

# The Relation between Teachers' Perception of Ethical Leadership, Organizational Justice and Organizational Cynicism

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to examine the relation between middle school teachers' perception of ethical leadership, organizational justice, and organizational cynicism. Participants of the study are teachers from schools located in Osmaniye downtown in 2014-2015 academic year. These schools were chosen randomly by using simple random sampling method and 386 teachers working in these schools were participants of this study. Data were gathered by using "Ethical Leadership Scale", "Organizational Justice Scale" and "Organizational Cynicism Scale". In this study, relational scanning method was used. Study shows that there is a positive and significant relation between teachers' ethical leadership perception and organizational justice. However, ethical leadership and organizational justice have a negative significant relationship. Results show that the relation between all sub dimensions is significant. Ethical leadership and organizational justice are predictors of the organizational cynicism. Besides, it is resulted that organizational justice has a mediator role between ethical leadership and organizational cynicism.

**Keywords:** Ethical Leadership, Organizational Justice, Organizational Cynicism, Teachers, Schools.



#### 1. Introduction

In the mechanism of educational institutions, ethic notion has a special significance for teachers and school leaders. Ethic is defined as moral principals in the working environment that defines good and bad (Hatcher, 2004). If an individual aim to be a significant, effective and valuable school leader, she/he should be ethics, morality and value centered (Parent, 2009). This manner results in different kind of leadership: ethical leadership, distributed leadership, spiritual leadership and value based leadership. However, ethical leadership, which includes morality, ethic and value notions, can be more effective in a school mechanism. Ethical leaders make organization's values and goals concrete, focus on organizational success, produce value for stakeholders and create mechanism for creative thinking (Brown & Trevino, 2006). In this dimension, teachers' perception of ethical leadership towards school leaders has a significant effect on many behaviors such as faith, cynicism and justice. In this aspect, teachers' ethical perception towards school leaders has a great impact on organizational behavior like leadership perception, cynicism and justice.

Being fair is an important trait that should be performed always for a leader because in an organization when fairness is the focus, employees' behaviors are affected by this (Yıldırım, 2010). In the process of leadership, organizational justice has an important role (Pillai, Scandura & Ethlyn, 1999). During the education period, managers should be able to make a fair responsibility sharing and mission sharing because teachers' leadership perception towards school leaders affects teachers' behaviors and attitudes towards many responsibilities. In the school environment, teachers having similar role compare themselves with other teachers. If teachers feel they experience an unjustness, they can perform unwanted attitude and behavior both in school and out of the school. Andersson and Bateman (1997) defines cynicism as negative and insecure attitude towards authority and institutions. Cynicism is a condition that appear as contemptuous and critical attitude as a result of negative experiences and feelings(Karacaoğlu& İnce, 2013: 186). In the other words, cynicism is hopelessness, disappointment and frustration for an individual, group, ideological idea, institution or organization (Andersson, 1996). Almost all organizations have cynics employees. This led cynicism to be examined in organizational level in recent years (James, 2005:6). Organizational cynicism appears as a result of the thought that functioning of the organization is deprived of moral principles like fairness and sincerity and these principles are neglected for the interest of the organization (Bernerth, Armenakis, Feild & Walker, 2007). This situation affects organization negatively and decreases their sustainability.

As a result, teachers' perception of ethic leadership toward school leaders is determinant of many factors like organizational justice and organizational cynicism (Yidong&Xinxin, 2013; Yıldırım, 2010). Appearance of these behaviors is directly related with managers' behaviors quality of ethicalness. In this study, it is aimed to contribute school leaders' behaviors by examining the effect of teachers' perception of ethical leadership on level of organizational justice and organizational cynicism.

