



# **An Analysis Of The Determinants Of Entrepreneurship Intention Among Undergraduate's In The Delta State-Owned Colleges Of Education And Polytechnics**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study aims to explore the impact of gender, age, personal attitude and perceived behavioral control and their entrepreneurial intention among undergraduates in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics. A total of 616 undergraduate in the selected tertiary institutions were randomly selected and served as the respondents of this study. Descriptive statistics and regression analysis were utilised to analyse the data collected. Findings showed that perceived behavioural control has a significant positive effect ( $\beta = 0.569$ ,  $t = 8.453$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ) on the intention to become entrepreneurs. Descriptive statistics and regression analysis were employed to analyse the data collected. Findings showed that perceived behavioural control has a significant positive effect ( $\beta = 0.115$ ;  $p\text{-value} = 0.01$ ) on the intention to become entrepreneurs, General Attitude was also positive and significant effect on students entrepreneurship intention with coefficient ( $\beta = 0.856$ ,  $t = 8.818$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). However, age ( $\beta = -0.263$ ,  $t = -1.052$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ), and gender ( $\beta = -0.169$ ,  $t = 0.463$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) were not significant and negative. The study recommended that students attitude in entrepreneurship training should be improved upon with government creating a more enabling environment.

**Keywords:** Entrepreneurial Intention, Age, Gender, Attitude, Perceived Behavioural Control,

## **INTRODUCTION**

Recently, an important amount of scholar studies has highlighted the importance of promoting entrepreneurship to stimulate economic development and employment generation (Liñan and Rueda-Cantuche, 2011, Cano 2017)). In the same vain Nwankwo et al (2012) opined that entrepreneurship plays a critical role the economic growth and development of developed economies and others have made most developing economies to adjust their developmental concept and plans to accommodate entrepreneurship and thus set the stage for new enterprise development which in their opinion, will serve as a panacea to tackling their economic problems. Since entrepreneurship education has been considered one of the key instruments to increase the entrepreneurial attitudes of both potential and nascent entrepreneurs it has become pertinent to carry out an investigation in order to promote them. As such, there is a need to examine antecedents for entrepreneurial intentions among undergraduates in Nigerian universities.

Entrepreneurship is has being proven to be a very vital tool to any country, as its activities will help in job creation for the society which subsequently will lead to a reduction of unemployment rate (Jalil, et al 2022: Abdullah Azhar et al., 2010). The level of unemployment in Nigeria and in the Sub Saharan African has increased over the years. Recently, unemployment has become a serious issues in Nigeria due to the arising of it rate especially among the graduates.

By 2022, it is projected that Nigeria will experience an unemployment rate of 33 percent, with individuals aged 25 to 34 facing an even higher rate of 37.2 percent. Despite the annual influx of graduates from Nigerian tertiary institutions, the job market remains limited, leaving only a handful of opportunities for them. Regrettably, the government has not succeeded in generating a sufficient number of jobs to support the unemployed youth in the nation.

According to Tekedia (2023) the level of unemployment of youth across Nigeria has reached an alarming rate and thus calls for serious concern as these unemployed youths have little or nothing to contribution to the economic growth of the country. World Bank data available showed that Nigeria in the year 2020, approximately 60% of its youth are unemployed. It also reported that this unemployment rate keeps increasing with the high turnout of graduates from the country tertiary institutions on a yearly basis. More recently, Nigeria's economy has been nose diving with no improvement in site, this is a very disturbing situation since high unemployment rate in any country is believed to retards the economic growth, thus one percent increase in the unemployment rate leads to about 11.56 percent decrease in the Gross Domestic Product.

In view of this situations various government in Nigeria has created different programs and incentives is being developed by the government to promote the youth especially the graduates to grab the opportunity to become an entrepreneur such as The Entrepreneur Development Programme, Young Entrepreneur Fund, Graduates Entrepreneur Fund, and even the Nigeria Universities Commission have entrepreneurship studies a compulsory course for every undergraduate student either in the national public and private university. The intention of an individual to become an entrepreneur is related to the desire and decision to take the opportunity or chance to open his/her own business. (Rasli et al., 2013; Jalil, et al 2020). Entrepreneurs are drawn to the prospect of entrepreneurship due to the enticing combination of pleasurable risk, high income potential, the demanding nature of the work, and the freedom it offers in all aspects of running a business, however Barringer and Ireland (2010) found that the intention to become an entrepreneur appear when there are chances to accomplish their personal goals and pursue their own ideas. Numerous studies have been conducted to identify the variables that may impact young individuals' inclination towards becoming entrepreneurs. The cultivation of a positive attitude towards entrepreneurship can be achieved through training, skill enhancement, and education. This process can significantly influence the establishment of businesses and help overcome the obstacles that hinder an individual's decision to pursue entrepreneurship. (Paco et al., 2011). There are three primary factors that influence one's intention: personal attitude towards the outcomes of behavior, perceived social norm, and perceived behavioral control. Attitude refers to an individual's overall evaluation and assessment of behavior . (Ajzen, 1991 in Jail et al 2022). While, Mahmoud and Muharam (2014) stated that behavioural control can be seen as the ability of one to perceive, keep, recover, react and assess information. Behavioural events can be predictable from a person's actions and plans to carry out the behaviour under evaluation. There are three categories of prominent viewpoints, namely: behavioural beliefs, which are expected to affect attitudes; normative viewpoints that shape the essential elements of subjective norms; and control beliefs, which present the root for perceptions of behaviour control.

