Effect of Entrepreneurial Motivation and Venture Creation in Yobe State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the relationship between entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking propensity, and venture creation in Yobe State, Nigeria, using primary data. Yobe State, located in northeastern Nigeria, possesses untapped entrepreneurial potential, but faces challenges such as limited access to capital and inadequate infrastructure. Understanding the interplay between these factors is crucial for fostering entrepreneurship and economic growth in the region. The study adopts a quantitative surveys design and qualitative. A sample of entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs from various industries in Yobe State is selected. The surveys measure entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking propensity, and venture creation outcomes. The findings reveal that entrepreneurial passion significantly influences entrepreneurial intentions, opportunity recognition, and venture persistence. Moreover, risk-taking propensity plays a vital role in entrepreneurial decision-making and the subsequent outcomes of entrepreneurial activities. Entrepreneurs with a higher risk appetite exhibit greater willingness to explore uncertain opportunities and take calculated risks. Furthermore, the study explores the impact of entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking propensity on venture creation in Yobe State. It reveals that individuals with high levels of entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking propensity are more likely to identify and exploit business opportunities, mobilize resources, and establish successful ventures. Based on the study's results, recommendations are provided for policymakers, stakeholders, and aspiring entrepreneurs to foster a conducive entrepreneurial ecosystem in Yobe State. These recommendations include improving access to capital, enhancing infrastructure development, implementing supportive policies, and promoting entrepreneurship education and training programs. Overall, this study contributes to the existing literature on entrepreneurship by shedding light on the relationship between entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking propensity, and venture creation in the specific context of Yobe State, Nigeria. The findings offer valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders in formulating evidence-based strategies to support entrepreneurship, attract investments, and stimulate sustainable economic development in the region.

Keywords: Entrepreneurial passion, Risk-taking, Venture creation.

INTRODUCTION

Yobe State, located in northeastern Nigeria, is a region with significant untapped entrepreneurial potential. The state boasts abundant natural resources, a growing population, and a strong entrepreneurial spirit. However, despite these favorable conditions, Yobe State faces various challenges that hinder the growth of entrepreneurship, including limited access to capital, inadequate infrastructure, and a lack of supportive policies.

Entrepreneurship plays a vital role in driving economic growth, job creation, and poverty reduction. Understanding the factors that influence entrepreneurial success in Yobe State is crucial for policymakers, stakeholders, and aspiring entrepreneurs. By exploring the relationship between entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking propensity, and venture creation, this study aims to shed light on the dynamics of entrepreneurship in the region and provide insights for fostering a conducive entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Entrepreneurial passion refers to the intense positive feelings, beliefs, and emotions that drive individuals to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities. Passion is a key motivator that influences entrepreneurial intentions,

opportunity recognition, and the persistence required for successful venture creation. Exploring the role of entrepreneurial passion in Yobe State will provide valuable insights into the motivations and drivers of entrepreneurs in the region.

Risk-taking propensity is another crucial factor in entrepreneurial endeavors. It refers to an individual's willingness to undertake uncertain and potentially risky actions in pursuit of entrepreneurial goals. In Yobe State's evolving entrepreneurial ecosystem, understanding risk-taking behavior is essential. This study will investigate how risk appetite influences entrepreneurial decision-making and the subsequent outcomes of entrepreneurial activities.

Venture creation, the process of establishing and growing new businesses, is a critical aspect of entrepreneurship in Yobe State. The region offers numerous opportunities for identifying and exploiting business prospects. Examining the factors that contribute to successful venture creation will provide insights into how entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking propensity impact the mobilization of resources, identification of opportunities, and long-term viability of newly established ventures.

The study will employ a surveys research design. This approach will ensure a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking propensity, and venture creation in Yobe State. The findings will contribute to the existing literature on entrepreneurship by offering insights specific to the context of Yobe State, Nigeria.

Ultimately, the study's results will inform policymakers, stakeholders, and aspiring entrepreneurs about the underlying dynamics of entrepreneurship in Yobe State. The findings will help guide the formulation of targeted interventions, policies, and strategies to foster a conducive entrepreneurial ecosystem, attract investments, and stimulate sustainable economic growth in the region.

The entrepreneurial ecosystem in Yobe State faces challenges in terms of fostering entrepreneurial passion, encouraging risk-taking, and promoting venture creation. The absence of robust support mechanisms, a risk-averse mindset, and barriers to venture establishment impede the development of a vibrant and sustainable entrepreneurial landscape in the region.

Addressing these challenges requires collaborative efforts from governmental bodies, educational institutions, and entrepreneurial support organizations to create an enabling environment that nurtures entrepreneurial passion, fosters a risk-tolerant mindset, and facilitates the successful establishment of ventures in Yobe State.