#### 1.1. Ethical Leadership

Ethical leadership embodies organization's goals, vision and values in an ethical understanding (Freeman& Stewart, 2006). Ethical leadership is related with honesty, trust,



respect (Brown, Trevino & Harrison, 2005). In the same time, it is defined as performing acceptable behaviors as an individual, in interpersonal communication, managing subs by supporting and making decisions (Hansen, 2011). Greenfield considers ethical leaders as an individual who has a powerful impression on teacher and helps teachers for improving job vocational goal (Çelik, 2013). Ethical leadership is composed of four main categories: climatic, communicational, behavioral and decisional ethic. Climatic ethic consists of behaviors like that managers promotes subs, giving concrete goals, making rule of the intuition in a proper way. Communicational ethics consist of behaviors like accepting own failures, not being selfish, being fair, being constructive in discussions, being patient, fair, respectful, sincere and modest. Behavioral ethic consists of behaviors like self-awareness, being veracious, honest and courageous, protecting individual rights and being respectful for values (Yılmaz, 2005). Decisional ethic examines behaviors in terms of making morally correct decisions, to be able to differentiate what is correct and what is wrong, and being ethical in making decision (Turhan, 2007).

# 1.2. Organizational Justice

Organizational justice is a notion that includes relations of employee- manager relations, colleague relations and as social system of organization; socially and economically all mutual interaction like missions in the organization, salary, prize, punishment, promotion (Özkalp&Kırel, 2004). Folger &Cropanzano(1998) explains 'organizational justice' notion, how should be distribution of organizational resources, procedures that are using for distribution of resources and how should be the interaction that occurs during implementation of the decision. Distributive justice is related with managers' honesty and fairness in distributing organization's resources. Interactional justice is related with being honest and fair in making decisions, planning and implementation of the plans (Eren, 2015). Operational justice is related with criteria like employees' right for attending decision making process, correctness of shared information, possibility of fixing mistakes, feasibility of rules (Greenberg,2011).

# 1.3. Organizational Cynicism

Organizational cynicism can be defined as employees' hopelessness, disappointment and negative attitude about organization (Andersson, 1996), an individual's negative attitude towards organization that she/he is working (Bedeian, 2007), an employee's negative attitude, based on the belief that organization is against his/her personal interest, toward his/her organization's procedure, process and management (Wilkerson, Evans & Davis, 2008: 533). Cognitive cynicism covers all the information, experience, belief and thought that related with people, event, situation, and object around an individual (İnceoğlu, 2004: 26). Affirmative cynicism is related with notions towards organization like disrespect, anger, boredom and shame (Abraham, 2000). In the dimension of behavioral cynicism, it most of the time includes humiliating and negative inclinations. Cynic behaviors in the organization contains behaviors inclined mocking, different from self-recognizable behaviors (Dean, Brandes, &Dharwadkar, 1998).



# 1.4. Purpose of the Study

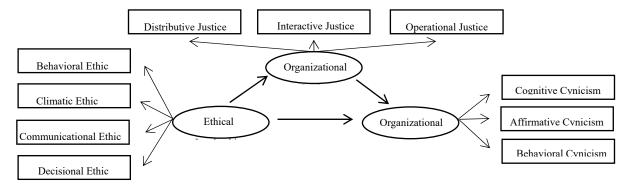
Purpose of this study was to identify the relation between teachers' ethical leadership perception towards school managers and organizational justice and organization cynicism. In the direction of this purpose, it was sought answers for these questions:

- 1. Is there a significant relation between teachers' ethical leadership and organizational justice and organizational cynicism?
- 2. Is there any predictor relation between teachers' perception of ethical leadership, and organizational justice and organizational cynicism?
- 3. In the interaction of the teachers' ethical leadership perception and organizational cynicism, does organizational justice have a meditator effect?

#### 2. Method

# 2.1 Design of the Study

In this study, one of the general scanning methods, relational research method was used. Relational scanning models are used for determining existence or degree of co-change among



two or more variables (Karasar, 2012).

Figure 1. Model of the Study

In this study, independent variables are ethical leadership and its sub categories (communicational, climatic, behavioral, decisional ethic). Dependent variables are organizational justice and sub categories (distributive, interactional, operational justice), and organizational cynicism and its sub categories (cognitive, affirmative and behavioral). However, organizational justice is both dependent and independent variable because it has direct and indirect impact on organizational cynicism.

