

DETERMINANTS OF SUCCESSFUL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) ENTREPRENEURS: A CASE STUDY OF NIGERIA.

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Abstract

Information Technology (IT) Entrepreneurship has been identified as one of the possible solutions to the economic and social challenges of Nigeria. It is believed that IT entrepreneurship is capable of creating jobs, wealth and bringing about development in the country. This study seeks to investigate the factors that contribute to successful IT entrepreneurship in Nigeria. The study adopted a quantitative approach by conducting a survey on IT entrepreneurs across Nigeria based on its stated hypotheses.

The results of the study suggest that IT entrepreneurs who are born by entrepreneur parents are more likely to succeed than those who do not come from such family backgrounds. Similarly, the results indicate that the attendance of a business school is a significant factor for IT entrepreneurial success in Nigeria. Surprisingly, the result did not show any significant moderating effect of mentorship, either by an IT practitioner or a non-IT practitioner on IT entrepreneurs in Nigeria. It also did not find any significant correlation between formal education in the IT field and IT entrepreneurial success.

The researcher therefore recommends further studies on the impact of mentorship on IT entrepreneurship in Nigeria while suggesting that the regulators of IT practice in the country be encouraged to open the field to graduates from other academic fields for a more vibrant industry.