**Statement of the Problem/Justification:**

One of the most severe socio-economic problems, threatening developing countries like Nigeria, is youth unemployment. The tertiary students are future contributors to any country's economy, however most university students have the skill, knowledge and talent for start-up businesses, but they chose not to be self-employed notably due to lack of desire, encouragement, confidence, and lastly but not the least an enabling environment. Being an entrepreneur with one of these options has invigorated researchers in exploring the influence and determinants of entrepreneurial intention amongst students in tertiary institutions regarding their involvement in entrepreneurial activities at the 300 or 400 levels where it is compulsory to be involvement in entrepreneurship.

The 2016/17 GEM Global Report showed that entrepreneurial intentions tend to be the highest among factor-driven economies and lowest among innovation driven economies. Given that a significant challenge faced by Nigeria is chronically high rates of unemployment and underemployment, the persistent trend of low entrepreneurial intention is of concern because every graduates desires to be

gainfully employed instead of been an employer of labour, and this is largely due to non-favourable business climate. The high rate of unemployment amongst undergraduate of tertiary institutions in Nigeria has become a national concern as a number of graduates that joins the job market increases every year. The promotion of youth employment has become one of the main priorities of the Nigerian government. Based on these present realities, this study aims to investigate the entrepreneurial intentions (EI) of undergraduate students specifically and to make recommendations for the creation of the conditions fostering entrepreneurial intentions

### **Objective of the Study**

The primary objective of this study is to investigate the determinants of entrepreneurship intention among undergraduates in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics.

### **Research Questions**

This study was guided by the following research questions: -

- 1) What are the levels of general attitude component of the undergraduate's towards entrepreneurship intention in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics?
- 2) What are the levels of perceived behavioural control component of the undergraduate's towards entrepreneurship intention in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics?
- 3) What are the levels perception of the undergraduate's towards entrepreneurship intention in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics?
- 4) Is there any differences in the mean perception between the undergraduate's towards entrepreneurship intention in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics?
- 5) Is perceived behavioural control, General attitude, age and gender significantly affects the expressed levels of entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate's in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics?

### **Research Hypotheses**

The following three null hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance.

**H0<sub>1</sub>:** There is no significant difference in the mean perception of undergraduates towards entrepreneurship intention in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics the tertiary institutions.

**H0<sub>2</sub>:** There is no significant joint contribution of the independent variables (age, gender, general attitude and perceived behavioural control) as predictor of entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate's in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics.

**H0<sub>3</sub>:** There is no significant relative contributions of each of the independent variables (age, gender, general attitude and perceived behavioural control) as predictor of entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate's in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics.

## **Theoretical Framework and Review of Related Literature**

### **Theoretical Framework**

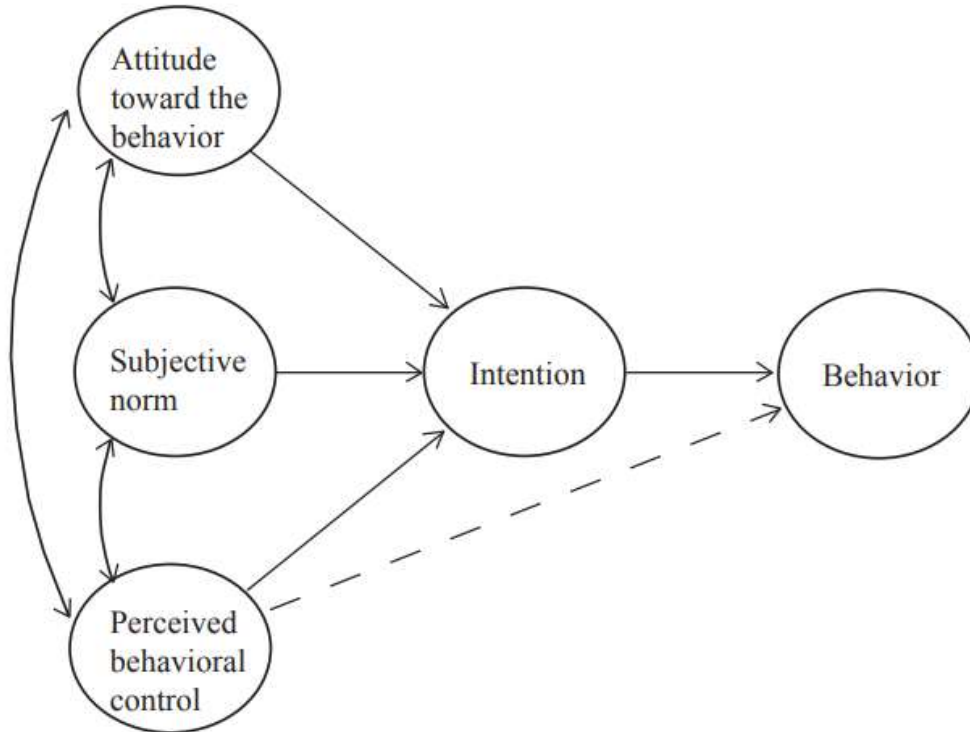
The theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) which is considered most advanced intention model to examine the impact intentional impact on entrepreneurial behaviour. This is widely recognized theoretical model that significantly emphasizes on the relationship between behaviour and intention. Many researchers have used this approach (TPB) and recognized it as a valuable theory for investigating entrepreneurial intention and it is based on the Ajzens.

