

**University Students' Interest in Entrepreneurship:
A Comparative Study between Taiwanese and
Indonesian Students**



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Abstract

Entrepreneurship has been a big issue in the past decades and also become a great concern as it is very important for a country's economic development. As the number of successful young entrepreneurs are increasing nowadays, entrepreneurship has become a new career option for young people. While lots of entrepreneurial studies have been done in the past, however, few studies have investigated young generations' perception in entrepreneurship, especially in Asia. This study aims to explore on how Taiwanese and Indonesian university students' entrepreneurial interest level and the factors that affect it such as personal characteristics, gender, family background, and education. This study uses questionnaires distributed to participants from both countries to get more insight about their entrepreneurial interest. A simple interview also done to get a deeper understanding about factors that motivate or demotivate their entrepreneurial interest. The results showed that Indonesian students show more interest to be entrepreneurs in the future rather than Taiwanese students. Moreover, the key factors like gender difference and education degree do not affect ones' entrepreneurial interest anymore. The freedom and independence at work is the main motivation for university students to be entrepreneurs in the future while on the other hand the lack of capital money and experiences is the greatest consideration and obstacle for them. As this study is more emphasized the results of quantitative research, a more qualitative research such as face-to-face interviews with participants are needed in future studies to get a better understanding in entrepreneurial interest of participants from both countries.

Introduction

Entrepreneurship has become a new trend since late 21st century as a way for someone to be a successful and rich person. Most of the millionaires today are entrepreneurs who started small businesses and are developing to be huge enterprises. Low and MacMillan (1988) mentioned:

The past decade has witnessed a significant rise in popular enthusiasm for entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship. This increased attention seems justified given the growing evidence that new firm creation is a critical driving force of economic growth, creating hundreds of thousands of new jobs, as well as enhancing federal and local tax revenues, boosting exports, and generally increasing national productivity.(p.139)

As mentioned above, entrepreneurship not only brings countless benefits for one's personal career, but also beneficial for the country's economic development. Tambunan (2006) claimed "development of entrepreneurship together with human skills improvement have become two crucial factors for a country to become a world leader and for a sustainable economic and social development".(p.1)

The interest in entrepreneurship also has been matched in the academic arena, resulting in a significant increase in the amount of research effort being devoted to the subject. Major previous studies on entrepreneurial issues were mainly focused on entrepreneurship in general and larger views. For example, Cunningham and Lischeron (1991) have focused on defining entrepreneurship as characters entrepreneurs should possessed such as having intuitive ability, unique values, attitudes, leadership, etc. Moreover, Low and MacMillan (1988) focused on analyzing the past researches in entrepreneurship and suggested how entrepreneurial studies in the future should be done. The result of their study indicated that the past entrepreneurial researches had little clarity, lack of unity, weak theory development, and more focused on personality or cultural determinants.

Although lots of entrepreneurial studies have been done in the past, however, few studies have investigated young generations' perception of entrepreneurship. The current study by Henderson and Robertson (2000) on young adult attitudes to entrepreneurship as a career has shown that only 7 out of 58 undergraduate students (12% of percentage) interested to be entrepreneurs. But still, there are two major limitations. First, the study was done during the

period 1996-1998, which is more than 15 years ago, that made the result no longer relevant to the current situation today in 2014. Second, the study was all done at Leeds Metropolitan University in the UK by questioning 58 undergraduate students majoring in business. As a rather small study of one school environment in one country, the results cannot be generalized.

Later, after looked at the miracle development in some Asian countries, the so-called the newly industrialized countries (NICs), such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, and South Korea in the 1960s and 1970s, and the rise of South East Asian countries (ASEAN) after global crisis in 2008, the research on entrepreneurial issues should be done and more focused in these areas. In the near future, Asia will be the center of world's economy as the continuing development of East Asian countries, India, and ASEAN countries. East Asian countries has experienced their revival since 30 years ago and ASEAN countries are experiencing it now.

Entrepreneurship should have been an important factor in Asian countries' economy revival. University students, who are the younger generation, represent the future of a country. As an Indonesian student currently studying in Taiwan, I would like to relate those two issues and compare the interest in entrepreneurship between Taiwanese and Indonesian students, since those two countries could represent the countries with emerging economies: Taiwan from East Asia, which has developed its economy first, and Indonesia from South East Asia, which is developing right now.

