

**Research Article****EFFECT OF FAMILY BACKGROUND ON ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION OF FINAL YEAR STUDENTS IN STATE UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES, IGBO-ENO ENUGU****¹Emaimo, John and ²*Nwachukwu, Udoka Lawrence**¹Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Enugu, Nigeria²Department of Business Management and Entrepreneurship Studies, Faculty of Management Sciences, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria**Received 12th April 2023; Accepted 20th May 2023; Published online 30th June 2023****Abstract**

Entrepreneurship is critical and serves as a panacea to the unemployment quagmire in our society today. The importance of entrepreneurial activities in a developing country like Nigeria cannot be overemphasized. This study, effect of family background on entrepreneurial intention of final year students in state university of medical and applied sciences, Igbo-eno Enugu, was aimed to: determine the effect of family income level on the entrepreneurial intention students and ascertain the effect of large family size on the entrepreneurial intention of students. The study was a survey research design, which employed primary sources of data, using questionnaire instrument to collect data from 170 respondents. Data were analyzed using frequency counts, simple percentage (%), mean score (x), and the likert's five point questionnaires. Chi-square was used to analyse the hypotheses, which was tested at 0.05 level of significance. The study revealed that, entrepreneurship stimulates economic growth and that family income has effect on entrepreneurial intention of students. The study recommended that Parents should train up their children to become self-reliance and students should avail themselves of every opportunity offered them to become independent.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurial Intention and Family Background

INTRODUCTION

The downward trend in the global economy calls for immediate attention. This has forced most nations to focus on domestic economy so as to foster a sustainable and virile domestic economy that will be moderately resistant from the economic and financial strangling that may try to occur in the future. Presently, Nigeria is heavily dependent on the oil and gas economy (Ahiauzu, 2010). Adekunle and David (2014) however asserted that efforts are now being made to diversify the economy by investing for example in agriculture and also encouraging the manufacturing sector. They went further to state that entrepreneurship-led development strategies are now being emphasised as these have proven successful in several Less Developed Countries (LCDs). According to Alawamleh *et al.*, (2023) entrepreneurship is considered one of the main business branches which have witnessed huge development over the last few decades. Entrepreneurship is more than simply "starting a business." It is a process through which individuals identify opportunities, allocate resources and create value. This creation of value is often through the identification of unmet needs or through the identification of opportunities for change, Afolabietal, (2017). Entrepreneurship is critical and serves as a panacea to ending or bringing to a barest minimal the vices experienced in our society today. The importance of entrepreneurial activities in a developing country like Nigeria cannot be overemphasized. Entrepreneurship is a major engine for economic growth and job creation, Isaac, (2023). Entrepreneurship learning is the basis for creative and innovative ideas to succeed in the twenty-first century (Lindner, 2020). Moreover, while entrepreneurship provides benefits in terms of social and economic growth, it also offers

benefits in terms of individual fulfilment (Cooney, 2012 in Alawamleh *et al.*, 2023). The relationship between entrepreneurship and positive economic consequences is well understood, Vracheva and Stoyneva, (2020). Entrepreneurs all have a background, grew and live among people. No man exists on its own instead hails from somewhere called family. The family as a social unit comprises members who constitute the significant others in our environment today, (Shittu and Dosunmu, 2014). Family environment is the first social experience of every young adult. The family is the basic institution from which the child has begun to recognize himself/herself and other people. It is the primary institution in which he/she earned his/her first experience. Indeed, family environment denotes the entire fundamental system that transfers entrepreneurial values. The environment in which a person develops can facilitate or inhibit launching a business. It seems that the family environment as a factor that influences and gears career choices, determines the personality and behaviour of the individual and bring besides to financial support a rational network that stimulates entrepreneurial intention. In the family environment, parents' attitude towards the child's curiosity and discovery behaviours, play preferences, parents' interest in their own profession and home environment may have an impact on the professional development of a child. The adoption of entrepreneurial behaviour in the child is only possible through parent's support of the child's discovery and curiosity behaviour, Avdin (2015). The family background affects the intention of entrepreneurship in addition to the choice of profession as well. Children take their parents as role models and exhibit attitudes similar to the attitudes demonstrated by their parents. It is no doubt that mother and father are the key role models to every child. As such, children of parents with family business background are more likely to start their own ventures. Several variables related to family that influence entrepreneurial intent,