### **Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB)**

The theory of planned behaviour was developed to anticipate and analyse behaviour in different contexts. Theory of planned behaviour claim that personality traits and attitudes can indirectly impact on some behaviours impressing factors closer to the action in question (Ajzen, 1991). Intention predict the degree of endeavour how an individual wants to make to execute that behaviour (Entrialgo & Iglesias, 2016). People generally tent have previous planning and intention on an action whether it should execute or not (Ajzen 2002). Therefore, some specific behaviour needs to develop proper explanation, for example decision to start a business or being entrepreneur needs explanation that are nearest to the behaviour in action. The theory of planned behaviour provides a compatible framework that offers a good prediction

and better understanding of entrepreneurial intention. Theory of planned behaviour consists of three main indicators that are considered as reasons to shape individual's intentions and behaviour. These predictors are (1) attitudes towards behaviour, (2) subjective norms and (3) perceived behavioural control.

### Theory of Planned Behavior



Source: Ajzen (1991), p. 182

#### Attitude toward behaviour

The first indicator that regard positive and negative opinion that a person has for a certain behaviour. Different theories have been developed to explain actions and intentions of individuals (Shaver, 2003). According to Ajzen (2002), “the degree to which a person has a favourable or unfavourable evaluation or appraisal of the behaviour in question”. He also stated that “Intentions are assumed to capture the motivational factors that influence a behaviour; they are indications of how hard people are willing to try, of how much of an effort they are planning to exert, in order to perform the behaviour”.

#### Subjective norms

The second indicators explain how social pressure push people to execute or not execute a specific behaviour. The opinion of others from society such as family, friends, or other close one (teachers, advisors, successful entrepreneurs etc.) are considered to construct the formation of entrepreneurial intention (Kolvereid, 1996).

#### Perceived behaviour control (PBC)

This indicates the ability and capability to execute a specific behaviour (Ajzen, 1987). This predictor reflects to the perceived relative difficulty (or ease) of executing the monitored action. It is required to explain individual's intention and behaviour in different contexts. Kolvereid (1996) and Tkachev & Kolvereid (1999) found in their studies that subjective norms, attitudes toward behaviour, PBC boost the tendency of entrepreneurial intentions. PBC was found in these studies to explore more variations in intention than other two predictors. Generally, three indicators of TPB focus that people become more willing to execute a specific behaviour if they feel positive attitudes to that behaviour.

### **Entrepreneurial Intentions**

In general, Intention is thinking or aim or plan to do something. It is also represented as a commitment to perform an action now or in future (Ahmed, 2020). Also intention is seen as a predictable result channeled by planned actions. The theory of planned behaviour gives emphasis to relations between attitudes and behaviour (Hyder et al, 2011). According to Lerner & Pines, (2011) intentions foresee designed behaviour because behaviour can be premeditated.

From the perspective of entrepreneurs, intention plays a crucial role in establishing an organization and serves as a predictor of sustained entrepreneurial endeavors. This implies that individuals with an entrepreneurial mindset will actively pursue opportunities that they believe will yield the highest profits. Lans et al. (2010) and various other authors in the literature have highlighted three distinct types of intentions related to business creation: classical entrepreneurial intention, substitute entrepreneurial intention, and entrepreneurial intention itself. These different entrepreneurial intentions give rise to diverse learning objectives and specialized requirements among entrepreneurs. Specifically, Entrepreneurial Intention (EI) refers to the aspiration an individual holds to establish a business in the future or the quest for knowledge in order to achieve the goal of creating a venture. Intentionality is a state of mind where attention, actions, experience, and activities are directed towards a particular objective or goal (Zhang et al., 2014). According to a growing body of literature, intentions play a significant role in the decision to start an entrepreneurial venture (Phipps, 2012).

The intentions of an entrepreneur serve as an indication of the level of preparedness and dedication an individual possesses for embarking on an entrepreneurial journey. It also encompasses the cultivation of a mindset that drives the individual towards the goal of establishing a new business venture (Obschonka et al., 2012; Fenech et al., 2018). Consequently, educational institutions should take the initiative to inspire and motivate students by providing them with more motivation and sharing success stories, thereby encouraging them to pursue entrepreneurship in the future.

### **Empirical Review on entrepreneurial intention**

Numerous researchers have studied the concept of entrepreneurial intention, drawing from the theory of planned behaviour to understand the influence of attitudes, social norms, and perceived control on one's inclination towards entrepreneurship (Heuer & Linan, 2013).

According to Fayolle and Liñán (2014), entrepreneurial intention has become a well-established area of study within the field of entrepreneurship. As a result, numerous studies have been conducted on entrepreneurial intentions in both developed and developing economies (Amos & Alex, 2014). While these studies have contributed to the accumulation of knowledge, they have also raised new questions that require further investigation (Fayolle & Liñán, 2014).