Based on the statements above, the purpose of this study is to provide a better understanding of Taiwanese and Indonesian university students' interest in entrepreneurship. The data collected in this study will be used to draw conclusions to get more insight on how high the university students of both countries' interest in entrepreneurship and analyze the motivations and reasons which underlie the result. This study is built to answer these three major questions:

1. Is the level of entrepreneurial interest related to gender?
2. Is the level of entrepreneurial interest related to family business background?

3. Is the level of entrepreneurial interest related to educational degree level?
4. How is the level entrepreneurial interest between two countries?
5. What are the reasons that make university students of both countries become reluctant or unwilling to be entrepreneurs?

Literature Review

1. Defining Entrepreneurship

Over 200 years of the studies of entrepreneurship have provided many definitions of the word “entrepreneur”. Hebert and Link (1988) traced the history of the term “entrepreneur” and the evolution of its several meanings. It first appeared in the writings of Richard Cantillon in 1755 who used the term to describe “someone who exercises business judgement in the face of uncertainty” (p.185). Since then, there were many scholars who did the studies and researches to define entrepreneurship, even until now.

The word entrepreneur is French and, literally translated, means “between-taker” or “go-between.” The definition of entrepreneurship has evolved over time as the world’s economy has changed as well. In 1934, Schumpeter defined the entrepreneur as “an innovator who develops untried technologies”. More than 50 years later Gartner (1988) defined entrepreneurship as “the creation of new organizations”. Although researchers have been inconsistent with their definitions of entrepreneurship, they often contain similar elements, such newness, organizing, and creating something new.

Developing a worldwide accepted definition turns out to be difficult; however the following definition by Hisrich and Peters (2002) contains the most important elements:

Entrepreneurship is the process of creating something new with value by devoting the necessary time and effort, assuming the accompanying financial, psychic, and social risks, and receiving the resulting rewards of monetary and personal satisfaction and independence (p.10).

This definition stresses four aspects of being an entrepreneur. First of all, entrepreneurship involves the creation of something new with value to the entrepreneur and to the audience. This audience can be any individual that is concerned with the new product or service. Second, entrepreneurship requires the devotion of the necessary time and effort. Making a new idea operational and bringing it to market is a process with which most entrepreneurs have many difficulties. The third aspect of entrepreneurship is the assumption of the necessary risks. The risks involved in an entrepreneurial process could take many forms; often they have a financial, psychological or social nature. Finally, the entrepreneur receives the rewards for his efforts. Monetary rewards are frequently identified as the indicator for success of the entrepreneur. Nevertheless, most entrepreneurs indicate independence and personal satisfaction as the most important personal rewards.

2. *Factors Affecting Entrepreneurial Interest*

2.1. *Gender*

Gender differences in entrepreneurial activity are well documented in the literature (Gatewood, Carter, Brush, Greene, & Hart, 2003; Reynolds, Bygrave, & Autio, 2004). Traditionally it is thought that the self-employment sector is the domain of males. One reason is the high risk associated with doing one's own business since females may have a lower propensity for risk-taking in the current socioeconomic context. Though in recent years the number of women entrepreneurs has increased dramatically (De Bruin, Brush, & Welter, 2006), empirical evidence indicates that still almost twice the number of men who become entrepreneurs rather than women, and that these differences are consistent across countries (Acs, Arenius, Hay, & Minniti, 2005).

More broadly, the stereotypical characteristics attributed to men and women in society influence the classification of various occupations as masculine or feminine, which tends to affect people's aspiration and desire toward the jobs (Cejka & Eagly, 1999). For example, men,

compared with women, are assumed to and tend to be more inclined to participate and excel in math and science, while women, compared with men, are more inclined toward arts and languages (Nosek, Banaji, & Greenwald, 2002). Scholars interested in the relationship between gender and career choices strive that men and women's preferences are a reflection of their knowledge about gender-related characteristics associated with the task (gender-role stereotypes) as well as their identification with masculine or feminine characteristics (gender identification).

In the study of entrepreneurship in Singapore, Wang and Wong (2004) stated that traditional Asian culture discourages women from working either as an employee or as an employer. However the shortage of manpower in rapid economic growth has pushed many women into the work force in the last few decades. The ratio of women in the labor force rose from 34.5% in 1980 to 40.9% in 1997, and approached the level of developed countries. Encouraging more women as entrepreneurs is an important task for policy makers, and the policy success largely relies on a good understanding of their characteristics and attitudes. In their studies of Singapore graduates, Ghazali et al. (1995) found gender differences in the self-employment rate among non-professional fields like science, computer science, arts, and business, but not in professional fields like engineering, medicine, law, accountancy.