***Corresponding Author: Nwachukwu, Udoka Lawrence**

Department of Business Management and Entrepreneurship Studies, Faculty of Management Sciences, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria.

among other such variables are: gender (Joona, 2017); age (Liang *et al.*, 2018; Velilla *et al.*, 2018); marital status (Saridakis *et al.*, 2018); parenthood (Boniface 2019; Lim 2019) and family income (Molina *et al.*, 2016). According to Georgescu and Herman (2020), researchers found that social influence via parents is an essential determinant of entrepreneurial career decisions. Thus, parental roles within the family business, observed from an early age, influence “the children’s attitude towards becoming self-employed themselves”, thus entrepreneurial intention. Entrepreneurial intention (EI), defined as “desires to own or start a business” [Georgescu and Herman (2020); Bae *et al.* (2014). Theoretical and empirical studies point out that intentionality is a central concept in understanding the reasons for individuals’ careers (Georgescu and Herman (2020); Franco *et al.*, (2010). In particular, entrepreneurial intention is considered a key aspect that explains the determination to start a business or to become self-employed. Matthews & Moser, (1996) in Ranwala, (2016), state that “the most salient factor for entry into an entrepreneurial career remains the parental role model”. It was based on this premise that this study effect of family background on entrepreneurial intention of final year students in state university of medical and applied sciences, Enugu

Objectives of Study

The general objective of this study was to determine the effect of family background and apprenticeship on entrepreneurial intention among young adults within southeast, Nigeria.

However the specific objectives were to:

- i. Determine the effect of family income level on the entrepreneurial intention students.
- ii. Ascertain the effect of large family size on the entrepreneurial intention of students.

Concept of Entrepreneurial Intention

The word intention has originated from the field of psychology. It refers to the tendency of an individual to respond to the object of his or her attitude, which is the early psychological manifestation of the choice of future action [Ajzen and Fishbein, (1975); Jing, Subadrah and Walton, (2022)]. Entrepreneurial intention represents the individual and/or of a group of persons’ intentions to create a new business/idea. Such an intention is a conscious mental state that precedes the action and directs attention toward the goal of establishing a new business (Saude, Hermozilha and Borrero, 2020). According to Cuong (2018) in Tkachev and Kolvereid (1999) defines entrepreneurial intention as one’s willingness in undertaking entrepreneurial activity, or in other words becoming self-employed. Entrepreneurial intention indicates the effort that a person makes to carry out entrepreneurial behaviour (Molina-Sanchez and Garcia, 2020). Entrepreneurial intention may be defined as a position to owning a business or becoming self-employed. It is considered as personal orientations which might lead to venture creation (Huq, Huque and Rana, 2016). Entrepreneurship is increasingly valued across the globe and as the wave of entrepreneurship continues to sweep the world. Entrepreneurial activity is an important driving force for a country’s long-term economic development and a transformation form of innovation. It requires a dynamic transformation that combines imagination, transformation and creativity to provide new ways for corporate profits and