Douglas and Fitzsimmons (2013) discovered a correlation between an individual's personal characteristics and their perception of entrepreneurial intentions. This correlation is based on two factors: the entrepreneurial event model and planned behaviour.

Gelard and Saleh (2011) emphasized the hindrance faced by many students in pursuing their entrepreneurial aspirations due to inadequate training. Therefore, academic institutions play a crucial role in encouraging graduates to choose an entrepreneurial career.

Ahamed and Rokhman (2015) proposed that the support provided by the university environment significantly influences the entrepreneurial confidence of university students in various cultural contexts. The study revealed that entrepreneurship education, particularly education that offers technological training, is essential in enhancing entrepreneurs' innovation skills in an increasingly challenging environment.

Asimakopoulos et al (2019) examines the impact of entrepreneurial education on intention to undertake entrepreneurial activity in the future. The study is based on a sample of 208 engineering students. Specifically, we explore the contingent effect of social norms on the relationship between entrepreneurial education and intention to undertake entrepreneurial activity, as well as the role of social norms on the association between entrepreneurial self-efficacy and entrepreneurial intention. The findings indicate that entrepreneurial education is positively associated with the intention to undertake entrepreneurial activity,

in addition to demonstrating a positive moderation effect role of social norms on the relationship between entrepreneurial self-efficacy and entrepreneurial intention.

Bako, et al (2017) explore the entrepreneurial intention of Polytechnic Students in Nigeria with case study of the Federal Polytechnic Ilaro. The effect of Family environment and Nigeria environment was examined and the results indicates parental entrepreneurship skill directly influence students' entrepreneurial intention and that opportunities that exist in Nigeria affect students' entrepreneurial intention

Gender is also believed to play a role identity with the precursors (antecedents) of entrepreneurial intentions by empirically validating the relationship between gender role identity and entrepreneurial intentions. The theoretical frameworks used in the study are the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) and Social Role Theory (SRT) (Ajzen, 1991; Eagly, 1987). The study investigates the mediating role of the constructs of TPB- attitude towards behavior (ATB), perceived behavioral control (PBC) and subjective social norms (SSN) in the relationship between gender role identity (GRI) and entrepreneurial intentions. Furthermore, Phipps (2012) noted that it is essential to study entrepreneurial intentions, or the intentions of engaging in entrepreneurial activities and behavior. in doing this the theory of planned behavior (Ajzen, 1991) provides a parsimonious, highly generalizable and coherent framework that can help in both understanding and predicting different kinds of behavioral intentions which includes the behavioral intentions related to entrepreneurship (Obschonka et al., 2012). Understanding student entrepreneurial intentions is important since at this stage of life, initial steps and actions related to career choices take shape and attitude towards setting up new ventures and engaging in entrepreneurial career can be developed (Shirokova et al., 2016).

#### **The effect of Attitude on entrepreneurial intention**

Attitudes towards the Behaviour Theory of Planned Behaviour explains that there are three factors that influence a person's intention to perform a behaviour, one of which is an attitude. According to Utami. (2017), 29 attitude is a tendency to react effectively in response to the risks that would be faced in a business. The nature of the entrepreneurship process requires that individuals draw on their evaluation of perceived and expected consequences of their actions to exploit economic opportunities (Antonites & Vuuren, 2005; Hansen, et al 2011). Thus, people will form attitudes towards expected results on the basis of their perceptions on anticipated costs or benefits. Attitude towards behaviour relates to the extent of a favourable or unfavourable predisposition towards specific behaviour that an individual has (Schwarz, et al. 2009; Packham, et al 2010).

Similarly Marques, et al (2012) study of secondary school students in Portugal, and found a strong and statistically significant relationship between attitude towards behaviour and the entrepreneurship intention of students. Dohse and Walter (2010); Paço, et al (2011) found that attitude towards the behaviour has direct and positive effects on entrepreneurial intentions. Hence, education and training should focus on changing personal attitudes than providing technical knowledge about business because the effects could be more 30 significant to the process of business creation and to overcome the perceived barriers to entrepreneurship (Paco et al., 2011; Dohse & Walter, 2010).

#### **The effect of Perceived Behavioural Control on entrepreneurial intention**

Mahmoud and Muharam (2014) stated that behavioural control can be seen as the ability of one to perceive, keep, recover, react and assess information. Behavioural events can be predictable from a person's actions and plans to carry out the behaviour under evaluation. There are three categories of prominent viewpoints, namely: behavioural beliefs, which are expected to affect attitudes; normative viewpoints that shape the essential elements of subjective norms; and control beliefs, which present the root for perceptions of behaviour control.

Alhaji (2015) agreed with the above authors when referring to perceived behavioural control that one would establish his wants to embark on a particular task or has the resources to do a particular task or activity. This factor is considered to capture non-motivational factors that influence behaviour.

