

Determinants of the Intensity of Entrepreneurial Intentions of Alabama Women

Abstract

Entrepreneurial intentions have been shown to be a good predictor of entrepreneurial activity, and consequently have attracted the attention of many scholars and policy makers. Because entrepreneurial activity provides an economic engine for job growth, it is crucial to identify what drives entrepreneurial intentions. Extant literature has focused on such factors as the availability of capital, governmental support, individual networks, and culture. Our study empirically investigates the expected linkage between attitudinal and structural factors and the intensity of one's intention to start a business for women entrepreneurs in the state of Alabama. Our results from a survey of 1200 women intending to start a business in Alabama reveal that significant attitudinal and structural barriers remain for women entrepreneurs. We conclude our study with implications for women entrepreneurs, policy makers and for future research.