achieve economic success, while also delivering social value and jobs (Kuratko, 2005 in Jing, Subadrah and Walton, (2022). According to Halliru, Yusri, Umar and Abdullahi (2021) the concept of entrepreneurship is elusive, that is difficult to define and taking various meanings as it is viewed differently by different scholars with regard to the context it is employed for. For example the psychologist (behaviourist) sees it as “the need for achievement, perceived locus control, and risk-taking propensity”. The economist looks at it as bringing together the factors of production (land, labour, capital and entrepreneur) and bearing the risk of buying at certain price and selling at uncertain price. While the sociologist views it as the ability to recognise and act upon market opportunities in order to provide social services. Entrepreneurship is the act of creating a business or businesses while bearing all the risks with the hope of making profit, Nicole (2022). Mehmet, (2017), opined that there are two mainstream in conceptualizations of entrepreneur and entrepreneurship. The first stream strongly links entrepreneurship with the behaviour of risk taking. This occurs when a person, group of persons or a business firm assumes risk in hope of making profit. The second stream underlines innovative behaviour of entrepreneur. Behaviour of risk taking and innovation are associated with each other and complimentary, a combination of these two streams to conceptualize entrepreneurship seems to be appropriate. Entrepreneurship involves the ability and mentality to start an enterprise either for producing goods or rendering services for a profit motive. Entrepreneurship is the act of being an entrepreneur. The word ‘entrepreneur’ can be taken to mean an individual who undertakes innovations, finance a business in an effort to transform innovations into economic goods. The result of one effort in entrepreneurship may be the creation of a new organisation or revitalising an existing organisation in response to a perceived opportunity, (Nwafor and Eguruze, 2022).

Theoretical Framework- Ajzen’s Theory Theory of Planned Behaviour

This study is anchored on the theory of planned behaviour. The theory mainly explains personal attitude, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control are the predictor of intentions (Jing, Subadrah and Walton, 2022). These three variables—personal attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control are three conceptually independent determinants of intention towards entrepreneurship, (Ajzen, 1991). A person’s attitude towards behaviour represents evaluation of the behaviour and its outcome. Attitude towards entrepreneurship refers to the personal desirability in becoming an entrepreneur (Kolvereid, 1996).

METHODOLOGY

This study adopted survey research design. This design best suits this study because it involves the process of gathering data from a target population through questionnaire and subjecting such data to statistical analysis for the purpose of drawing empirical generalizations. The population of this study comprises of all final year students in state university of medical and applied sciences, Enugu. Applying census sampling, those who were reachable as the time of questionnaire distribution were 179 and this represent the sample size for this study. Primary data were collected majorly through the use of questionnaires which were administered to

the respondents. A total of one hundred and seventy nine (179) questionnaires were distributed, out of which one hundred and seventy five (175) completed and returned; however, five (5) out of the returned questionnaires were disqualified because they were not duly completed as required. Thus, the number of questionnaire used for this purpose of analysis was one hundred and seventy (170). Data collected for the study were analyzed using frequency counts, simple percentage (%), mean score (\bar{x}), and the likert's five point questionnaires. Chi-square, a non-parametric statistical test was used to analyse the hypotheses, which will be tested at 0.05 level of significance. The formula for chi-square distribution formula is given as;

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum(O_f - E_f)}{E_f}$$

Where: X^2 = Chi Square

\sum = Summation

O_f = Observed frequencies

E_f = Expected frequencies

The decision rule states that, if X^2 calculated is greater than X^2 tabulated reject H_0 and accept H_1 otherwise reject H_1 and accept H_0 .

RESULTS

Table 1. Questionnaire Distribution Analysis

S/N	Questionnaire	Number	Percentage %
1	Questionnaire Administered	179	100
2	Questionnaire Returned	175	97.8
3	Questionnaire Unreturned	4	2.2
4	Questionnaire Rejected	5	2.8
5	Questionnaire Used for Analysis	170	95.0

Source: Field Survey (2022)

From table 1, the total number of questionnaire administered was 179 showing 100%; 175 copies of questionnaire were filled and returned representing 97.8%; 4 copies of questionnaire representing 2.2% were not returned; 5 copies of the questionnaires representing 2.8% were no properly filled, thus were rejected. The 170 copies of questionnaires representing 95.0% that were correctly filled and returned were finally used for analysis.

Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Test of Hypothesis One

H_0 : Family income has no effect on entrepreneurial intention of students.