Anh and Mai (2013:1) advised that the Theory of Planned Behaviour comes from the many aspects of human behaviour that are planned and are, therefore, heralded by intention towards that behaviour. Unlike other models on entrepreneurial intentions, perceived behavioural control offers a faster and related framework that allows one to appreciate and foresee more accurate entrepreneurial intentions by focusing not only on individual factors but on social dynamics as well (Anh & Mai, 2013). Perceived behavioural control is determined by control beliefs concerning the accessibility of factors that can allow or delay the performance of the behaviour. Empirical studies in various fields confirm the Theory of Planned Behaviour's increased predictive ability of behavioural intention following the infusion of the third antecedent to the original two (Fayolle & Gailly, 2015 Fretschner & Weber, 2013). It has been established that the knowledge that an individual has gained in a particular sector and having entrepreneurial role models improve entrepreneurial self-efficacy or perceived behavioural control which, in turn, positively influences entrepreneurial intentions (Uygun & Kasimoglu, 2013)It is worth mentioning that though behavioural intentions are subject to one's attitude, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

This survey research design was shall employed in carrying out this research work. The population of the study was made up of all undergraduate in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics , while the target populations shall be final students of the from the various schools in the institutions mentioned above. The Taro Yamane formula was used to determine the appropriate sample size based on the population at 95% confidence interval and 5% error margin. A sample size of 616 students was used for the analysis through a multistage sampling procedure The research instrument was a well-structured questionnaire, tagged "An Assessment of entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate students "(AAEIUSQ) comprised of two sections (A&B) . Section A of the questionnaire comprised elements requiring respondents to provide demographic data such as, gender, age, and school, while in section B the Likert-type scale was used to gather data on respondents' perceptions on the variables, entrepreneurship intention, attitude towards entrepreneurship, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control, and entrepreneurship education to be used in the study. A four point Likert scale was used for the study and rated as Strongly Agree (SA= 4); Agree (A=3); Disagree (D=2); Strongly Disagree (SD=1).The Cronbach Alpha was suitable because the instrument is sectioned and one time administered. The reliability of the research instrument was found to be 0.925.

The information demographic data were analysed using descriptive statistics while the hypotheses was analysed using the inferential statistics (Multiple regression model and ANOVA). The ordinary Least Square (OLS) technique was utilized in obtaining the numerical estimates of the coefficients of the equation. With regards to entrepreneurship intention, the model is given:

#### ***Models specification***

For this research, the below equations show the relationship between independent variables that influence entrepreneurial intention among students:

$$ENTINT_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1PBC_t + \beta_2GA_t + \beta_3GEN_t + \beta_4AGE_t, \dots \dots \dots (3.2)$$

Where:

ENTINT = Entrepreneurship Intention,

PBC = Perceived Behavioural Control

GA = General Attitude

GEN=Gender

AGE=Age

While "e<sub>t</sub>" is the random error term,

β<sub>0</sub> and β<sub>1</sub>- β<sub>4</sub> are the intercept and slope co-efficient respectively

*Apriori Expectation: b<sub>0</sub>> 0, b<sub>1</sub>>0,*

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Research Questions

**Research Question 1:** *What is the levels of general attitude component of the undergraduate students towards entrepreneurship intention?*

Table 2: General attitude component towards entrepreneurship intention as perceived by the students (N=616)

S/N	Items	Mean	Std. D	Remark
1.	Being an entrepreneur implies more advantages than disadvantages to me.	3.4205	.61168	Agree
2.	Entrepreneurship would present more up than downsides.	3.3912	.60447	Agree
3	A career as entrepreneur is (totally) attractive for me	3.3994	.58956	Agree
4	If I had the opportunity and resources, I would love to start a firm (business).	3.4675	.57219	Agree
5	Being an entrepreneur would entail great satisfactions for me	3.3847	.53468	Agree
	Grand Mean	17.06		
	Normative Mean	12.50		

Source: Field Survey 2023

Table 2 shows results for the general attitude components of the students' towards entrepreneurship intention. The result revealed that the student's general attitude towards entrepreneurship intention is encouraging with the lowest mean of 3.38. Following the benchmark set as criterion for acceptance, of 2.5 , it shows all items considered portray positive general attitude towards entrepreneurship intention . Furthermore revealed that revealed that the normative mean is 12.50 is lower than the grand mean of 17.06 which implies that on a general note general attitude components component of students towards entrepreneurship intention is high in the study area

**Research Question 2:** *What are the levels of perceived behavioural control component of the undergraduate students towards entrepreneurship intention?*

Table 3: Perceived behavioural control component of students towards entrepreneurship intention.

S/N	Items	Mean	Std. D	Remark
1.	Starting a firm and keeping it viable would be easy for me.	3.2841	.53992	Accepted
2.	If I wanted to, I could easily pursue a career as entrepreneur.	3.2955	.57059	Accepted
3	If I tried to start a business, I would have a high chance of being successful.	3.3929	.56299	Accepted
4	I have skills and capabilities to succeed as an entrepreneur	3.3604	.55873	Accepted
5	I am confident that I would succeed if I started my own firm	3.3344	.54566	Accepted
6	I am certain that I can start a firm and keeping it viable. Self-constructed	3.4010	.56448	Accepted
7	I can control the creation process of a new firm.	3.2744	.56545	Accepted
8	The number of events outside my control which could prevent me from being an entrepreneur are very few.	3.2808	.57934	Accepted
9	As entrepreneur, I would have complete control over the situation	3.3036	.59296	Accepted
	Grand Mean	29.9271		
	Normative Mean	22.5		

Source: Field survey 2023

Decision: (i) Agree if the criterion mean value is 2.50 and above and disagree if it is less than 2.50 for all items.