## 2.2. Sampling

Participants of this study were middle school teachers who are working in 2014-2015 school calendar at the Osmaniye city center. In the Osmaniye city and county centers, 2109 middle school teachers are working. In this study, purposive sampling was used because in order to create an ethical leadership behavior perception for teachers, it was required to be studied with same schools and same school principals at least one year.



385 teachers in the city center of the Osmaniye were sample with regarding representativeness ratio. In the demographic information of the sample teachers, it is observed that 177 of the samples were male (46%), and 208 of the samples were female (54%). 152 teachers (39.5%) were working for 1-10 years, 151 teachers (39.2%) were 11-20 years, and 82 teachers (21.3%) were working for more than 21 years. 346 of teachers were married (89.9%) and 39 of the teachers (10.1%) were single. 69 of the teachers (17.9%) were between 22-30 years old, 193 teachers (50.1%) were between 31-40 years old and 123 teachers (31.9%) older than 41.

# 2.3. Data Gathering Tools

Four surveys were used in this study. In the first survey, there are 8 questions related with participants' descriptive variable such as gender, seniority, seniority in the current school, age, branch, graduated major, and school type. In the second section, there was ethical leadership scale, which includes 44 points and 4 dimensions. In the third section, there was organizational justice scale, which consists of 24 points and 3 dimensions, and in the fourth section, there was organizational cynicism scale which is composed of 13 points and 3 dimensions.

In order to determine construct validity of the variables in the scales, dimension(s) of the variables should be identified (Gerbing & Anderson, 1988: 186). Reliability and validity of the measurement tools should be shown by doing tests. Degree of freedom of random error during measurement indicates reliability (Büyüköztürk, Çakmak, Akgün, Karadeniz & Demirel, 2013). Confirmatory factor analysis should be done in order to analyze reliability and validity of the scales (Churchill, 1979).

It is observed that reliability and validity studies of the scales used in this study were done in the previous studies. In order to determine whether scales used in this study can be verified or not for our sampling group, confirmatory factor analysis was done for each scale and model. In addition, Cronbach's Alpha reliability coefficient was examined for each scale.

In order to measure teachers' ethical leadership level, "Ethical Leadership Scale" developed by Yilmaz (2005) was used. Explicit factor analysis consists of four factors like in the original study: "Behavioral Ethic", "Climatic Ethic", "Communicative Ethic" and "Decisional Ethic". Sum of variance, explained by four factors is 73.104%. First factor (communicative ethic) explains 21.268% variance, second factor (climatic ethic) explains 18.225%, third factor (behavioral ethic) explains 17.113%, and fourth factor (decisional ethic) explains 16.498% variance. Reliability coefficient is of the scale was calculated as .98. This value was found as .96 for communicative ethic, .97 for climatic ethic, .96 for behavioral ethic, and .95 for decisional ethic.

Moorman's (1991) "Organizational Justice Scale" was used in order to measure teacher's organizational justice level. There are three dimensions in the scale: operational justice, interactional justice and distributive justice. Sum of variance explained by three factors is 28.622%. First factor (operational justice) explains 28.622% of the variance, second factor (interactional justice) explains 26.332%, and the third factor (distributive justice) explains 23.039%. Total reliability coefficient of the scale was calculated as .97. In terms of sub



categories, this value is .95 for operational justice, .95 for interactional justice, and .96 distributive justice.

In this study, Organizational Cynicism Scale was used that is develop by Brandes (1997) and modified to Turkish by Kalagan (2009). Organizational cynicism scale evaluated in three categories: "Cognitive Cynicism", "Affirmative Cynicism" and "Behavioral Cynicism". Total variance explained by these three factors is 74.743%. First factor (cognitive cynicism) explains 31.109% of the variance, second factor (affirmative cynicism) explains 22.650%, and third factor (behavioral cynicism) explains 20,983%. This scale's total reliability coefficient was calculated as .93. For the sub categories, this value is .93 for cognitive cynicism, .89 for affirmative cynicism, and .82 for behavioral cynicism.

