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Research Paper

Assessing the Status and Challenges of Sole Proprietor Garment Businesses: Insights for Operational Enhancement

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Abstract

A sole proprietorship is, without a doubt, the simplest form of a business organization. The garment business, on the other hand, is considered one of the most popular ventures among women entrepreneurs in the Philippines. This study aimed to determine the status, issues, and concerns regarding the sole garment business in Taguig City to serve as a basis for a proposal toward enhanced operations. This study also attempted to determine the issues and concerns encountered by female entrepreneurs and their employees during running a business. The descriptive method of research was used and it involved twelve (12) proprietors and fifty (50) employees as respondents. The data were analyzed and interpreted using the frequency, percentage, weighted mean, and t-test. Results revealed that the respondents strongly agreed on the objectives of the sole garment business, personnel, capital investments, operations requirements, wages and benefits, and raw material supply as vital factors for enhanced operations of the sole garment business. The null hypothesis that no significant difference between the perceptions of the proprietors and employees regarding the status of sole garment business was accepted when it came to personnel, capital investments, operations requirements and wages and benefits. However, this null hypothesis was rejected when it came to the objectives, raw materials, and equipment. As to issues and concerns encountered in the sole garment business, the need for technologically advanced equipment came first, management style was ranked second, keeping up with fast fashion trends came in third, while supply of raw materials was ranked fourth, and inadequacy of business capital came in the fifth rank.

Keywords: Capital Investment; Sole Proprietorship; Garment Business

INTRODUCTION

Sole proprietorship is undeniably the simplest form of business organization in the Philippines. The process of setting up and registering is a lot less complicated compared to that of partnerships and corporations. It is easier to set up because it requires minimal amount of capital, lower cost of business registration, and minimal regulatory laws. In the Philippines, registering a sole proprietorship is done through the Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The World Bank collection of development indicators published a report stating that in the Philippines, firms with a legal status of sole proprietorship accounted for as high as 40.2% in 2015 (Trading Economics, 2018). In the 2022 report of DTI, a total of 932,097 business names were registered. According to the said report, 88.8% are newly registered business names while the rests were renewal of business registrations. According to Secretary Fred Pascual, this is a positive sign of Filipinos' unwavering entrepreneurial spirit after the dreadful pandemic (Department of Trade and Industry, 2022). The contribution of sole proprietorships to the Philippine economy is something that cannot be discounted. In Taguig City alone, there has been a substantial increase in the amount of single proprietorship garment businesses. This can be attributed to the Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016 which mandated the government to promote the growth of certain priority areas and coordinate activities that enhance investments and job creation (boi.gov.ph, 2016). The garment and textile industries have been identified by the Board of Investments (BOI) as a priority sector in this government initiative. Through the Industry Development Program, the BOI is preparing a roadmap for the garment and textile industry to foster the industry's growth. The increasing number of female entrepreneurs and



increased awareness of the role of women in the traditional male-dominated business industry were brought about by the development of the business world. Several female entrepreneurs are dominating the garment industry. The garment industry in the Philippines commenced as a cottage industry in the early 1950s, and since then, it has evolved as the country's most successful nontraditional export enterprise (Areola et al., 2024).

The initial interview of the owners of sole garment business operators in Taguig City resulted in several difficulties encountered by women entrepreneurs before they were able to stabilize their business operations. These difficulties include but are not limited to personal factors, capital requirements, sewer skills, business registration documents, and varying trend. With the increasing number of women engaging in entrepreneurial undertaking like sole garment business, it is relevant to capture the entrepreneurial competencies and work-life balance experiences of these businesswomen to craft a business model for successful ventures.

This study explored the status, issues and concerns of garment business in Taguig City as perceived by its proprietors and employees in terms of the following variables: objectives, personnel, capital investments, operations requirements, salaries and benefits, raw materials supply and equipment. The study was conducted in New Lower Bicutan and Signal Village in Taguig City and it involved twelve (12) sole garment business operators and fifty (50) employees. Based on these issues and concerns, this study aimed to propose measures for enhancing sole garment business operations in the city as its output.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Sole proprietorship is considered the simplest type of business that an individual with a substantial fund can start (Putri & Prananingtyas, 2022). It plays a significant role in society and the economy because of its accessibility to the common public (Sankar, 2019). Sole proprietorship is common for garment businesses because it aligns with the structure of small- to medium-scale operations in terms of low start-up costs, direct control, and flexibility in scale. However, managing a garment business can still be challenging despite its ease of setup due to factors such as objectives, personnel, capital investments, operational requirements, and raw materials supply.

