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AN ASSESSMENT OF BUSINESS STUDENTS INTENTION IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA**Abstract:**

Entrepreneurship is a global phenomenon affected by the emergence of new small and innovative start-up businesses which is positively resulting in economic growth across the world. Due to these new small businesses positive contributions to the economy, it plays a significant role in creating new jobs, influencing governments to recognize and support entrepreneurial start-up activity.

Statement of the Problem

Despite the effort of educational sector in Nigeria toward entrepreneurship for producing qualified entrepreneurial students in Kano state, yet the issue of entrepreneurship and students intention in Kano State Polytechnic is associated with many challenges. This challenges however are ranges from lack of equipments, lack of interest from the students, lack of proper institutional capacity that will saddle with the responsibility of counseling and monitoring of potential students. Therefore, it is against this background that this paper sought to assess the Business Students Intention in Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment in Kano State Polytechnic, Nigeria.

Methodology

The study is based on the theory of planned behavior (TPB) that serves as the bases in which three hypotheses were developed to examine the relationship between entrepreneurship education, entrepreneurial experience and entrepreneurship desirability on self-employment intention. Simple random sampling technique was used to collect primary data from 70 under-graduate students of Kano state polytechnic. Data were analyzed using a statistical package for social science (SPSS) version 16.

Findings

Findings from this study shows that entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurship desirability are positively related to graduate student's intention towards self-employment while entrepreneurship experience has no significant positive relationship on the students' intention towards self-employment. The study has contributed to expanding the TPB theory and also signal led to the practitioners such as the education authority and the government to look into the effect of entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurship desirability as influencing factors on students' self-employment intention.

Conclusion and Recommendations

With respect to the findings of this/Study, implications were found for the academicians and practitioners in this study, the following recommendations are made:

- Student should be exposed to educational system which lay emphasis on developing entrepreneurial skills and knowledge.
- Entrepreneurship educators and the government should team up to produce and promote a good image of entrepreneurship as a choice of career.
- Also, policy makers of the institutions and the community should team up to instill entrepreneurship culture amongst the polytechnic students.

Keywords:

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Education, Entrepreneurial Experience, Entrepreneurship

Desirability, Self-employment, Intention.

JEL Classification: M19