(ii) Generally accepted if grand mean is 12.50 and above, this implies Agreed but if below 12.50 is rejected.



The level of workload was also analysed, the information confirmed that the students in the study area accepted the level of Perceived behavioural control based on the following questions. The result furthermore revealed that revealed that the normative mean is 22.50 is lower than the grand mean of 29.935 which implies that on a general note Perceived behavioural control component of students towards entrepreneurship intention is high in the study area. We therefore could conclude that students have better level perceived behavioural control.

**Research Question 3:** *What are the general perception of the undergraduate students towards entrepreneurship intention?*

Table 3 – Mean and Standard Deviation Analysis of the undergraduate students Response on the level of entrepreneurship intention (N=616).

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation	Remark
I would rather own my own business than earn a higher salary employed by someone else.	3.2256	.73875	Accepted
I would rather own my own business than pursue another promising career.	3.3138	.63865	Accepted
I am willing to make significant personal sacrifices in order to stay in business.	3.3929	.58286	Accepted
I would work somewhere else only long enough to make another attempt to establish my business.	3.3506	.62503	Accepted
My professional goal is to become an entrepreneur.	3.3847	.58409	Accepted
I will make every effort to start and run my own firm (business).	3.4244	.55369	Accepted
I am determined to create a firm (business venture) in the future.	3.4107	.58028	Accepted
I have very seriously thought of starting a firm.	3.3896	.58503	Accepted
I consider it to be very likely that in the future I will be running my own firm.	3.3847	.57568	Accepted
I read books on how to set up a firm.	3.2224	.73973	Accepted
I spend time learning about starting a firm.	3.2256	.69333	Accepted
I attend seminars and conferences that focus on a “start your own business planning.”	3.1688	.74838	Accepted
I participate in seminars that focus on writing a business plan.	3.1364	.75066	Accepted
Grand Mean	43.0302		
Normative Mean	32.5		

Source: Field survey 2023

The result as shown in Table 3 revealed that the 13 items used in measuring the entrepreneurship intention were all accepted. The result furthermore revealed that revealed that the normative mean is 32.50 is lower than the grand mean of 43.03 which implies that on a general note that students entrepreneurship intention is high in the selected institutions. We therefore could conclude that students have a higher level of entrepreneurship intention.

H<sub>01</sub>: There is no significant difference in the mean perception of undergraduates towards entrepreneurship intention in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics the tertiary institutions.

**Table 4:** ANOVA of the mean responses of tertiary students towards entrepreneurship intention.

	Sum of Square	Df	Mean square	F	Sig.
Between groups	664.523	3	221.508	8.734	.000
Within groups	15521.243	612	25.362		
<b>Total</b>	<b>16185.766</b>	<b>615</b>			

Source: Field survey 2023.

The ANOVA statistics on Table 4 revealed that tertiary students differ significantly in their mean responses towards entrepreneurship intention  $F = (3,6127) = 8.734, P = .000$ . The result presented in Table 4 led to the use of Post hoc analysis presented in table 5.

**Post Hoc Tests table 5**

**Multiple Comparisons**

Dependent Variable: Entrepreneurship Intention

Scheffe

(I) Institution	(J) Institution	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.	95% Interval Lower Bound	Confidence Upper Bound
Delta state polytechnic	College of Education , Warri	1.10462	.65575	.418	-.7336	2.9429
Ogwashi-Uku	College of Education Mosogar	2.47075*	.77885	.019	.2874	4.6541
	Delta State Polytechnic Oghara	2.26112*	.46727	.000	.9512	3.5710

\*. The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.

From Table 5 Multiple Comparisons, we can see that students from Delta State polytechnic Ogwash-Uku and those from College of Education , Mosogar showed a significant mean difference of 2.47075, std error 0.77885 and  $P = 0.019$  at the 0.05 level of significance. The same result is also seen in those Delta State polytechnic Oghara with a significant mean difference of 2.26112 , std error 0.46727 and  $p = 0.000$  at also 5% level of significance .

Consequently, we can say that there was a statistically significant difference between the students from Delta State polytechnic Ogwash-Uku , College of Education, Mosogar and Delta State polytechnic Oghara determined by one way ANOVA. Hence, the null hypothesis stated was rejected. Therefore, a Scheffe post hoc test revealed that the tertiary student’s perception significantly in their mean responses on entrepreneurship intention was higher in students from Delta State polytechnic Ogwash-Uku than students from Delta State polytechnic Oghara and College of Education Mosogar.

**Ho<sub>2</sub>:** There is no significant joint contribution of the independent variables (age, gender, general attitude and perceived behavioural control) as predictor of entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate’s in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics.