Objectives refer to the very purposes for which the garment business was established and operated. Business objectives refer to the results that the organization aims to achieve and include strategies that people in the organization use to attain it (businessnews.com, 2018). It is a "detailed picture of a step you plan to take in order to achieve a stated aim" (Business Case Studies, 2018). Business objectives are essential in a garment business because they serve as a guide to align operations, improve efficiency, drive innovation, and grow.

Personnel refers to individuals employed by business organizations to perform certain functions. In the garment business, the term refers to sewers hired by business operators to perform sewing and other garment manufacturing-related functions. Employees' performance is critical to the overall success of the organization (Leonard, 2018). Labor, which is considered an active factor in production, is instrumental in achieving organizational objectives. Labor is the most important factor in production because in the absence of labor, all other factors of production cannot be put to good use. In the case of garment business, sewers are instrumental in improving and enhancing business operations, which is vital in achieving organizational objectives.

Capital investments refer to the amount of money that a garment operator is required to invest in to start a garment business. The term also pertains to money used by business owners to fixed assets such as buildings, land, machinery, equipment, and other assets (Ward, 2018). In the garments business, capital investments include but are not limited to land where the factory is to be situated; sewing machines needed to join different parts of the garment; pressing machines that are usually used in the final stages of garment production; and cutting machines that are used for

cutting the fabric in desired forms.

On the other hand, operations requirements refer to the legal process required in the operation of a garment business. Wages and benefits were also considered as variables in this study. A worker's wage is the monetary payment of the employer for the services rendered by the former to the latter. Salaries and wages constitute a large part of the overall cost of operations (Atchison, 2003; Nwachukwu, 2000). In the case of the garment business operators considered for this study, wages are paid through a piece rate system. Workers in garment manufacturing are paid based on the number of outputs they produce or units completed. Payment is usually done on a weekly basis. Literature suggests that employee wages contribute hugely to employee motivation and increase productivity, which in turn leads to improved organizational performance (Bewley et al., 2015; Lin et al., 2013).

Raw material supply is also a significant factor in the success of garment manufacturing. Choosing raw materials in the garment industry can be considered a complex process. The typical raw material requirement in this industry include fabric, buttons, sewing threads, yarn, hang tags, and trim. Fabric is the primary raw material in this industry; thus, careful selection is required. The quality of the fabric and other materials used in the production not only determines the quality of the garment but also its price. The success of a business is highly dependent on the supply of raw materials acquired at viable prices (Mohan & Berkotiz, 1988).

RESEARCH METHOD

This study used the descriptive method of research which helped the researcher systematically, factually, and accurately describe the situation or the area of interest, which was the garment business. This type of research describes the existing achievements, attitudes and behavior or the other characters of a group of subjects. This involves the description, analysis, and interpretation of the condition as it exists. It answers the questions who, what, where, and how. The main purpose of this type of research is to facilitate the "collection of quantifiable data that in turn allows the research proponents to use statistics to evaluate the population sample" (Soliveres et al., 2024). It allows people to think about the elements in a helpful way for explanation and predictions when elements are combined. The proposed model is designed to gather information about present existing condition.

This type of research was used in this study because of the use of a researcher – crafted questionnaire to survey the perceptions of the proprietors and employees in the sole garment business concerning its status, issues, and concerns toward a proposal to enhance its operations in Taguig City. The convenience sampling method was used and it involved the 12 sole garment business proprietors and 50 employees as respondents. They were all from Lower Bicutan and Signal Village in Taguig City and were currently engaged in a sole garment business as their means of livelihood. The questionnaire checklist is comprised of two parts. The first part dealt with the status of sole garment business proprietorship in terms of objectives, personnel, capital investments, garment demands, operations requirements, raw materials supply, equipment, and management style, while the second part focused on the issues and concerns met by the sole garment business proprietors and their employees. Since it was a researcher-made survey questionnaire, pilot testing of the instrument was conducted with a group of the same class of respondents. The Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient (0.921) indicated excellent internal consistency of the questionnaire items (George & Mallery, 2003).