According to Terrblanche and Boshoff (2006), confirmative factor analysis is a statistical analytical method that is used for determining reliability and validity level of the scales that are used for measuring conceptual structures that are developed based theories or previously done applied studies. (Avcilar, 2013).

Table 1. Result of Scales Confirmative Factor Analysis

SCALE	$\Delta \chi 2$	sd	$\Delta \chi 2/sd$	RMSEA	CFI	IFI
Ethical Leadership	2229.035*	880	2.533	.063	.929	.929
Organizational Justice	808.669*	243	3.328	.078	.947	.947
Organizational Cynicism	172.793*	53	3.260	.077	.968	.969
Model	95.608*	30	3.187	.075	.981	.981
* p<.00						

Chi-square ( $\chi 2$ ) value of the Ethical Leadership Scale was calculated as 2229.035 at the 880 degree of freedom, and it was statistically significant (p= .000). Corrected chi-square, which is suggested to be between 1-5, was founds as 2.533. Root mean square Error of approximation (RMSEA) was found .063. It is smaller than "<.08" value, which is acceptable value. Indicators of financial integration (IFI) is .947 and confirmatory fit index (CFI) is .929, which is higher than suggested " $\geq$  0.95" value.

For the Organizational Justice Scale, Chi-square ( $\chi$ 2) was calculated as 808.669 at the 243 degree of freedom, and it was statistically significant (p=.000). Corrected chi-square, which is suggested to be between 1-5, was founds as 3.328. Root mean square Error of approximation (RMSEA) was found .078. It is smaller than "<.08" value, which is acceptable value. IFI is .947 and CFI is .947, which is higher than suggested " $\geq$  0.95" value.

For the Organizational Cynicism Scale, Chi-square ( $\chi$ 2) was calculated as 172.793 at the 53 degree of freedom, and it was statistically significant (p= .000). Corrected chi-square, which is suggested to be between 1-5, was founds as 3.260. RMSA was found .077. It is smaller than "<.08" value, which is acceptable value. Indicators of financial integration is .947 and confirmatory fit index is .968, which is higher than suggested " $\geq$  0.95" value.

According to result of the analysis, corrected chi-square value is an acceptable value for each of the three variables. Observed data's fix index values are appropriate for suggested model



and findings are at the acceptable level. This indicates that the model that that in composed by these variables are is appropriate for the gathered data.

# 2.4. Data Gathering and Analysis

Ethical leadership Scale, Organizational Justice Scale, and Organizational Cynicism Scale were applied for 385 participant teachers that is selected randomly among schools which are located in the target area. Scales' internal consistency and reliability evaluation was done according to Cronbach's alpha and confirmatory factor analysis result findings. Data processing was done by using the SPSS and AMOS software. Descriptive analysis related with variables done by using SPSS 18 software. Test of the model that was used for determining effect of ethical leadership on organizational cynicism and organizational justice was tested by AMOS22 software.

# 3. Findings and Discussion

1. Is there a significant relation between teachers' ethical leadership and organizational justice and organizational cynicism?

In the Table 2, the relation between ethical leadership, organizational justice and organizational cynicism variables is shown. In addition, it shows that the relation between these variable's sub-dimensions and the sub-dimensions' average score and standard deviation.