**Table 6: Summary of regression for the joint contributions of independent variables to the prediction of entrepreneurship intention**

**Model Summary<sup>b</sup>**

1	.570 <sup>a</sup>	.325	.320	4.22997	1.669
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a. Predictors: (Constant), Age, Perceived behavioural control , general attitude Gender,

b. Dependent Variable: Entrepreneurship Intention

**ANOVA<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	5253.358	4	1313.339	73.401	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	10932.409	611	17.893		
	Total	16185.766	615			

a. Dependent Variable: Entrepreneurship Intention

b. . Predictors: (Constant), Age, Perceived behavioural control , general attitude , Gender)

Table 6 above reveals significant combined effect of the independent variables Gender, Age, workload, general attitude and Perceived behavioural control as a factor responsible for entrepreneurship intention. The result yielded a coefficient of multiple regressions of .570, multiple R-square = 0.325 and Adjusted R square =0.320. This suggests that the four (4) factors when combined accounted for 0.325% (adj.R2=.320) variation in the prediction of entrepreneurship intention in the tertiary school in the area. The other factors accounting for 67.50% variation in the prediction of entrepreneurship intention are beyond the scope of this study. The ANOVA result from the regression analysis shows that there was a significant combined effect of the independent variables on the dependent variable,  $F(4, 611) = 73.401$ ,  $P < 0.05$

**Ho<sub>3</sub>:** There is no significant relative contributions of each of the independent variables (age, gender, general attitude and perceived behavioural control ) as predictor of entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate’s in the Delta State-owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnics.

**Table 7:** showing the relative effect of study variables to the prediction deviant behaviour in the school system

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	11.615	2.050		5.665	0.000
	Perceived Behavioural control	.569	.067	.322	8.453	0.000
	General Attitude	.856	.097	.336	8.818	0.000
	Gender	.169	.364	.015	.463	0.644
	Age	-.263	.250	-.035	-1.052	0.293

**Source:** Field survey 2023

Table 7 above shows that the four predictor factors Gender, Age, Perceived Behavioural control and General attitude are responsible for entrepreneurship intention in sampled secondary school in the study area. The study further reveals that these predictor factors are in hierarchy as follows. The most potent factor was Perceived Behavioural control (Beta = 0.569,  $t=8.453$ ,  $p<0.05$ ); General Attitude (Beta = 0.858,  $t= 8.818$ ,  $p<0.05$ ) and age (Beta = -0.263,  $t=-1.052$ ,  $p>0.05$ ).

**Test for multi-collinearity**

The test for muliti-collinearity was carried out to check the data properties. It is statistical requirement that the nature of the data needs to be checked for some properties. Based on this one of the test conducted is the test of multi-collinearity as presented in table 8

i. **Table 8:** Test for multi-collinearity

s/n	Covariates (Constant)	Collinearity statistics	
		Tolerance	VIF
1	Perceived Behavioural control	.764	1.309
2	General Attitude	.759	1.317
3	Gender	.993	1.007
4	Age	.983	1.017

Source: field Survey 2023

The test of multi-collinearity is used to test is the predictors are not too highly correlated with each other. The variance inflation factor is one of the important device to measure the existence of collinearity and as we can see from Table 8 below all VIF values are less than 10 and Tolerance is less than one, indicates there is no multicollinearity problem.

### **Test of Residuals independency**

To check the residuals independency we can use the Durbin-Watson statistic. The test statistic possible values can vary from 0 to 4 to test residuals is independent or uncorrelated and the recommended test value to meet the assumption is greater than 1 and below 3. Therefore, the result from Table 6 above shows, the Durbin Watson value was 1.669, so we can conclude that the assumption of residuals is uncorrelated is satisfied.

### **Test of Linearity**

One of the important in a simple regression is the test of Linearity, this is because it is One of the most common multiple regression assumptions is test of linear relationship between outcome and predictor variables and it can be characterized by a straight line and tested by quantile quantile (P-P) plot. As we can see in the figure 1 in appendix, p-p plot indicates that closer the dots lie to the diagonal line, the closer to normal the residuals are distributed and means the relationship between students score and different predictors are linear. Therefore, the assumption of linearity is fitted.

### **Test of Normality**

Test of Normality Test of the error term is normally distributed with mean zero and constant variance and can be tested by using histogram plot. As we see from Figure 1 in appendix the histogram plot indicating that normal curve with mean very small near to zero and almost 3 standard deviation. Therefore, the normality assumption test is satisfied.

### **Interpretations**

Based on the result from the fitted model, it shows that perceived behavioural control is significant ( $\beta=0.569$ ,  $t = 8.453$   $p < 0.01$  the coefficient of perceived behavioural control ( $\beta = 0.569$ ) indicates students entrepreneurship intention is increased by 5.69 points as one unit increase in perceived behavioural control when other variables control. Meaning that when students possess high level of perceived behavioural control has positively affected the student's entrepreneurship intention. General Attitude was also positive in determining students entrepreneurship intention it is significant with coefficient ( $\beta = 0.856$ ,  $t=8.818$ ,  $p<0.05$ ) indicates students with high sense of attitude are likely to contribute positively to students entrepreneurship intention with other variables remaining constant. However, age and gender were found not to be significant in explaining students entrepreneurship intention with p values of 0.644 and 0.29 respectively

The results in Table 6 indicate that  $R^2$  was 0.325. This shows that 32.50% of the variance in entrepreneurial intention is explained by variation in general attitude.(GA), Perceived Behavioural Control (PBC) ,age and gender on Entrepreneurial intention of students , Further, the ANOVA results indicate that the model is statistically significant ( $F = 73.401$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). The standardized coefficients show that the effect of general attitude, and Perceived Behavioural Control (PBC) , on entrepreneurial intention were significant and positive .However age and gender did not have any significant effect on the entrepreneurial intention. Age has a negative effect but not significant ( $\beta= -0.263$ ,  $t = -1.052$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ), and gender also with a negative coefficient and not significant effect ( $\beta= -0.169$ ,  $t = 0.463$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ).