Permissions to conduct the study were obtained from several proprietors of sole garment owners in Taguig City. Copies of the survey questionnaires were distributed to the proprietors and their employees and were later retrieved, organized, tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted. This study used statistical tools like the frequency, percentage, ranking, weighted mean, and t-test, to test for significant differences in interpreting and analyzing the data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This study aimed to determine the issues and concerns of the sole garment business in Taguig City to serve as a basis for a proposal to enhance operations. Specifically, it aimed to determine the status of the sole garment business in Taguig City as perceived by the proprietors and their employees in terms of objectives, personnel, capital investments, garment demands, operations requirements, wages and benefits, raw materials supply, equipment, and management style. Further, it identified the issues and concerns confronted by the garment industry.

Role	ible 1. Respondents' Profile Frequency	Percentage
Entrepreneurs	12	19.35 %
Employees	50	80.65 %
Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Female	45	72.6%
Male	17	27.4%
Age	Frequency	Percentage
20-25	7	11.29 %
26-30	9	14.52 %
31-35	12	19.35 %
36-40	15	24.19 %
41-45	8	12.90 %
46-50	5	8.06 %
50 and above	6	9.68 %
Number of Years as an	Frequency	Percentage
Entrepreneur/Employee in the Garment Business		
1-2 years	14	22.58 %
3-4 years	18	29.03 %
5-6 years	15	24.19 %
7-8 years	5	8.06 %
9 years and above	10	16.13 %

Table 1 reflects the profile of the respondents who were invited to participate in the study. There were 12 proprietors and 50 garment businesses in Taguig City whose responses were generated as data for this study. The majority of the respondents were female owing to the nature of the garment business. Respondents' age ranged from 20 to 50 years old and above, exposure to garment business as sole proprietors and employees was between 1 year and 8 years.

	Objectives	Propriet	Proprietors Employees		loyees	A 347NA	VI
Objectives		WM	VI	WM	VI	AWM	VI
1.	The objectives of the garment business are clear.	3.44	SA	3.17	А	3.31	А
2.	The objectives are generally achievable.	3.58	SA	3.44	SA	3.51	SA
3.	Objectives of the garment business are specific.	3.50	SA	3.17	А	3.34	SA
4.	The objectives are technically results-focused.	3.80	SA	3.52	SA	3.66	SA
5.	Objectives are known to employees and others concerned.	3.44	SA	3.08	А	3.26	SA
		OWM				3.42	SA

Table 2. Perceptions about the status of the Objectives of Sole Garment Business

The table above reflects the perceptions of garment business proprietors and employees regarding its objectives. It can be gleaned from the table that although the employees generally agree on statements adhering to objective status, a strong level of agreement has been recorded by the proprietors. However, overall responses from both proprietors and employees generated a strong level of agreement on objectives that were results-focused, generally achievable, specific, and communicated to employees. The results of the study imply that sole garment business companies in Taguig City fulfill their desired objectives, which are known and observed by both employers and employees. This situation also indicates that sole garment business companies are transparent in terms of objectives. Business objectives play an integral role in enhancing garment business performance. Because business objectives are vital to the success of a firm, it is important that these are clearly stated (Elmorshidy, 2013) and specific (Singh & Singh, 2021). A study by Boswell (2007) posited that employees' understanding of organizational objectives significantly contributes to their realization.

Personnel	Propri	etors	Emp	loyees	AWM	AWM VI	
	WM	VI	WM	VI			
. possesses the skills required by the company.	3.42	SA	3.76	SA	3.59	SA	
2. Attend to their respective jobs promptly	3.42	SA	3.82	SA	3.62	SA	
 Possess a positive attitude toward work 	3.30	SA	3.34	SA	3.32	SA	
 Can communicate openly with immediate supervisor. 	3.08	А	3.82	SA	3.45	SA	

Table 2. Perceptions of Sole	e Garment Business Personnel
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	Personnel	Proprie	etors	Emp	loyees	AWM	VI
		WM	VI	WM	VI		
5.	I am always willing to go the extra mile for the garment business.	3.25	A	3.14	A	3.20	A
		OWM				3.43	SA

Table 2 reflects the perceptions of the respondents on the personnel of sole garment business. Results of the study revealed that a strong level of agreement was observed for both proprietors and employees regarding garment business personnel possessing the right skills, attending to their respective jobs promptly, and having a positive attitude toward work. Both agreed on the willingness of the personnel to go the extra mile. Employee contributions in all aspects of business, from productivity to creativity, innovation, and customer satisfaction is undoubtedly a key factor in driving sustainability. Engaged employees are considered keys to organizational success (Clack, 2021). Employees' skills, dedication, and attitude toward work are foundations upon which business organizations thrive. Naseem et al. (2011) posited that understanding the employee role is vital for ensuring the success of modern organizations. The result further indicates that the two groups of respondents only differed when it came to having open communication with the heads of units, which could be attributed to position consciousness among the employees.