Table 2. Respondents Selection

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	73	42.9
Female	97	57.1
Total	170	100
Age (Years)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
16-20	39	22.9
21-25	63	37.1
26-30	41	24.1
30& Above	27	15.9
Total	170	100
Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Single	143	84.1
Married	27	15.9
Total	170	100
Department	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Clinical Medicine & Dentistry	8	4.7
Basic Medical Sciences	31	18.2
Health Sciences	38	22.4
Pharmacy	15	8.8
Engineering & Built Environment	35	20.6
Natural & Applied Sciences	43	25.3
Total	170	100

Source: Field Survey, (2023)

Table 3. Questionnaire Construct

S/N	Question Items	SA (%)	A (%)	UD (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Total	Mean	Remark
1	Entrepreneurship classes are well tutored in my institution	48 (28.2)	71 (41.8)	25 (14.7)	21 (12.4)	5 (2.9)	646	3.8	Agree
2	Entrepreneurship stimulates economic growth	134 (78.8)	36 (21.2)	-	-	-	814	4.8	Strongly Agree
3	I have intention to create a new business/idea	10 (5.9)	25 (14.7)	45 (26.5)	74 (43.5)	16 (9.4)	449	2.6	Undecided
4	Family income affects entrepreneurial intention of students	-	20 (11.8)	52 (30.9)	67 (39.4)	31 (18.2)	401	2.4	Disagree
5	Gender is not an obstacle in becoming an entrepreneur	45 (26.5)	74 (43.5)	27 (15.9)	15 (8.8)	9 (5.3)	641	3.8	Agree
6	Family can change my perception of becoming an entrepreneur	17 (10)	34 (20)	83 (48.8)	26 (15.3)	10 (5.9)	532	3.1	Undecided
7	Large family size inhibits entrepreneurial intention	-	10 (5.9)	54 (31.8)	76 (44.7)	30 (17.6)	384	2.3	Disagree

The above hypothesis will be tested using the data from question 4

$$\text{Expected frequency (Ef)} = \frac{N}{n} = \frac{170}{5} = 34$$

Decision Rule: Reject null hypotheses (H_0) if calculated value of chi-square (X^2) is greater than the critical value of 0.05 level of significance and accept the alternate (H_1). If otherwise, accept H_0 and reject H_1

At 0.05 level of significance and 4 degree of freedom, X^2 calculated is greater than X^2 tabulated. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected, while accepting the alternative hypothesis, thus, family income has effect on entrepreneurial intention of students.

Hypothesis Two- H_0 : Large family size has no effect entrepreneurial intention of students.

Hypothesis two was tested using the data gotten from question 7

$$\text{Expected frequency (Ef)} = \frac{N}{n} = \frac{170}{5} = 34$$

Decision Rule: Reject null hypotheses (H_0) if calculated value of chi-square (X^2) is greater than the critical value of 0.05 level of significance and accept the alternate (H_1). If otherwise, accept H_0 and reject H_1

At 0.05 level of significance and 4 degree of freedom, X^2 calculated is greater than X^2 tabulated. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected, while accepting the alternative hypothesis, thus, large family size has effect on entrepreneurial intention of students.

Summary of Findings

Based on the results, the following findings were made:

- i. Entrepreneurship stimulates economic growth.
- ii. Family income has effect on entrepreneurial intention of students.
- iii. Gender is not an obstacle in becoming an entrepreneur.
- iv. Large family size has effect on entrepreneurial intention of students.

Recommendation

The following recommendations were made:

- i. Parents should train up their children to become self-reliance and not coarce them into a particular career outside their wills.
- ii. NUC, NBTE and other tertiary board should ensure that those handling entrepreneurship education courses are qualified lecturers.
- iii. Institutions should constantly organize practical and put in place functional entrepreneurship projects.
- iv. Government should intensify support for entrepreneurs as this will encourage students to become one.
- v. Students should avail themselves of every opportunity offered them to become independent during their studentship.

Conclusion

This study was aimed at determining the effect of family background on entrepreneurial intention of final year students in state university of medical and applied sciences, Igbo-eno Enugu. Primary data were collected from sampled final year students of the institution. Data collected for the study were analyzed using frequency counts, simple percentage (%), mean score (x), and the likert's five point questionnaires. Chi-square, a non-parametric statistical test was used to analyse the hypotheses, which was tested at 0.05 level of significance. From the findings of the study, recommendations were given and it is hoped that if implemented, our nation will witness economic growth.