### **DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

Research question one was on the levels of general attitude component of the undergraduate students towards entrepreneurship intention, the result revealed that the student's general attitude towards entrepreneurship intention is encouraging and be termed as positive

Research question two was on the levels of perceived behavioural control component of the undergraduate students towards entrepreneurship intention. The findings reveal that students feel they have control in relation to entrepreneurship intention

Research Question three was on the assessment of the level of entrepreneurship intention as perceived by undergraduate students .The result revealed that the 13 items used in measuring the entrepreneurship intention were all accepted. This can be seen from the average score for both male and female student with an average mean well over the criterion means.

Another analysed carried out is if undergraduate Students do differ significantly between themselves in their expressed levels of level of entrepreneurship intention according to their institutions. The ANOVA statistics presented revealed that the students based on their institutions do differ significantly with regards to the level of entrepreneurship intention,  $F = (3,6127) = 8.734, P = .000$

The effect of gender, age, perceived behavioral control, and general attitude on the entrepreneurship intention of undergraduate students was also examined. The results indicated that general attitude has a positive and significant effect, as well as perceived behavioral control, which is consistent with previous studies by Utami (2017), Hansen et al. (2011), Packham et al. (2010), Jalil (2021), and Utami (2017). These studies highlight the importance of attitude in shaping entrepreneurial intentions. Similarly, studies conducted by Malebana and Swanepoel (2015) and Malebana (2014) on entrepreneurial intentions of students at rural universities found that attitude towards entrepreneurship had the greatest impact compared to other variables in the theory of Planned Behavior. Sait et al. (2016) also found a positive and significant influence of personal attitude and perceived behavioral control on entrepreneurial intentions of women in Bosnia.

The findings also indicates that influence of personal attitude and perceived behavioural control has both positive and significant effect on entrepreneurial intention

Marques et al. (2012) conducted a study on secondary school students in Portugal and found a strong and statistically significant relationship between attitude towards behavior and entrepreneurship intention. Dohse and Walter (2010) and Paço et al. (2011) similarly found that attitude towards behavior directly and positively affects entrepreneurial intentions. These findings suggest that students who have a more positive outlook on starting a business are more likely to have a favorable attitude towards entrepreneurial behavior and a stronger intention to initiate a start up business. When the students have a more positive view about the outcome of getting a business started, the more favourable will be their attitude towards the behaviour and subsequently, the stronger their intention to take the initiative to start-up a business. Conversely, if students perceived that entrepreneurship will not bring any advantages for them, they will have a negative attitude towards behaviour and will not have any intention (Ogun 2018).

Perceived Behavioural Control has a positive effect and significant, this is in agreement with Paco et al. (2011), they revealed that perceived behavioural control has positive influence towards students' entrepreneurial intentions. In the same vein. Ruhle et al. (2010) claimed that perceived behavioural control has a significant relationship with the intention. Ariff, et al (2010; Utami 2017) found PCB as the most significant predictor of entrepreneurial intentions. Aloulou (2015) has conducted a study on entrepreneurial intention and found perceived social behaviour had strongest power to predict entrepreneurial intention among students than Attitudes toward behaviour and social norms. Sait et al (2016) in their study on the Impact of Personal Attitude, Subjective Norm, and Perceived Behavioural Control on Entrepreneurial Intentions of Women in Bosnia. The findings show a positive and significant influence of personal attitude and perceived behavioural control on entrepreneurial intention

It is noted that there is a direct link between perceived behavioural control and social norms. It can also be noted that Buttar (2015) believed that researchers have various perception on the extent of direct authority of subjective norms on entrepreneurial career intentions.

However age and gender did not have any significant effect on the entrepreneurial intention. Age and gender has a negative effect but not significant. This is at variance with the findings of Venkatesh et al. (2003), it has been found that the effect of perceived usefulness on behaviour intention was moderated by age; the influence of perceived ease of use on behaviour intention was moderated by age; and the influence of subjective norm on behaviour intention was moderated by age.

## CONCLUSION

The study was focused on determining the entrepreneurial intention amongst undergraduate students at the Delta State Owned Colleges of Education and Polytechnic's .The objectives were developed which allowed the researcher to investigate the concept of entrepreneurial intention, as well as identifying a range of variables which were noted to play a role in fulfilling that desire. The findings also revealed that attitude and perceived behavioural control were found to be significantly explaining entrepreneurship

intention while age and gender were not. As a conclusion, the researchers hope that this study will provide tertiary students and relevant stakeholder useful knowledge to understand how one's personal behaviour will have an effect on intention to become entrepreneur.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were made based on the findings and conclusion of this study:

- i) There is need for the Government and higher institution authorities sustain the entrepreneurship programme
- ii) The student's attitude should be more developed through proper training since it was found to be important in explaining Entrepreneurship intention.
- iii) Government at all levels should create an enabling environment that will make graduate become entrepreneur instead of looking for Jobs

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