2.2. Family Background

The second factor often discussed is family business background. Self-employed parents affect the entrepreneurial interest as well as the career choice of their children. There are two models to explain the family influence: parental role model and family support model (Wang & Wong, 2002, p.165). The parental role model asserts that persons with self-employed parents are more likely to start their own business due to the example of their parents. The family support model attributes this phenomenon to the financial or social support of their families. Thus it is expected to observe the positive correlation between entrepreneurial propensity and

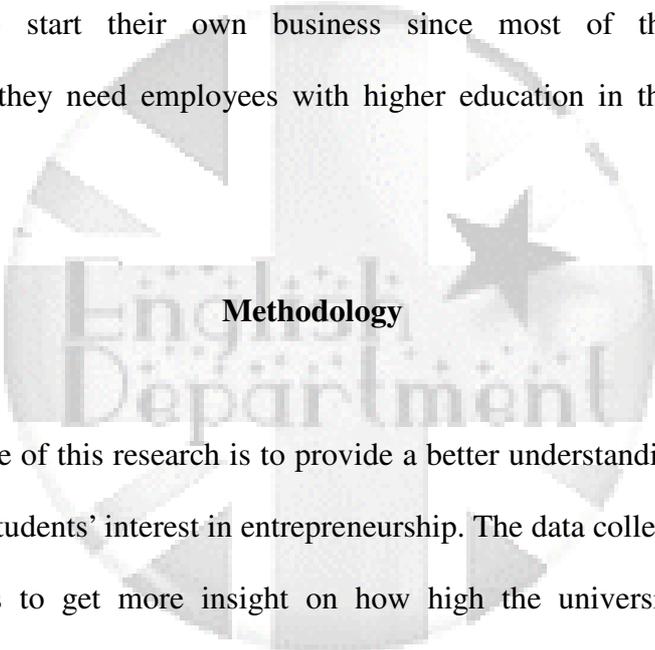
family income or social status.

Scott and Twomey (1988) reported that students whose parents owned a small business demonstrated the highest preference for self-employment and the lowest for employment in a large business. In the Netherlands, De Wit and Van Winden (1989) found that self employed fathers had a significant impact on self employment but the effects of parents' social status was not significant, which confirmed the parental role model but rejected the family support model. Brown (1990) also observed a similar phenomenon in the UK when conducting a training program to assist undergraduates in starting their own business. He found that 38% of the pre-selected students (who are very interested in starting own business) had fathers with their own businesses, which is higher than the general level.

2.3. Education

The effect of education on entrepreneurial propensity is ambiguous in the literature. Stewart et al. (1999) studied corporate managers, small business owners and entrepreneurs, and found that while on average, entrepreneurs were more educated than small business owners; it was the corporate managers who were the most highly educated. This suggests that while content knowledge is important for individuals to take the entrepreneurial action, an overabundance of knowledge can lead to risk aversion behaviours that reduce the propensity to engage in entrepreneurial activity. Another possible contributing factor to the negative influence of a higher level of education is the opportunity cost of human capital, since higher education levels may lead to well-paid career opportunities in large existing firms. However, Van de Ven and Schroeder (1984) suggested that entrepreneur's level of education and specialness of the business idea were important positive contributions to new venture success. In particular, they found that college educated entrepreneurs were more likely to be associated with longer surviving businesses. The positive effect of education may be emphasized in the case of start-ups in high technology areas.

Possibly as a result of the above opposite effects, empirical findings on the effect of education have been mixed. For example, Dolton and Makepeace (1990) reported that self-employment rate is not related to school performance (e.g., First Class, Upper Second, etc.) in the UK. In Singapore, Ghazali et al. (1995) found university graduates of Chinese origin are less likely to be self-employed, and that graduates with good honors or higher degrees are less likely to be self-employed. Given the abundant jobs available from the high presence of multinational corporations in Singapore, this finding may be a significant discouraging factor for young people to start their own business since most of the corporations are technology-based and they need employees with higher education in that field to work for them.