The general objective of the study is to investigate impact of Entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking and venture creation in Yobe State, Nigeria but the specific objectives thus:

1. To investigate the effects of Entrepreneurial Passion on Venture Creation in Yobe State, Nigeria.
2. To Examine the Effect of Entrepreneurial Risk-taking on Venture Creation in Yobe State, Nigeria.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Entrepreneurial passion

Cardon et al. (2009) emphasize that entrepreneurial passion is not a static construct but can evolve over time. They propose that entrepreneurial passion can be influenced by various factors, such as feedback, social support, and the perception of progress. These factors can either enhance or diminish entrepreneurial passion, shaping its intensity and impact on entrepreneurial outcomes.

Vallerand et al. (2003): propose the Dualistic Model of Passion, which distinguishes between harmonious passion and obsessive passion. They define harmonious passion as an autonomous internalization of an activity into one's identity, driven by an intrinsic desire for the activity itself. Obsessive passion, on the other hand, involves a controlled internalization of the activity, driven by external pressures or contingencies.

In this study, Cardon et al. Observe the influence of entrepreneurial passion on new venture performance. They find that both harmonious and obsessive passion positively affect new venture sales growth, but only harmonious passion is positively related to profitability. They highlight the importance of managing passion to maximize entrepreneurial outcomes.

Baron, R. A. (2008): highlights the motivational aspects of passion, emphasizing that passionate individuals are more likely to engage in entrepreneurial activities, persist in the face of challenges, and exhibit higher levels of innovation and creativity.

Drucker (1985) defined entrepreneurship as a systematic, purposeful, and organized process of identifying and exploiting opportunities. He emphasized the importance of innovation, resource allocation, and risk-taking in entrepreneurship. According to Drucker, entrepreneurs are individuals who create and manage organizations to achieve economic and social value.

Entrepreneurship Risk-taking

Knight (1921) distinguished between risk and uncertainty, defining risk as a situation in which probabilities can be assigned to potential outcomes. He emphasized that risk-taking involves making decisions in situations where the probabilities of outcomes are known or can be estimated.

Drucker (1985) viewed risk-taking as an essential characteristic of entrepreneurship. He emphasized that entrepreneurs willingly assume risks and uncertainties associated with their ventures, taking calculated actions to identify and exploit opportunities.

Bygrave and Zacharakis (2014) defined risk-taking in entrepreneurship as the willingness to commit resources to uncertain ventures or opportunities with the potential for both gains and losses. They highlighted that successful entrepreneurs are not risk-averse but rather take calculated risks based on their judgment and assessment of potential rewards.

Shane and Venkataraman (2000) discuss the significance of entrepreneurship as a research field and highlights the central role of venture creation in entrepreneurial studies. It emphasizes the importance of understanding the process of new venture creation and its implications for economic growth and innovation.

Sarasvathy (2001) presents a theoretical framework that explores the decision-making process in venture creation. And contrasts the traditional causation approach with an effectuation perspective, highlighting the role of entrepreneurial contingency and the use of available resources in shaping the creation of new ventures.

Gartner (1985) proposes a conceptual framework for understanding new venture creation. discusses the key elements and processes involved in creating new ventures, including opportunity recognition, resource acquisition, and the entrepreneurial team's role in driving venture creation.

Empirical Review

On the study of Cardon et al. (2009) Observe the Nature and Experience of Entrepreneurial Passion. The study utilizes a qualitative research design involving in-depth interviews with entrepreneurs to explore the nature and experience of entrepreneurial passion. The study identifies two dimensions of entrepreneurial passion: harmonious passion and obsessive passion. It highlights that harmonious passion positively influences venture creation, while obsessive passion can have both positive and negative effects. The authors recommend that aspiring entrepreneurs and educators focus on developing harmonious passion and managing obsessive passion to enhance venture creation outcomes. Further research is needed to explore the antecedents, consequences, and mechanisms underlying different types of entrepreneurial passion and their impact on various stages of venture creation.

Renko, et al. (2012) Perception of entrepreneurial passion and its impact on family firm value and growth. This study employs survey data from family firm owners and managers to examine the relationship between perception of entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking, and venture creation outcomes. The study finds that a higher

perception of entrepreneurial passion leads to increased risk-taking behavior, et al. which, in turn, positively influences family firm value and growth. The authors suggest that family firms should encourage and support the development of entrepreneurial passion among family members to foster risk-taking and enhance firm performance. Further research is needed to explore the role of contextual factors and the potential moderating effects of industry or firm characteristics.

