the negative effects of COVID-19, which are resilience, recovery, coping, mindfulness, and social support. This is in addition to the necessity of training on psychiatric immunology skills.
- 10. Paying attention to psychological support programs for different groups of students during the COVID-19 period and expanding the applications of positive orientation in psychology, especially in the field of education.
- 11. Designing a set of programs based on mental immunity by imposing a reduction in anxiety resulting from COVID-19, and working to link mental immunity with methods of protection from COVID-19.
- 12. The need to provide a set of psychological and therapeutic programs on the part of psychological institutions with the aim of mitigating the psychological effects of COVID-19. Neglecting it will have serious consequences at the individual and community level, and it also leads to the spread of depression and psychological loneliness between members of the society.
- 13. Overcoming OCD by not suspecting that everyone around me is infected, and not using sedative drugs without the need for them, and not exaggerating the use of preventive measures.
- 14. The importance of overcoming the post-traumatic stress phase through adequate rest and calm, controlling personal emotions, integrating individuals, avoiding isolation, and taking precautionary measures.
- 15. Overcoming public anxiety disorders by dealing with COVID-19 as a curable virus, not being afraid of making important decisions, and having confidence in the cure of a large number of diseases afflicted by COVID-19, and raising their spirits.

11.2. Recommendations Related to Administrative Corruption

- 1. The organization is concerned with training leaders at all administrative levels, and is keen to help all workers obtain high academic qualifications in a manner that results in the detection of various deviations within the work environment.
- 2. The organization uses backward methods in combating AC. These methods shall be within the framework of the employees' participation in setting and formulating the strategy, rules and instructions that regulate the work.
- 3. The organization concludes a set of alliances and partnerships with different organizations in a way that helps in combating AC and uncovers all kinds of deviations that are issued by the employee while performing the work
- 4. The organization designs different incentive systems that increase the motivation of employees in a way that reduces the various deviations; organizational, behavioral, financial or criminal.
- 5. Working to develop a national policy for wages and salaries that takes into account the living needs of workers and their families and the change in the cost of living in a manner that limits AC in organizations of all types and sizes.
- 6. Paying attention to the annual bonuses that are granted to the employee in a manner that motivates him to perform his work on the one hand, and to limit his deviations, on the other hand.
- 7. Developing a comprehensive strategy to combat administrative corruption in various economic and non-economic fields by strengthening the role of regulatory institutions in uncovering the corrupt and holding them accountable regardless of their job positions.
- 8. Activating the role of civil society organizations in uncovering cases of corruption and working to achieve the principle of transparency in disseminating information to all members of society.
- 9. The necessity of disclosing the financial receivables of all officials and holding the violators accountable, and this requires specialized judges in how to verify this field on the one hand, and legislating emergency laws regarding corruption on the other hand.

12. Future Studies

The present study attempts to reveal the psychological effects of COVID-19 and its impact on the AC, but the scope of this study, the methods used and its findings indicate that there are areas for other future studies.

Among these research areas are (1) the impact of COVID-19 on job performance, (2) the role of psychological effects of COVID-19 in increasing workplace anxiety, (3) the impact of COVID-19 on unproductive work behaviors, (4) the role of psychological effects of COVID-19 in increasing administrative corruption, (5) the impact of psychological effects of COVID-19 on mental health of workers, (6) the impact of raising morale in reducing the effects of COVID-19, (7) the role of psychological immunity in reducing the effects of COVID-19, (8) the role of human resource maintenance strategies in overcoming the negative psychological effects of COVID-19, and (9) the role of artificial intelligence in facing the effects of COVID-19, and (10) the impact of COVID-19 on education, tourism and the Egyptian economy.

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