	Capital Investment	Propri	Proprietors Employees		prietors Employees AWM		Proprietors Employees		AWM	VI
	-	WM	VI	WM	VI	-				
1.	The capital investments of the garment business are adequate.	3.50	SA	3.38	SA	3.44	SA			
2.	The capital investments are at par with industry trends	3.50	SA	3.17	А	3.34	SA			
3.	They are spent according to the needs of the organization	3.48	SA	3.17	А	3.33	SA			
4.	The acquisition is based on long-term business goals.	3.40	SA	3.38	SA	3.39	SA			
5.	Capital investments are made to increase operational capacity of the garment business.	4.79	SA	3.17	A	3.98	SA			
	<u> </u>	OWM				3.42	SA			

Table 3. Perceptions about Sole Garment Business Capital	Investments
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Table 3 summarizes the respondents' responses regarding capital investments in the garment business. The overall responses from the respondents revealed that they strongly agree on the ability of the company to manage capital investments to increase operational capacity and achieve business goals. Acquisition is related to strategic goals, and capital investments are adequate and at par with industry standards. According to Emmanuel et al. (2010), a better

understanding of capital investments is potentially related to understanding the long-term success and survival of modern organizations. Because capital investments involve significant financial commitments and long-term implications, careful consideration must be exercised to ensure that they enhance organizational growth and sustainability.

	Operation Requirements	Proprie	tors	Employees		AWM	VI
	-	WM	VI	WM	VI	_	
1.	It is registered at Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)	3.33	SA	3.58	SA	3.46	SA
2.	It renews business permit regularly	3.50	SA	3.56	SA	3.53	SA
3.	It practices a good waste management system.	3.92	SA	3.68	SA	3.80	SA
4.	It adheres to the policies set by the government.	3.67	SA	3.40	А	3.5	SA
5.	It provides a clean, safe and accessible workplace for the garment workers.	3.80	SA	3.74	SA	3.77	SA
	OV	VM				3.61	SA

Table 4. Perceptions about Sole Garment Business Operations Requi	iirements
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The perceptions of both proprietors regarding the business requirements for sole garments generated a strong level of agreement. This implies that the sole garment business proprietor adheres to legal requirements and the employees are very much of this practice. The ability of the sole proprietor garment business to comply with the legal operations requirements, register with DTI, renew business permits, and provide a safe and accessible workplace for garment workers becomes apparent because it is easier to finish all the transactions since there is only one person who is making a decision and meeting the requirements for the business. According to Tarigan at al. (2024), sole proprietorship is a relatively is easier to establish and set up. Similarly, Surban (2018) suggests that sole owners are free to make business decisions without consulting with anyone.

Salaries and Benefits	Proprie	Proprietors		Employees		VI
_	WM	VI	WM	VI		
 They are sufficient for worker's needs. 	3.33	SA	3.40	SA	3.37	SA
 They are at par with other garment businesses in the locality. 	3.33	SA	3.40	SA	3.37	SA
3. The company provides bonuses and incentives	3.0	А	3.60	SA	3.30	SA
 Salaries are released on time. 	3.25	А	3.56	SA	3.41	SA
 The company adheres to salary adjustments as mandated by government agencies. 	3.75	SA	3.80	SA	3.78	SA
-	OWM				3.44	SA

Table 5. Perceptions on Sole Garment Business Salaries and Benefits

Table 5 presents the perceptions of the proprietors and employees regarding the salaries and benefits provided by the garment business to its employees. Results of the study revealed that the garment business in Taguig City releases salaries on time, adheres to salary adjustments mandated by government agencies, and provides bonuses and incentives. Further, results revealed that it is perceived by both proprietors and employees as sufficient for employees' needs and is at par with other garment businesses within the locality. Salaries play an important role in motivating employees (Kilnytska & Sardakovskly, 2020; Deretić et al. 2023). A competitive salary ensures that employees can provide for their basic needs, which, in turn, allows them to focus on their work without worries or financial stress. Salaries are also a good measure of how much business value employees' contributions, skills, and meaningful work experience. Organizational commitment can be enhanced by providing incentives to employees because it is a well-known source of employee motivation (Estebal et al. 2024).

