

OPEN PEER REVIEW

# The Role of Legal Counsel in Managing Corporate Crises

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Clarify how the purposive sampling technique was specifically implemented to ensure a representative sample of legal professionals. Consider adding details on how participants were identified and selected within various industries.

Define what constitutes 'theoretical saturation' in the context of your study and provide examples or criteria used to determine when it was achieved. This will help strengthen the methodological rigor of your qualitative analysis.

Expand on the specific coding process used in NVivo. How were themes developed from the codes? Providing a more detailed description can enhance the transparency of your analytical process.

While mentioned, the discussion on confidentiality lacks depth. Elaborate on the specific measures taken to ensure participant anonymity and data security, especially considering the sensitive nature of legal advice in crisis situations.

More detailed demographic information of the participants could be helpful. Insights into the types of industries, corporate roles, and geographical locations of the participants would contextualize the findings more robustly.

Discuss the steps taken to ensure the validity and reliability of the interview data. Mention any triangulation methods, peer debriefings, or participant validation processes used during the study.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Strengthen the connections between your findings and the existing literature. Each theme identified could be more deeply tied to theoretical frameworks or prior empirical studies to enhance the depth of discussion.

The paper discusses various strategies but could benefit from deeper analysis on the effectiveness of these strategies. Consider incorporating case studies or examples where these strategies have been successfully implemented.

Provide more concrete implications for legal practice, particularly focusing on how legal counsels can implement the suggested preventive and reactive strategies in different types of corporate crises.

The aspect of gender dynamics within legal teams is touched upon but not thoroughly explored. Expand this discussion to consider how diversity within legal teams might influence crisis management effectiveness.

Suggest including a comparative analysis with other crisis management roles, such as financial advisors or public relations managers, to highlight the unique contributions of legal counsels.

Offer clearer directions for future research, perhaps suggesting quantitative studies to measure the impact of legal counsel's involvement on corporate outcomes during crises or studies in different cultural contexts.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.