Li, Y., Zhao, et al. (2020) Observe Entrepreneurial Passion and New Venture Performance: The Mediating Role of Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy and the Moderating Role of Environmental Dynamism. This study employed a quantitative research design and collected data from 273 new ventures in China. Surveys were used to measure entrepreneurial passion, entrepreneurial self-efficacy, environmental dynamism, and new venture performance. The data were analyzed using statistical techniques, including regression analysis and mediation/moderation analyses, to examine the relationships between the variables. The study found that entrepreneurial passion positively influenced new venture performance. It also revealed that entrepreneurial self-efficacy mediated the relationship between passion and performance, indicating that passionate entrepreneurs with higher self-efficacy achieved better performance outcomes. Moreover, the study identified environmental dynamism as a moderator, indicating that the positive effect of passion on performance was stronger when environmental dynamism was high. Based on the findings, the authors suggest that entrepreneurs should focus on cultivating and maintaining their entrepreneurial passion to enhance new venture performance. They recommend investing in activities that boost self-efficacy, such as training, networking, and seeking mentorship. Additionally, the study highlights the importance of considering the external environment and adapting strategies accordingly, particularly in dynamic and uncertain contexts.

Obschonka, et al. (2020) Entrepreneurial Passion and Personality: The Role of Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy and Need for Achievement. This study utilized a quantitative research design and collected data from 1,051 entrepreneurs in Germany. The survey included measures of entrepreneurial passion, entrepreneurial self-efficacy, need for achievement, and business performance. The data were analyzed using statistical techniques, including structural equation modeling, to examine the relationships between the variables and the mediating role of entrepreneurial self-efficacy. The study found that entrepreneurial passion positively influenced business performance, and this relationship was mediated by entrepreneurial self-efficacy. It also identified the need for achievement as a moderator, indicating that the positive effect of passion on performance was stronger for entrepreneurs with a higher need for achievement. The study highlights the interplay between passion, personality traits, and entrepreneurial outcomes. Based on the findings, the authors suggest that entrepreneurs should focus on building and maintaining their entrepreneurial self-efficacy to leverage the positive effects of passion on business performance. They recommend setting challenging goals, seeking feedback, and engaging in activities that enhance self-belief. Additionally, understanding one's need for achievement can help entrepreneurs align their passion and drive with their personal motivations, leading to greater success.

Wiklund, et al. (2011) Entrepreneurial Risk Taking: A Meta-analysis and Future Research Directions. This study conducted a meta-analysis of 58 studies to examine the relationship between entrepreneurial risk-taking and venture creation. The meta-analysis involved synthesizing data from a large sample of entrepreneurs and ventures to determine the overall effect size and identify potential moderators. The study also discussed future research directions in the field of entrepreneurial risk-taking. The meta-analysis found a positive relationship between entrepreneurial risk-taking and venture creation. It indicated that entrepreneurs who are more willing to take risks are more likely to engage in venture creation activities. The study also identified several moderators that influence the risk-taking and venture creation relationship, such as industry context, founder characteristics, and environmental factors. Based on the findings, the authors suggest that entrepreneurs should assess and manage risks effectively to enhance their venture creation outcomes. They emphasize the importance of understanding the specific risks associated with the industry and market conditions in which the venture operates. The study also highlights the need for future research to explore the underlying mechanisms and boundary conditions of the risk-taking and venture creation relationship in more detail.

Cope, J. (2011) Entrepreneurial learning from failure: An interpretative phenomenological analysis. This study employed an interpretative phenomenological analysis approach to explore the learning experiences of entrepreneurs following business failure. It involved in-depth interviews with 18 entrepreneurs who had experienced failure and were in the process of starting a new venture. The interviews focused on their

perceptions of failure, the lessons learned, and the impact on their subsequent entrepreneurial activities. The data were analyzed thematically to uncover the key themes and patterns related to entrepreneurial risk-taking and venture creation. The study revealed that failure provided valuable learning experiences for entrepreneurs. It found that failure increased entrepreneurs' risk awareness and sensitivity, prompting them to develop more cautious and informed risk-taking strategies in their subsequent ventures. The study highlighted the importance of reflection, sense-making, and learning from failure as drivers of entrepreneurial growth and resilience. It emphasized the role of risk-taking as a dynamic process influenced by the learning and adaptation following failure. Based on the findings, the author suggested that entrepreneurs should embrace failure as a learning opportunity and engage in reflective practices to extract valuable lessons. They recommended that entrepreneurs develop a learning mindset and actively seek feedback and support from mentors and networks. The study emphasized the need for entrepreneurs to integrate the experiences and insights gained from failure into their risk-taking strategies in future venture creation endeavors.