Table 2. Basic Variable's Average, Standard Deviation and Binary Correlation

		X	SS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Climatic Ethic	3.804	.931												
2	Communicationa Ethic	3.922	.901	.878**											
3	Decisional Ethic	4.107	.857	.829**	.884**										
4	Behavioral Ethic	4.033	.941	.743**	.790**	.775**									
5	Ethical Leadership	3.967	.842	.929**	.956**	.936**	.893**								
6	Operational Justice	3.742	.952	.810**	.781**	.738**	.694**	.814**							
7	Interactional Justice	3.861	.992	.820**	.830**	.793**	.761**	.863**	.829**						
8	Distributive Justice	3.383	1.222	.670**	.586**	.544**	.542**	.632**	.676**	.719**					
9	Organizational Justice	3.662	.958	.836**	.794**	.749**	.723**	.836**	.904**	.925**	.897**				
10	Affirmative Cynicism	2.071	1.003	357**	344**	357**	303**	366**	309**	324**	274**	330**			
11	Cognitive Cynicism	2.244	1.003	503**	478**	454**	437**	504**	462**	494**	418**	502**	.675**		
12	Behavioral Cynicism	2.577	.945	335**	286**	276**	273**	316**	289**	253**	264**	295**	.559**	.628**	
13	Organizational Cynicism	2.297	.851	462**	429**	421**	392**	459**	410**	416**	370**	436**	.865**	.891**	.837**

<sup>\*\*</sup>p <.01

In the Table 2, it can be observed that there is significant high positive relation (r=.836, p< .01) between teacher's ethical leadership perception and organizational justice, and medium negative significant relation (r=-.459, p<.01) with organizational cynicism. In addition, there is a medium negative and significant relation (r=-.459, p<.01) between organizational justice and organizational cynicism. According to this finding, when teachers' ethical leadership perception level increases, organizational justice level increases. At the same time, when ethical leadership and organizational justice level increase, organizational cynicism decreases.

When it is examined subcategories of the variables, it is observed that there is a positive significant relation between ethical leadership and organizational justice's subcategories. When teachers' perception of ethical leadership subcategories increases, organization justice sub categories increases. In addition, level of ethical leadership and level of organizational



justice's subcategories have negatively significant relation with organizational cynicism's subcategories. In the other words, when value of any subcategory of the ethical leadership and organizational justice variables increases, values of the organizational cynicisms' subcategories decrease.

2. Is there any predictor relation between teachers' perception of ethical leadership, and organizational justice and organizational cynicism?

In the Table 3, It is shown that the relation between subcategories of the ethical leadership behaviors, organizational cynicism and organizational justice. Organizational justice's sub categories.

Table 3. Fit Index Values and Regression Analysis Results

Independent Variables'	Dependent Variables	Δχ2	sd	ad Av2/ad	RMSEA	CEI	IEI	Standardized	Standard Error p		$\mathbb{R}^2$
Subcategories	Dependent variables	Δχ2 Su		ΔχZ/Su	RIVISEA	СГІ	IITI	β	Standard Error p		K
Decisional Ethic								029	.140	.865	
Climatic Ethic	Organizational Cynicism	2443.755	1008	2.424	.061	.927	.927	072	.153	.735	.300
Communicational Ethic	Organizational Cynicism							428	.101	.004	
Behavioral Ethic								183	.090	.119	
Decisional Ethic		2547.543	1008	2.527	.063	.925	.925	.013	.102	.888	.860
Climatic Ethic								.163	.112	.150	
Communicational Ethic	Organizational Justice							.516	.081	.000	
Behavioral Ethic								.278	.068	.000	
Distributive Justice								085	.065	.266	
Interactional Justice	Organizational Cynicism	1798.299	607	607 2.963	.071	.919	.920	246	.131	.044	.139
Operational Justice								066	.128	.570	

One of the subcategories of the ethical leadership, communicational leadership predicts organizational cynicism's average significantly and negatively ( $\beta$ = -.428, p<.001). 30% of the variance of the organizational cynicism's general average can be explained by teachers' ethical leadership perception ( $R^2$ =.300). According to this, if school a principal does his/her job in a responsible manner, be enthusiastic about learning, rewards success fairly, try to increase vocational effectiveness, has a love-based approach and gives teachers concrete goals, then teacher can feel less organizational cynicism.

From subcategories of ethical leadership, communicational leadership ( $\beta$ =.516, p<.001) and behavioral leadership ( $\beta$ =.278, p<.001), predict organizational leadership's general average significantly and positively. 86% of the variance of the organizational justice general average can be explained by teachers' ethical leadership perception ( $R^2$ =.860). When Beta value is examined, communicational ethic predicts organizational justice better than behavioral ethic. Based on this, it can be concluded that if a school principal is honest, sincere, compassionate, brave, caring for individual rights in addition to have leadership characteristics that decrease organizational cynicism, then, organizational justice can increase.