Methodology

Subjects

The main purpose of this research is to provide a better understanding of Taiwanese and Indonesian university students' interest in entrepreneurship. The data collected in this study can help draw conclusions to get more insight on how high the university students of both countries' interest in entrepreneurship and shed light on entrepreneurship motivations and reasons of students from both two countries. The subjects were divided into two groups: Indonesian university students and Taiwanese university students.

A sample of 56 students from Taiwanese university students group were selected. Most of them were taken from the student population of Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. However, there were also some subjects taken from other universities in Taiwan such as Tamkang University, Chung Yuan Christian University, National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences, and others. There were 20 male subjects and 36 female subjects. As for family background, 38 participants had family members or relatives who were entrepreneurs and 18 of them didn't have any. Regarding their intention to pursue higher

education to master degree, 25 participants said they wanted to continue their education and 31 of them didn't want to.

As for the subjects from Indonesian university students group, 56 samples also were taken from the students of various universities in Indonesia. There were 20 male subjects and 36 female subjects. As for family background, 43 participants had family members or relatives who were entrepreneurs and 13 of them didn't have any. As for their intention to pursue higher education to master degree, 34 participants replied positively while 22 of them negatively.

Instruments

The instrument used for this research was a self-inventory online questionnaire distributed through Google Docs. The questions about entrepreneurial interest which listed in the questionnaire has been approved and checked by Prof. Chu-Rong Yen, my advisor professor. They were also based on the previous similar researches done in Singapore and England by some scholars as written in literature review. The questionnaire consisted of 2 demographic questions asking about nationality and gender, 16 agree/disagree four point scale questions, and one yes/no main question about respondents' entrepreneurial interest. The agree/disagree scale questions consisted of questions about entrepreneurial characteristics (item 3.1 – 3.8), family background (item 3.9 – 3.12), and education (item 3.13 – 3.16) (see Appendix 1).

A simple interview also was done to clarify the results of the quantitative research. That is, the purpose of this simple interview (Appendix 2) is to take a better understanding about the motivations and reasons why the participants were interested or not interested in entrepreneurship. A total of four participants students (two participants from each group) were randomly interviewed about their opinions of entrepreneurship and the reason why they wanted or did not want to be entrepreneurs. From each country group, I took one student who showed positive response toward entrepreneurship and also one who showed negative response. The background of each interviewees could be seen on the table below:

Name	Gender	Nationality	Decision Towards Entrepreneurship
Albertus	Male	Indonesian	Interested
Vani	Female	Indonesian	Not Interested
Denzil	Male	Taiwanese	Interested
Cindy	Female	Taiwanese	Not Interested

Procedure

Both questionnaire administration and interview were conducted on February 2015. The self-inventory questionnaires were distributed online through my social media's accounts. Facebook was used mainly to spread the questionnaires to Taiwanese students while Path and Line were used for Indonesian students. The reason was because Taiwanese use Facebook more than Indonesians. Path is a newer social media from the USA and many Indonesian young people use it nowadays, so it is a very effective way to distribute the questionnaires despite the boundary of distance between Taiwan, where I am living now, and Indonesia. The questionnaire administered to Taiwanese students was typed in Chinese and questionnaire given to Indonesian students was in Indonesian language.

As for the mini interview part, I randomly chose two Taiwanese classmates in my class and interviewed them during class break time. Both of them are senior students and will be graduated this year. As for Indonesian students, I used Skype to interview four Indonesian students who are still studying in various universities in Jakarta, Indonesia. Both of them are also senior students. Before the interview was conducted, I first ensured all of the interviewees have completed the questionnaire in order to understand the background of each interviewee. After understanding their attitude toward entrepreneurship. 3 questions were asked to all of the interviewees: the reasons why they were interested or not interested in entrepreneurship, the motivations of being an entrepreneur, and the biggest obstacles or considerations for young people to start their own business and to be entrepreneurs (please refer to p.16). Some guided

answers were provided to help the interviewees answering the third and fourth question about the best benefit of being an entrepreneur and the biggest obstacle for young people to be entrepreneurs. The interviewees were also permitted to answer the questions other than the choices given. The interview was not longer than 10 minutes for each interviewee. The language used to interview Taiwanese students was Mandarin Chinese and for Indonesian student was Indonesian language. The data was collected by taking notes on each interviewees' answers and responses.

