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**Impact of Failed Innovation on Individuals:
A View From Management Researchers' Life**

Devendra Tayade ¹
Roopak Kumar Gupta ²

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¹Research Scholar, Organizational Behaviour and Human Resources Area, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, IIMK Campus PO, Kunnamangalam, Kozhikode, Kerala 673 570, India; Email -

²Associate Professor, Organizational Behaviour and Human Resources Area, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, IIMK Campus PO, Kunnamangalam, Kozhikode, Kerala 673 570, India; Email - roopak@iimk.ac.in, Phone Number - 0495-2809259

Impact of Failed Innovation on Individuals: A View From Management Researchers' Life

Abstract:

A border lies between the success and failure of an innovation. Researchers have often focused on one side of the border i.e. the success, overlooking the other side, especially, how the failure of innovation affects individuals who constantly attempt to traverse this border between failure and the success. This paper uses a qualitative methodology to guide the research and uses the context of management research to explore how failure affects individuals, how they cope and what factors moderate this effect of failure on individuals. Failure or rejection of the manuscript is an inevitable part of a researcher's life. We find that failure of innovation, i.e. rejection of the research article, in this case, can have a disheartening and demotivating effect on the individuals lasting for a varying period. This experience may affect the self-belief of the innovators. Innovators use various coping strategies. Factors like coping, learning orientation, and quality of feedback, among others, over which researchers have a varying degree of control, moderate the effect of failure on individuals. The findings have practical implications for the researchers/ innovators, their supervisors and the organization.

Keywords: *Innovation, Failure, Academic rejection, Resilience in research, Qualitative Research*



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Research Office
Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode
IIMK Campus P. O.,
Kozhikode, Kerala, India,
PIN - 673 570
Phone: +91-495-2809237/ 238
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