Interactional justice, one of the subcategories of the organizational justice, predicts general average of the organizational cynicism significantly and negatively ( $\beta$ =-.246, p<.001).



Teachers' organizational justice perception explains 13.9% of the variance of the organizational cynicisms' general average ( $R^2$ =.139). According to this, when school leaders care about teachers' thoughts, support teachers about their plans and goals, and provide feedback for teachers, teachers experience less organizational cynicism.

3. In the interaction of the teachers' ethical leadership perception and organizational cynicism, is organizational justice has a meditator effect?

According to Baron and Kenny, in order to be able to talk about meditator effect, (1) independent variable should predict meditator variable significantly, (2) independent variable should predict dependent variable significantly, and (3) when meditator variable and independent variable's effect on dependent variable included in the regression equation, there should be a significant relationship (Simsek, 2007).

In this study, the model in figure 2 was created for testing whether level of organizational justice is a meditator for the relation between teachers' ethical leadership perception and organizational cynicism.

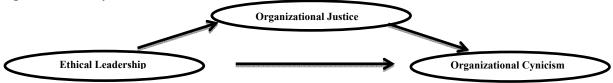


Figure 2. Meditator Test Model

In order to satisfy meditator condition, firstly we need analyze separately ethical leadership variables, organizational justice and organizational cynicism variables. Moreover, we need to be able to conclude that the relation between them is significant.

Table 4. Direct Effect Analysis Results

Direct Effects Dood coof	ect Effect: Road coefficients without meditator			Standard	T-	P-
Direct Effect: Road coef	incients with	nout meanator	Road Coefficient	Error	Value	Value
Ethical Leadership	>	Organizational Justice	.93	.050	19.810	.000
Ethical Leadership	>	Organizational Cynicism	53	.056	-9.270	.000

According to table 4, there is a positive, significant relation between variable ethical leadership and meditator variable organizational cynicism (road coefficient= -.53, sh=.056, t=-.9.270, p<.001).

Lastly, organizational justice variable added between independent variable ethical leadership and dependent variable organizational cynicism. Model was tested by using AMOS22 software.



Table 5. Meditator Effect Analysis

Indirect Effect: Meditiator Effect and Road Coefficient			Direct Effect	Indirect	Total	VAF -	Sobel Test		
			Direct Effect	Effect	Effect	VAF	Z Statistics	p	
Ethical	->	Organizational	190	322	512	.63 Meditator	-2.715	.006	
Leadership	-	Cynicism			312	Part		.000	

In order to admit there a meditator effect, whether the indirect effect of meditator variable and independent variable is significant or not should be tested. It can be done by using Sobel test (Sobel, 1982). As shown in Table 5, Sobel test results, which is done for testing statistical significance of organizational justice variable and meditator effect, is significant (Z=-2.715, p<.05).

Variance Account For (VAF) value is a method used for examining whether meditator effect exist or not. This value is calculated by using the formula of indirect effect/total effect. If the result is .80 or above, it is a complete meditator effect. If the result is between .20-.80, it is partial meditator effect. When VAF is under .20, this shows that there is no meditator effect (Hadi, Naziruddin, &Ilham, 2016). In this study, VAF value was found as .63.

When direct effects between variables analyzed after organizational justice added to model, it was observed that the effect of teachers' ethical leadership perception on organizational cynicism level has decreased from -.53 to -.19. After organizational justice added to the model, effect of organizational decreased. This shows that organizational justice level is a partial meditator in the relation. In the other words, school leaders' ethical leadership behaviors have a direct effect and indirect effect via organizational justice on organizational cynicism.