Data Analysis

Three procedures were taken for the collected data. First, t-test was employed for further data analysis on questions about gender, family background, and intention to pursue higher education. Second, cross-list was used to calculate and compare the level of entrepreneurial interest of students from both countries. Third, as for collected data from mini interview part, 3C method (coding, category, concept) was used in this part. After the data were collected, the first step was to code the data; that is, to label the data. The next step was to construct the coded data and grouped them according to their own aspects into categories. Finally, identified the relationships among the categories, before concepts were then emerged.

Results

Entrepreneurial Characteristics between Two Countries

T-test was used to calculate the entrepreneurial characteristics of students from both countries. Results indicated that there was no significant difference in the two groups' entrepreneurial characteristics ($t = 0.00$, $p >.05$, see Table 1). However, results in Table 2 showed that the participation in any organizations or activities' score ($t = 2.77$, $p <.05$) was significantly different. As the scaling used in this research is from the highest to the lowest ($M = 1$ is positive response; $M = 5$ is negative response), the table showed us that Taiwanese students group had higher mean scores in this item ($M = 1.61$) than what Indonesian students

did ($M = 1.95$). Taiwanese students also had a higher score ($M = 1.95$) in having experiences to be a leader in organization ($t = -2.13, p < .05$) than Indonesian students ($M = 2.27$). This results indicated that Taiwanese students had more chances to participate in organizations and had more experiences to be organizations' leader than Indonesian students did. Moreover, there was also another significant differences in the item of outgoing character ($t = 2.73, p < .05$) in Table 2. In this part, Indonesian students got higher mean score ($M = 1.73$) than the Taiwanese students did ($M = 2.11$). This showed us that Indonesian students had more outgoing character, specifically in their social life, rather than Taiwanese students.

Table 1

T-test Results for Taiwanese/Indonesian Students Entrepreneurial Characteristics

Characteristics	N	Taiwanese		Indonesian		t	P
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
	112	1.88	0.45	1.88	0.36	0.00	0.19

Table 2

T-test Results for Taiwanese/Indonesian Students Entrepreneurial Characteristics

Characteristics	N	Taiwanese		Indonesian		t	P
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Outgoing person	112	2.11	0.73	1.73	0.73	2.73*	0.01
Organization participation	112	1.61	0.65	1.95	0.64	-2.77*	0.04
Organization leader	112	1.95	0.84	2.27	0.75	-2.14*	0.03

Note: * $p < .05$

The Level of Entrepreneurial Interest Related to Gender

T-test was used to calculate the level of entrepreneurial interest between two genders. Results showed that there was no significant difference between male and female ($t = 0.16, p >.05$, see Table 3). Both male and female respondents showed a similar respond toward entrepreneurship ($M = 1$ is very interested toward entrepreneurship; $M = 5$ is not interested). In other word, the result from the table indicated that both male ($M = 1.65$) and female ($M = 1.63$) were having a high interest toward entrepreneurship.

Table 3

T-test Results for both Taiwanese and Indonesian Students Entrepreneurial Interest between Two Genders

	N	Male		Female		t	p
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Entrepreneurial Interest	112	1.65	0.48	1.63	0.49	0.16	0.75

The Level of Entrepreneurial Interest Related to Family Business Background

T-test also was used to calculate the entrepreneurial interest of students from both countries related to family business background. The result indicated that there was a significant difference of entrepreneurial characteristics related to respondents' family business background ($t = -2.09, p = .04$, see Table 4). This results mean the respondents who were interested in entrepreneurship felt happy and proud having self employed family members. They also felt happy and proud having parents who owned a small business and were willing to help out in that family business. Moreover, the most significant point could be in the 4th item, which was the opinion that it was beneficial to work together with own family members ($t = -2.34, p = .02$). This indicated that respondents who were interested in entrepreneurship were

very agree that it was very beneficial to work with family members. From this result we could see that the main reason that determined the respondents' interest toward entrepreneurship was probably because they think it was very good to work together with own parents or family members.

Table 4

T-test Results for both Taiwanese and Indonesian Students Entrepreneurial Interest Related to Family Business Background

	N	Interested		Not Interested		t	P
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Family Business Background	112	1.71	0.49	1.96	0.55	-2.09*	0.04

Note: * $p < .05$

The Level of Entrepreneurial Interest Related to Education Degree

T-test was again used to calculate the entrepreneurial interest of students from both countries related to education degree. The result indicated that there was no significant difference of entrepreneurial characteristics related to education degree ($t = -.38, p > .05$, see Table 6). This results showed that education degree did not affect entrepreneurial interest. Most of the respondents believed that no matter how high one's education degree is, he/she was still acceptable to be entrepreneur.