REFERENCES

- Adekunle, S.O. and David, J. (2014). Entrepreneurship Education in Nigerian Universities: A Tool for National Transformation. *Asia Pacific Journal of Educators and Education*, Vol. 29, 155–175, 2014 © Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia, 2014
- Ahiauazu, A. (2010). Entrepreneurship and economic development in Nigeria: The way forward. *Books Africa* (vol. 1, pp, 278–296). Retrieved from <http://www.worldsustainable.org/index.php/books/africa/volume-1/519-augustine>
- Afolabi, M.O.; Kareem, F.A.; Okubanjo, I.O.; Ogunbanjo, O.A. and Aninkan, O.O. (2017). Effect of Entrepreneurship Education on Self-Employment Initiatives among Nigerian Science & Technology Students. *Journal of Education and Practice*. ISSN 2222-1735 (Paper) ISSN 2222-288X (Online) Vol.8, No.15, 2017. www.iiste.org
- Ajzen, I. (1991). The theory of planned behavior. *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 50(2), 179-211.
- Ajzen, I., & Fishbein, M. (1975). A Bayesian analysis of attribution processes. *Psychological Bulletin*, 82(2), 261-277. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1037/h0076477>.
- Alawamleh, M.; Yara, H.F. and Kamal, J.A. (2023). Entrepreneurship challenges: the case of Jordanian start-ups. *Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship* (2023) 12:21 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13731-023-00286-z>
- Baah-Boateng, W. (2018). Jobless growth is Ghana's biggest youth challenges. A *Blog Post*. Retrieved August 23rd, 2019 <http://acetforafrica.org/highlights/jobless-growth-is-ghanas-biggest-youth-challenge/>
- Bae, T.J.; Qian, S.; Miao, C.; Fiet, J.O. (2014). The relationship between entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurial intentions: A meta-analytic review. *Entrep.Theory Pr.* 2014, 38, 217–254. [CrossRef]
- Boniface, J. (2019). Does having children affect women's entrepreneurship decision? Evidence from Nigeria. *Review of the economics of the household*, 17, 843-860.
- Cooney, T.M. (2012). November. Entrepreneurship skills for growth-orientated businesses. In Report for the Workshop on 'Skills Development for SMEs and Entrepreneurship (Vol. 28).
- Cuong, N. (2018). Demographic factors, family background and prior self-employment on entrepreneurial intention. *Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research* (2018) 8:10 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40497-018-0097-3>