# 4. Discussion and Results

In this study, firstly, from teachers' perspective, school leaders' ethical behavior performing level was examined. According to findings, school leaders perform ethical leadership I a good level. From the perspective of teachers' ethical leadership, highest average score belongs to decisional ethic, then behavioral ethic, then communicational ethic and lastly climatic ethic. These findings are consistent with findings of Cemaloğlu&Kılınç (2012), Gülcan, Kılınç&Çepni (2012), Uğurlu (2012), &İskele (2009). It was found that teachers' organizational justice perception is high. When result of subcategories was examined, interactional justice had the highest average, distributive justice had the lowest average. This finding is consistent with Sahin's (2014) study of organizational identity, organizational image, organizational identification and organizational justice in high schools. According to this, school leaders care more about interaction with teachers, are understanding and fair and towards teachers and care about teachers' rights. It was observed that organizational cynicism level of the teachers was in rare level. When the average of the organizational cynicism considered, cognitive cynicism has the highest average, then affirmative cynicism and behavioral cynicism in order. These results are similar with study of Yüksek (2015) and Yildiz (2013).



Teacher high organizational cynicism perception affects negatively education process. That's why, school leaders should identify teachers that have high organizational cynicism perception in order to prevent possible problems and develop strategies solving this issue.

In this study, it was concluded that there is a significant, positive relation between ethical behaviors of teachers' perception and organizational. Moreover, there is a positive correlation among all subcategories. These findings are similar to findings of the studies of Ayık, Yücel and Savaş (2014), Acar, Kaya and Şahin (2012), Yeşiltaş, Çeken and Sormaz (2012), Yıldırım (2010), and Uğurlu (2009). When importance of teachers' ethical leadership perception increase for themselves, not only organizational justice level but also but also subcategories of organizational justice, which are decisional ethics, climatic ethic and communicational ethic, increase. When school leaders pay attention to perform ethical leadership behaviors, teachers' organizational justice perception will increase in same level. However, in this study, ethical leadership and organizational justice, with their sub categories, have a negative relation with organizational cynicism. Güzel and Ayazlar (2014), Doğan and Uğurlu (2014), Mete (2013), and Efeoğlu and İplik (2011) have found similar results. Performing of the behaviors covering ethics and justice by school leaders will decrease teachers' possible negative attitude and behaviors.

When teachers' ethical leadership perception increase, their organizational justice level increase. School leaders' communicational ethic behaviors predict organization cynicism perception of the teacher considerably. Akatay, Yücekaya and Kısat (2016) has concluded similar results in the study aiming for identifying the relation between ethical leadership and organizational cynicism. According to this result, when school leaders perform ethical leadership behaviors in higher level, teachers fell less anger, complaint and anxiety. On the other hand, decrease in perception of organizational justice causes increase in level of organizational cynicism. Güzel and Ayazlar (2015) reached similar result in their study. Especially, perception of interactional justice is an important predictor of organizational cynicism. When school leaders care about teachers' idea, support for teachers' work goals and plans, and give feedback to teachers, teachers' perception of organizational cynicism decrease related with school. In addition, when school leaders have fair, unbiased, and kind manner, it contributes to decrease of cynicism level.

According to results of the study, increase in school leaders' performing of ethical leadership behavior can be interpreted as increase in teachers' organizational justice perception. Leaders' behavior during school management is be perceived and valued by teachers. One of the outcome of the ethical behaviors, "justice", affects employees' perception of justice in the school (Uğurlu and Üstüner, 2011).

In this study, it was observed that there is a direct relation between ethical leadership and organizational cynicism. Moreover, when organizational justice added to this relation, it was observed that organizational justice is partial meditator variable in this relation. In short, teachers' perception of ethical leadership has an effect on organizational cynicism through organizational justice interaction. In the other words, the relation between ethical leadership and organizational cynicism lost its value when organizational justice added to model. This shows that there are other meditator variables. On the other hand, after adding organizational



justice to the model, organizational cynicism lost value but still had a significant effect. This shows that organizational justice is a partial variable in this model. In the other words, school leaders' ethical behaviors effects organizational cynicism directly and indirectly via organizational justice.

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