Table 6

T-test Results for both Taiwanese and Indonesian Students Entrepreneurial Interest Related to Education Degree

	N	Interested		Not Interested		t	p
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Education Degree	112	2.46	0.70	2.52	0.7	-0.38	0.43

The Level of Entrepreneurial Interest between Two Countries

Cross-list was used to calculate and compare the level of entrepreneurial interest of students from both countries. The result indicated that there were more Indonesian students who interested in entrepreneurship with 48 students while there were only 37 Taiwanese students who did (see Table 7)

Table 7

		Decision		Total
		Interested	Not Interested	
Nationality	Taiwanese	37	19	56
	Indonesian	48	8	56
Total		85	27	112

The Reasons That Make University Students of Both Countries Become Reluctant or Unwilling to be Entrepreneurs

A mini-interview to investigate the reasons behind the decisions from students of both countries can be grouped into three main questions: (1) the benefits of being an entrepreneur, (2) the obstacles to be a young entrepreneur, and (3) the reason why or why not to be an

entrepreneur. From each country group, I took one student who showed positive response toward entrepreneurship and also one who showed negative response. The first two questions were still asked to each interviewee despite their decision toward entrepreneurship. The purpose is to let each interviewee could know and understand first about the benefits and obstacles of being entrepreneurs first before they expressed their own reason and decision toward entrepreneurship.

From the benefits of being an entrepreneurship's part, surprisingly all interviewees from both countries showed a similar answer, which was having independence at work and more flexible time. From this part, despite the nationality, I took a similarity from all interviewees as young people which was the desire to have independence, either at work or at time management.

As for the obstacle to be entrepreneurs, all interviewees also showed a similar answer, which was the lack of capital to start the business. This was the first and biggest consideration for all interviewees before starting a business. It appeared that money is still the biggest problem. However, Vani, one Indonesian interviewee added one more obstacle which is the lack of entrepreneurial knowledge, as she said, "beside the capital money problem, I also lack of the knowledge about entrepreneurship. I mean I don't know how to start a business, how to maintain the daily operation, etc. My understanding about entrepreneurship is very simple, that is just someone who opens a store or company, without knowing the details behind it."

For the main question in this mini-interview, which is about the reason why or why not to be entrepreneurs, each interviewee has their own points of view. As for interviewees who showed a positive response toward entrepreneurship, Albertus from Indonesia emphasized on the possibility to give new job opportunities to other people as well as the opportunity to maximize ones' own potentials, as he said:

"Indonesia still has millions young people who don't have any jobs. By becoming an entrepreneur, I would be able to give a new job opportunity for people who are

unemployed. Besides, by being entrepreneurs we also could maximize our own potencies. For example, we can realize our own ideas and we can train our mental and attitude when being on top or during hard times, since entrepreneurship itself is a job with lots of uncertainties.”

Denzil from Taiwan more emphasized about the independence and the right to manage everything by being an entrepreneur, as he expressed:

“I am interested in entrepreneurship because I like everything about leadership and the feel that everything is under control. Above all else, I can do whatever I want to make more money, to develop things in future trend, and to be a true revolutionary innovator. But, it might still take a few years for me to start a company and to be an entrepreneur.”

On the other hand, for interviewees who didn't interest in entrepreneurship, actually they didn't really show a full negative respond. Mostly it was because they realized their own limitation and lack of entrepreneurial knowledge. Vani from Indonesia said:

“Actually I interested in entrepreneurship and do have some ideas in mind but I don't know how to apply and realize them yet. Probably I need a lot of experience first.”

Cindy from Taiwan also mentioned:

“I am not thinking to be an entrepreneur because it firstly needs funds. Without capital prepared in advance, or without sponsors' financial help, it would be a huge obstacle being (or trying to be) an entrepreneur. Moreover, or I can say my biggest consideration, is the characteristics of a person. I'd say I don't have the courage to really start-up a business all by myself. I like steady, and well-planned life/career; because of the uncertainties which might show up right after the business starts.”