- Franco, M.; Haase, H.; Lautenschläger, A. (2010). Students' entrepreneurial intentions: An inter-regional comparison. *Educ. Train.* 2010, 52, 260–275. [CrossRef]
- Georgescu, M. and Herman E. (2020). The Impact of the Family Background on Students' Entrepreneurial Intentions: An Empirical Analysis. *Sustainability* 2020, 12. Received: 29 April 2020; Accepted: 9 June 2020; Published: 11 June 2020
- Halliru, S., Yusri, K. and Abdullahi, M. (2021). The concept of entrepreneurship. Education at the intersection of globalization and technology. DOI:10.5772/intechopen.94857
- Isaac, K.B.(2023). Adult education and entrepreneurship: getting young adults involved. *Biney Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship* (2023) 12:13 Page 2 of 27
- Jing, L.; Subadrah, M. and Walton, W. (2022). Effects Of Family Background And Entrepreneurship Competition On Students' Entrepreneurial Intention In China. *Humanities and Social Sciences Letters.* 2022 Vol. 10, No. 4, pp. 557-568 ISSN(e): 2312-4318 ISSN(p): 2312-5659 DOI: 10.18488/73.v10i4.3185© 2022.
- Joona, P. (2017). Are mothers of young children more likely to be self-employed? The case of Sweden. *Review of Economics of the household*, 15, 330-317.
- Kolvreid, L. (1996), 'Organizational employment versus self-employment: reasons for career choice intentions. *Entrepreneurship: Theory & Practice*, 20, 23–31.
- Kuratko, D. F. (2005). The emergence of entrepreneurship education: Development, trends, and challenges. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, 29(5), 577-597. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-6520.2005.00099.x>.
- Liang, J.; Wang, H. and Lazear, E. (2018). Demographics and entrepreneurship. *Journal of Political Economy*, 126, S140-S196
- Lim, K. (2019). Do American mothers use self-employment as a flexible work alternative? *Review of Economics of the household*, 17, 805-842.
- Lindner, J. (2020). *Entrepreneurial learning for TVET institutions: A practical guide*. UNESCO-UNEVO.
- Matthews, C. H., & Moser, S. B. (1996). Longitudinal investigation of the impact of family background and gender on interest in small firm ownership. *Journal of Small Business Management*, 32, 29-43.
- Mehmet, E. (2017). Entrepreneurship. In book: encyclopaedia of information science and technology. Edition 4. IGI Global. DOI: 10.4018/9785225-77669.ch034
- Mei, H., Ma, Z. C., Zhan, Z. H., & Jiao, S. W. (2016). The effect of family business tradition on college students' entrepreneurial intention: A moderated mediating effect. *Higher Education Exploration*, 32(5), 108-117.
- Moindi, R.M. (2023). Role of the Family in Fostering Student's Entrepreneurial Intention. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5772/intechopen.110026>
- Molina, J.A., Velilla, J and Ortega, R. (2016). The decision to become an entrepreneur in Spain: the role of household finances. *International Journal of entrepreneurship*, 20, 57-73
- Molina-Sanchez, R. and Garcia, P.H. (2020). Study of Competences Required for Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation. *Handbook of Research on Increasing the competitiveness of SMEs* (pp. 493-515). IGI Global. <https://dio.org/10.4018/978-1-5225-942543>.
- Nicole, M.F. (2022). What is entrepreneurship? Entrepreneur definition and meaning. www.oberlo.com. Article publication.
- Nwafor, B.C., & Eguruz, E.S. (2022). Entrepreneurial Intention Without a Supportive and Enabling Leadership Environment Exacerbates Global Poverty: A Perspective from Young People and Community Organisations. *Business Ethics and Leadership*, 6(3), 92-104. [http://doi.org/10.21272/bel.6\(3\).92-104.2022](http://doi.org/10.21272/bel.6(3).92-104.2022).
- Ranwala, R. S. (2016). Family Background, Entrepreneurship Specific Education and Entrepreneurial Knowledge in Venture Creation. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, Volume 6, Issue 9, September 2016 495 ISSN 2250-3153 www.ijsrp.org
- Rauner, F. and Smith, E. (2010). Rediscovering apprenticeship: research findings of the International Network on Innovative Apprenticeship (INAP). Paris, UNEVO 2010.
- Saridakis, G., Mohammed, A., Garcia-Iglesias, J. and Munoz-Torres, R. (2018). Economy and divorces: their impact over time on the self-employment rates in Spain. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 39, 422-435.
- Saude, S.; Hermozilha, P. and Borrero, J. (2020). The influence of the local ecosystem of entrepreneurial intentions. *Handbook of research on approaches to alternative entrepreneurship opportunities* (pp. 105-128). IGI Global. <https://dio.org/10.4018/978-1-7998-1981-3-ch006>.
- Shittu, A.I. and Dosunmu, Z.O. (2014). Family Background and Entrepreneurial Intention of Fresh Graduates in Nigeria. *Journal of Poverty, Investment and Development – An Open Access International Journal*, Vol.5 2014
- Tkachev, A., & Kolvreid, L. (1999). Self-employment intentions among Russian students. *Entrepreneurship & Regional Development*, 11(3), 269–280.
- Velilla, J., Molina, J. and Ortega, R. (2018). Why older workers become entrepreneurs? International evidence using fuzzy set methods. *The Journal of Economics of Ageing*, 12, 88-95.
- Vracheva, V. and Stoyneva, I. (2020). Does gender equality bridge or buffer the entrepreneurship gender gap? A cross-country investigation. *International journal of entrepreneurial behaviour and research*, Vol. 26 No. 8, pp. 1827-1844. <https://dio.org/10.1108/IJEBR-30-2020-0144>
