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NASCENT NECESSITY ENTREPRENEUR WELL-BEING AS AN ANTECEDENT TO ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION AND START-UP BEHAVIOR: A LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF GENDER DIFFERENCES (SUMMARY)

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≈ SUMMARY ≈

**NASCENT NECESSITY ENTREPRENEUR WELL-BEING AS AN ANTECEDENT TO
ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION AND START-UP BEHAVIOR:
A LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF GENDER DIFFERENCES**

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Principal Topic

New venture creation can be stressful as nascent entrepreneurs deal with the uncertainty associated with amassing the necessary resources to establish their ventures. This can lead to poor well-being which may adversely affect their entrepreneurial intention and start-up behavior. *Necessity* nascent entrepreneurs face even greater stress and poorer well-being levels because starting a business may be an imperative. In the absence of meaningful employment, this may be the only legal means for elevating themselves and their families beyond their poverty-related circumstances. In such situations, women often face additional pressures particularly where their entrepreneurial exploits may be linked to survival of the family unit.

This research examines to what extent there are subjective well-being differences in women versus men necessity nascent entrepreneurs and whether changes in well-being are associated with changes in entrepreneurial intention. Better understanding the factors that inhibit or enhance entrepreneurial intention and venture start-up behavior in necessity contexts is an essential step toward alleviating poverty. Women are often subjugated to lower societal positions in developing economies; hence, understanding gender-related differences as they pertain to creating new ventures can help to facilitate the success of women and men necessity nascent entrepreneurs.

Method

The research adopts a repeated measures longitudinal design involving an entrepreneurship training intervention. Three waves of data were collected (baseline-T1; post-intervention-T2; and end-of-study-T3). There were 146 women and 141 men participants.

Results

Well-being differences existed between women and men at T1, T2, and T3: Women had lower well-being levels than men at baseline and higher well-being levels at T2 and T3. At T3, women's well-being was significantly higher than at T1 whereas men's well-being was significantly lower. A relationship existed between well-being and entrepreneurial intention for both groups across the study. Interestingly, at T3, women demonstrated a negative relationship between well-being and start-up behavior, men demonstrated no relationship between these two variables at all. For both groups, entrepreneurial intention levels varied across the study with a significant relationship existing between entrepreneurial intention and start-up behavior at T3.

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