Discussion

The gender difference does not affect students' interest toward entrepreneurship

Results of Indonesian and Taiwanese university students' level of entrepreneurial

interest related to gender demonstrated that both male and female students showed a similar response, which was highly interested in entrepreneurship, and there was no significant difference between both genders. This finding is quite different with previous study (Acs, Arenius, Hay, & Minniti, 2005). The previous study mentioned that there are still almost twice the number of men who interested and become entrepreneurs rather than women, and that these differences are consistent across countries. It seems that after 10 years have passed since the previous study, the real situation nowadays also has changed. There is no significant gender discrimination in today society, which can bring a full independence for everyone, including women, to pursue their dreams and do whatever they want in their career lives. The era of globalization and advancement of information technology may also have contribution to the increasing level of female's entrepreneurial interest. People can see the stories of other successful businesswomen and female entrepreneurs from other countries which possibly brings encouragement for women to choose entrepreneurship as their career.

The benefits of work together with own family members can increase students' entrepreneurial interest

The results of students' entrepreneurial interest related to family background showed that family background indeed affected their interest to entrepreneurship. Most of the participants agreed that it is beneficial to work together with own family members. This result is consistent with previous studies (Scott & Twomey, 1988; Brown, 1990). Previous studies noted that students whose parents owned a small business demonstrated the highest preference for self-employment and the lowest for employment in a large business. The opinion that it is better to work together with own family members is the major reason which affected respondents' interest in entrepreneurship from family background. This opinion came out probably because it is more reliable and more stress-free if able to work

together with own family members. This reason probably not only affected the respondents' entrepreneurial interest but also was the reason why family businesses are grown significantly and lasted for generations, especially in Asian societies.

Education degree does not affect students' interest toward entrepreneurship

The results of the effect of education degree toward students' entrepreneurial interest indicated that education degree does not affect students' interest toward entrepreneurship. This finding is slightly different with previous study (Ghazali et al., 1995). The previous study mentioned that university graduates of Chinese origin are less likely to be self-employed, and that graduates with good honors or higher degrees are less likely to be self-employed. In this 21th century, most people have understood the importance of education, no matter what are their jobs in the future. Entrepreneurship today is not just a career option for someone who doesn't possess a high degree in education. This opinion is consistent with the previous study by Van de Ven and Schroeder (1984) which suggested that entrepreneur's level of education and specialness of the business idea were important positive contributions to new venture success.

There can be more Indonesian entrepreneurs in the future

Overall results of my study showed that 85% of Indonesian respondents showed positive responds toward entrepreneurship, more than Taiwanese respondents which only got 66%. In fact, entrepreneurship competence of a nation is very much determined by welfare-level of its people. Experiences from other nations have shown that well-established entrepreneurship ecosystem is the motor of their economic development. According to David McClelland, a prosperous nation shall have 2% at minimum on the entrepreneurial number. The US has in 2007 11,5% entrepreneurs; Singapore has in 2005 7,2% entrepreneurs; and Indonesia in 2007 approximately has only 0,18% of entrepreneurs

or about 400.000, which actually according to McClelland it should has at least 2% of total population which are 4.4 million entrepreneurs. Since Indonesia is a nation with large population and rich in natural resources, there is no other way except to stimulate human resource to hold competences to do business in order to escalate the prosperity and the independent of Indonesia. As a developing country and also as the biggest country in South East Asia, Indonesia has a great potential to develop and grow more in the future. Based on this fact and situation, Indonesia's government has started to promote entrepreneurship as a part of education. This may be the reason why the number of Indonesian students who interested in entrepreneurship are higher than Taiwanese students', since Taiwan, if compared to Indonesia, is already a developed country with better welfare.

University students tend to care more about the freedom in their career as motivation to be entrepreneurs but worry about the lack of experiences and capital money to start

As for simple interview which questioning four respondents from both countries, the results I could conclude is basically the freedom at work which being the main motivation to be entrepreneurs in the future. This is normal for young people who value independence in life and space to explore and develop their own selves to the most maximum point. Entrepreneurs are not limited by strict working time, rigid company rules, and other limitations that most employees usually have in their career lives. These benefits seem motivated young people nowadays to choose entrepreneurship in the future. However, one thing that most respondents worry the most and probably is the main obstacle for them to pursue their entrepreneurship career is the lack of experiences and capital money. Actually, this is not an obstacle for young people only, but also for everyone who wants to start new business. This situation of young people who lack of experiences and capital money is where government and bigger ventures' efforts are needed. The real actions like granting low interest loan to small enterprises, training and workshop for young entrepreneurs,

simpler regulations and procedures to start new companies, and other similar helps to encourage people who wants to start new businesses are needed. If the full support from the government, bigger ventures, and non-governmental organizations are realized to fully support entrepreneurship in young people, the result of increasing number of new entrepreneurs can be obtained in the near future.

