THE RELATIONSHIP OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENT AND START-UP BEHAVIOR TO THE GENERAL HEALTH PERCEPTIONS OF WOMEN AND MEN NASCENT NECESSITY ENTREPRENEURS DURING THE NEW VENTURE CREATION PROCESS (SUMMARY)

Noel J. Lindsay  
*University of Adelaide, Australia*, noel.lindsay@adelaide.edu.au

Wendy Lindsay  
*University of Adelaide, Australia*

Peter Balan  
*University of South Australia, Australia*

Eva Balan-Vnuk  
*University of Adelaide, Australia*

Recommended Citation  
Lindsay, Noel J.; Lindsay, Wendy; Balan, Peter; Balan-Vnuk, Eva; and Kropp, Fredric (2015) "THE RELATIONSHIP OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENT AND START-UP BEHAVIOR TO THE GENERAL HEALTH PERCEPTIONS OF WOMEN AND MEN NASCENT NECESSITY ENTREPRENEURS DURING THE NEW VENTURE CREATION PROCESS (SUMMARY)," *Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research*: Vol. 35 : Iss. 7 , Article 5.  
Available at: https://digitalknowledge.babson.edu/fer/vol35/iss7/5

This Summary is brought to you for free and open access by the Entrepreneurship at Babson at Digital Knowledge at Babson. It has been accepted for inclusion in Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research by an authorized editor of Digital Knowledge at Babson. For more information, please contact digitalknowledge@babson.edu.
SUMMARY

THE RELATIONSHIP OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENT AND START-UP BEHAVIOR TO THE GENERAL HEALTH PERCEPTIONS OF WOMEN AND MEN NASCENT NECESSITY ENTREPRENEURS DURING THE NEW VENTURE CREATION PROCESS

Noel Lindsay, University of Adelaide, Australia
Wendy Lindsay, University of Adelaide, Australia
Peter Balan, University of South Australia, Australia
Eva Balan-Vnuk, University of Adelaide, Australia
Fredric Kropp, University of Adelaide, Australia & Middlebury Institute of International Studies, Monterey, USA

Principal Topic

Good health is something that most people take for granted. Unfortunately, those in developing countries tend to demonstrate poorer health. Personal health can be both a significant negative antecedent that suppresses entrepreneurial intent as well as a significant negative consequent flowing from the stresses associated with the new venture process. This research explores this latter issue in terms of to what extent entrepreneurial intent and start-up behavior are related to women and men nascent necessity entrepreneurs’ general health perceptions in a developing country.

Method

Using a repeated-measures longitudinal design over 4.5 years with a 12 month entrepreneurship training intervention program during Year 1, we investigated the entrepreneurial intent, start-up behavior, and general health perceptions of 146 women nascent necessity entrepreneurs and 141 men nascent necessity entrepreneurs. Data was collected from townships surrounding Johannesburg at three points in time: T1 (baseline); T2 (after the intervention); and T3 (end-of-study).

Results and Implications

We identified significant differences between the two groups. We found, for example, that men had better general health perceptions than women immediately prior to commencement of the project (T1). This is consistent with the literature where women typically suffer from poorer health in developing countries. However, at T2, men's health perceptions significantly declined suggesting that their efforts in developing their new venture ideas had an adverse effect on their health perceptions. In contrast, women's health perceptions did not change from when they started at T1. At T3, men's health perceptions increased over T2 but were actually less than their health perceptions at baseline. Women’s health perceptions at T3, however, had increased significantly over both T1 and T2. Women often are the most disadvantaged in developing countries. Even if they can gain employment, this is often of a low status which can cause stress. We interpret these results as women seeing upside in starting their own businesses as they perceive these will reduce stress, help to elevate their status, and provide them with a means for independence not previously possible.

CONTACT: Noel Lindsay; noel.lindsay@adelaide.edu.au; (T): +61-8-83137422; Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Innovation Centre, The University of Adelaide, Australia SA 5005.