Salaries and Benefits		Proprietors		Employees		AWM	VI
		WM	VI	WM	VI	—	
1.	The raw materials will be delivered as scheduled.	3.42	SA	3.66	SA	3.54	SA
2.	The garment business ensures an adequate supply of raw materials.	3.40	SA	3.50	SA	3.45	SA
3.	Raw materials are sourced from both local and international suppliers.	3.54	SA	2.75	A	3.15	A
4.	The raw materials used in garment manufacturing are of excellent quality.	3.40	SA	3.42	AA	3.41	SA
5.	Raw materials are ordered as required.	3.46	SA	3.56	SA	3.51	SA
		OWM				3.41	SA

Table 6. Perceptions on the Raw Materials Supply of Sole Garment Busin	iess
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Raw materials are an integral part of a successful garment business operation because they have a direct impact on the cost and market appeal of the garment output. The competitive nature of the garment industry and the presence of fast fashion trends make it imperative for businesses to exercise prudence in securing raw materials. Results of the study strongly agree that the raw materials of garment businesses are delivered as scheduled, their supply is adequate, and that they are ordered as needed.

Equipment	Proprietors		Employees		AWM	VI
_	WM	VI	WM	VI		
The garment business have adequate	3.64	SA	2.92	А	3.28	SA

1.

Table 7. Perceptions about Sole Garment Business Equipment

have adequate
equipment2. Equipment are
properly maintained.3.42SA3.50SA3.46SA

Equipment		Proprietors		Employees		AWM	VI
		WM	VI	WM	VI		
3.	The company ensures that equipment are optimally used.	3.44	SA	3.08	А	3.26	SA
4.	The company provides proper training for the use of the newly acquired equipment.	3.04	A	2.67	A	2.86	A
5.	Garment business equipment are generally expensive.	3.60	SA	2.75	A	3.18	А
		OWM				3.21	Α

In the garment industry, one of the major problems that need attention is the equipment. Machines are expensive, especially brand-new machines; second-hand and reconditioned machines need to be checked now and then. The garment may suffer from low-quality goods if the machine is not in good condition. The time table is also affected by poorly functioning machines, which can lead to lower output and garments may not be delivered on time. The proprietors and employees revealed that the garment businesses had adequate equipment for their level of operation. They also disclosed that proper maintenance of the equipment is necessary and that it is ensured that these are optimally used.

Status Variables	t-value	p-value*	Decision	Interpretation			
Objectives	2.66	.0289	Reject Ho	Significant differences			
Personnel	1.89	.0961	Accept Ho	No Significant Difference			
Capital Investment	1.75	.1175	Accept Ho	No Significant Difference			
Operation Requirements	1.19	.2679	Accept Ho	No Significant Difference			
Wages and Benefits	1.51	.1690	Accept Ho	No Significant Difference			
Raw Material Supply	2.78	.0238	Reject Ho	Significant differences			
Equipment	2.78	.0238	Reject Ho	Significant differences			

Table 8. Summary of T-test results for the perception of proprietors and Employees' Status ofSole Garment Business

*at a significance level of 0.05

Table 9 presents the summary of the t-test results for the perception of proprietors and employees on the status of their sole garment business. When the responses of the respondents were subjected to a test of significant difference, it resulted in the acceptance of the null hypothesis for personnel, capital investment, operation requirements, and wages and benefits because the probability is less than 0.05. Further, the results imply that there is no significant difference in the perception of proprietors as well as their employees on the previously mentioned status variables of sole garment business.

In terms of perception of the proprietors and employees of the garments business in objectives as a status variable, when their responses were subjected to a test of significant difference, a computed t-value of 2.66. The probability.0289 was less than at (.05) level of

significance, so the null hypothesis was rejected. The two groups differed in their perceptions.

In terms of perception of the proprietors and employees of the garments business in raw materials as a status variable, when their responses were subjected to a test of significant difference, a computed t-value of 2.78. The probability of 0238 was less than the significance level of 0.05, so the null hypothesis was rejected. The two groups differed in their perceptions. The difference in the responses of the two groups can be attributed to the fact that the proprietors find it difficult to source raw materials, whereas employees would only work on the materials made available by the former.