Based on previous study of Singaporean university students' entrepreneurial interest done by Wang and Wong in 2004, there are three main factors which affect ones' entrepreneurial interest which are gender difference, family background, and education. After 11 years passed, this study of entrepreneurial interest of Taiwanese and Indonesian university students found that among those three main factors mentioned above, there is only family background factor which still affects students' interest toward entrepreneurship. Gender difference and education degree do not affect young people's entrepreneurial interest anymore nowadays. Both men and women were showing the same level of interest toward entrepreneurship and they think no matter how high or how low is ones' education degree, they still can be great entrepreneurs. Moreover, this study also found that there are more Indonesian university students who want to be entrepreneurs in the future than Taiwanese students. The reason is because Indonesia still has great potentials and opportunities for young entrepreneurs to develop themselves in the future. As for thing that motivates university students of both countries to be entrepreneurs in the future is the freedom and independence at career which promised by entrepreneurship, while on the other hand, the lack of experiences and capital money to start new business is becoming the main obstacle for young people to be entrepreneurs in the future.

This study is not an exhaustive study. For example, there are two main limitations in the current study. First, most of the Taiwanese respondents were selected from the same university whose majors are in languages, hence it was not enough to obtain a bigger and clearer picture of the real situation in Taiwan. The range of study should be enlarged for

further study, both for number of participants and the varieties of universities where the samples are taken. Second, there were not many significant effects on the results of quantitative research. More qualitative research such as face-to-face interviews with participants are needed in order to get a better understanding in entrepreneurial interest of participants from both countries.



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Appendix 1

Questionnaire

SURVEY ON INDONESIAN STUDENTS' INTEREST IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Welcome!

My name is Eliezer Kartika and I am an undergraduate student at Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages in Taiwan. I am inviting all university students in Indonesia to participate in this research study by completing the following surveys.

The following questionnaire will require approximately 5 minutes to complete.

There is no compensation for responding nor is there any known risk. In order to ensure that all information will remain confidential, I do not require your name nor e-mail or phone number in this survey. Copies of the project will be provided to my Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages instructor. Please answer all questions as honestly as possible and submit the completed questionnaires promptly.

Thank you for taking the time to assist me in my educational endeavors. The data collected will provide useful information regarding the topic of my research. If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me directly through my email: eliezerkartika@yahoo.com

Once again, thank you for your participation!

I really appreciate your time and opinion.

Sincerely,

Eliezer Kartika

1. **Nationality** : Indonesian Taiwanese

2. **Gender** : Male Female

3. **Please select one answer for each question that appropriate to you.**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am an outgoing person and eager to meet new people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am feel challenged everytime I see someone is better than me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have joined and participated in any organizations or activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I was appointed to be a leader or division leader in any organizations or activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have a good communication skill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a creative person and full of new ideas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I want to try something new and not stick in the status quo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am eager to win and to make achievements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel happy and proud if one of my family members is self employed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am happy and proud if my parents owned a small business	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am willing to help out if my family owned a small business (shop, restaurant, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I think to work together with my own parents or own family members is good and reliable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I think a higher education (master or doctoral degree) is not important if I want to be an entrepreneur or self-employed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have seen someone who didn't have any degree but now is a succesful entrepreneur	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I have had participated in any lecture/seminar/course/activites related to entrepreneurship at school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel sorry and pity if seeing someone who was graduated from a reputable university but in the end started his/her own business from zero	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Despite the obstacles and problems available, do you want to be an entrepreneur in the future?

Yes No

Appendix 2

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Do you want to be an entrepreneur in the future?

- Yes No

2. Why are you interested / not interested in entrepreneurship? Please explain

3. In your opinion, what is the best benefit of being an entrepreneur?

- Have more free, flexible, and controllable time
- Have unlimited income
- Have independence at work and not being controlled by someone else
- You are the boss and you are able to manage everything
- Others : _____

4. In your opinion, what is the biggest problem or obstacle for young people to start their own business and to become entrepreneurs?

- Lack of capital to start the business
- Lack of ideas to start the new business
- The harsh and decisive competition in the market
- Lack of entrepreneurial knowledge
- Old-fashioned way of thinking in the society or family that thinks it is better to have a secure job with fixed income every month rather than risking life to be entrepreneurs
- Others : _____