As Equipment as a status variable for sole garment business operation generated a computed t-value of 2.78. The probability of 0238 was less than the (.05) level of significance, so the null hypothesis was rejected. There was a significant difference in the perceptions of the two groups regarding the equipment as a status variable in garment business operation.

Issues and Concerns	Rank
Keeping up with fast fashion trends	3
Lack of needed garment skills	10
Inadequacy of business capitals	5
Not aware of the sole garment business objectives	6
Incomplete garment business registration documents	9
Lack of awareness of delivery dates	8
No financial benefits to employees	7
Inadequate supply of raw materials	4
Inappropriate management style	2
Need for technologically advanced equipment	1

Table 9. Issues and concerns arising in sole garment business

When the respondents were asked about the issues and concerns frequently encountered in the sole garment business, the need for technologically advanced equipment came first, management style was ranked second, keeping up with fast fashion trends came in third, while supply of raw materials was ranked fourth, and inadequacy of business capital came in the fifth rank. Other problems identified were ever-dynamic trends in the fashion industry, lack of financial benefits from employers, awareness of delivery dates, incomplete business registration documents, and lack of garment skills. It can be gleaned from the results that the proprietors and employee respondents both have growing concerns about the need for secure sustainable business operations to be more competitive in the garments industry.

CONCLUSIONS

In this study, significant differences have been identified in the objectives, raw materials supply and equipment as status variables for the garment business. The objectives of the sole garment business were behavioral because they are output-oriented and can be attained or accomplished by respondents. The findings in this study are similar to the findings of the longitudinal study conducted to managers and training providers of three banks, examining the nature, definition, and implications of the competency framework and commenting that such was not just a set of specific knowledge, skills, and desirable behaviors but also attitudes, perceptions, and emotions that were unique to each individual as expressed in the process of interacting with others (Antonacopoulo & FitzGerald, 1996). Since this is the status of the sole garment business objectives, it can be deduced that the sole garment business companies live up to their designed objectives, which could be felt and observed by both their employers and employees. This situation also indicates that transparency prevails for sole garment business companies.

Raw material supply, as in any manufacturing company, is a major consideration in garment

business. Since raw materials depend on the specifications of the clients, the raw materials might not be available right away. Raw material management is critical for successful garment manufacturing. Literature suggests that proper management of raw materials is correlated with the overall performance of an organization (Akindipe, 2014). Following this thought, the management of raw materials in the garment business deserves "careful attention and critical study in order to achieve uninterrupted production runs and enhanced performance in operations" (Khalid, 2008). When buying raw materials, sufficient time is needed, and a planned schedule to place the order is also vital to ensure that raw materials will be available at the exact time it is needed. It is also equally important to have several lists of possible suppliers regarding availability, best price, and good quality merchandise that fit his requirement.

Sewing machines play a major role in the success of players in the clothing industry. While there was a strong agreement from the end of the garment factory workers on the adequacy and proper maintenance of the equipment as well as its full utilization, the proprietors only agreed on the same considerations. Although the employees think that the machines used in production are more than adequate, properly maintained, and extensively used, management does not share the same thoughts. Since the acquisition of equipment in this industry requires significant investment, it is clear that the proprietors expect full utilization and proper maintenance. The advent of technology has paved the way for the introduction of sewing machines capable of reducing the difficulty of making clothes, labor intensity, and production quality (Zheng & Jin, 2010). The use of such machines provides a competitive advantage to businesses because these specialized sewing machines ensure better garment quality. This however comes with a cost to the owner.

The need to update the machines and equipment used in garment production, management style that promotes work-life balance, appreciates the contribution of the employees in the performance of the organization, encourages employee empowerment, awareness of identified organizational objectives, sustainable supply of raw materials, and adequate business capital are perceived by both the proprietors and garment factory workers as urgent concerns pressing the sole garment business operation. These concerns must be addressed to continue the smooth flow of operation of the sole garment business and, more importantly, to remain competitive in the garment industry.

LIMITATION & FURTHER RESEARCH

This study focused on the sole proprietor garment business in Taguig City, thereby limiting its generalizability to other garment operators in other municipalities and regions in the Philippines. The data presented were provided by garment business owners and employees with business operations in Taguig. To address this limitation, it is recommended to conduct further research on the topic considering garment business operators with different forms of business ownership. Future researchers may explore on conducting studies across different municipalities and regions in the Philippines that are known to have numerous garment businesses to further determine the status of sole garment businesses to improve craft strategies.

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