Ucbasaran, et al. (2013) Life on the edge: Entrepreneurial risk-taking and stress. This study explores the relationship between entrepreneurial risk-taking and stress levels among entrepreneurs. The authors use a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews with a sample of entrepreneurs. The study measures risk-taking propensity and assesses stress levels using validated scales. Statistical analysis techniques, such as correlation analysis, are used to examine the relationship between risk-taking and stress. The qualitative data provides insights into the experiences and perceptions of entrepreneurs regarding risk-taking and its impact on stress. The study finds a positive relationship between risk-taking propensity and stress among entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs who engage in higher levels of risk-taking tend to experience higher levels of stress. However, the study also reveals that stress can have both positive and negative effects on risk-taking behavior. Some entrepreneurs perceive stress as a motivating factor that drives them to take calculated risks, while others find it overwhelming and detrimental to their decision-making. The study highlights the complex interplay between risk-taking, stress, and entrepreneurial behavior. Based on the findings, the authors recommend that entrepreneurs be aware of the potential stress associated with risk-taking and develop strategies to manage it effectively. They suggest engaging in stress-reducing activities, seeking social support, and practicing mindfulness techniques. The study emphasizes the importance of finding a balance between risk-taking and stress management to maintain overall well-being and sustainable entrepreneurial performance.

The Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB)

The Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) was proposed by Icek Ajzen in the 1980s underpinned this study. The theory is a social psychological theory that seeks to explain the underlying factors that influence human behavior, including motivation, attitudes, and intentions. According to TPB, individuals are motivated by their attitudes towards a particular behavior, the subjective norms or social pressure to engage in that behavior, and their perceived control over the behavior. TPB suggests that behavior is the result of a deliberate and rational decision-making process in which individuals weigh the costs and benefits of different courses of action.

Critics of TPB have suggested that the theory is overly deterministic and does not account for the complexity of human behavior. Others have criticized TPB for its lack of empirical support in certain contexts, such as in the study of entrepreneurship. But despite these criticisms, TPB has been widely used in the study of entrepreneurial motivation and venture creation. Researchers have applied TPB to understand the factors that drive individuals to become entrepreneurs, such as their attitudes towards entrepreneurship, the social pressure to engage in entrepreneurship, and their perceived control over the process of starting and growing a new venture.

The TPB theory have been used to explore the relationship between entrepreneurial intention and behavior. They have found that individuals with a positive attitude towards entrepreneurship, a strong subjective norm to engage in entrepreneurship, and a high perceived control over the process of starting and growing a new venture are more likely to be motivated to become entrepreneurs and to succeed in their ventures (Liñán and Chen, 2009). It has also been used to explore the impact of entrepreneurial education and training on entrepreneurial motivation and success. Researchers have found that entrepreneurial education and training programs that are designed to promote positive attitudes towards entrepreneurship, social support,

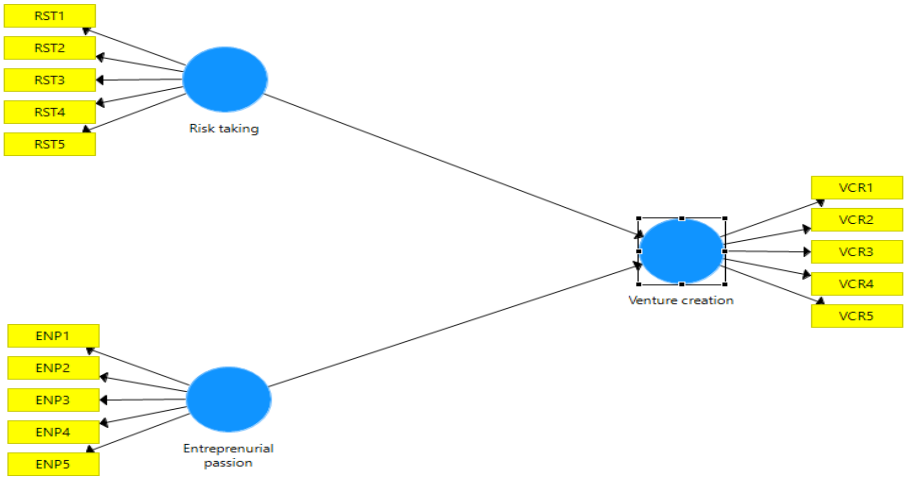
and perceived control can be particularly effective in motivating individuals to become entrepreneurs and supporting their success (Kuratko & Audretsch, 2013).

METHODOLOGY

The study will adopt the quantitative method for data collection from the survey. This design is ideal for collecting consistent data from respondents for the study. Surveys allow you to pick a group of people from a population that share the same personal and social traits as the rest of the population that may be used as a representative sample. A well-structured questionnaire will be administered to the respondents for primary data collection.

The population of study is all the entrepreneurs in Yobe state. Therefore, the study will use the most common method used by research students in the determination of an unknown population (Cochran, 1977). This study relates to the determination of reliable sample size for unknown population. The sample is usually required for studies under social sciences that involved primary data. The study also intends to use the z-score for the determination of the reliable sample size for the unknown population. A z-score is a numerical measurement used in statistics of a value's relationship to the mean (average) of a group of values, measured in terms of standard deviation from the mean. If a Z-score is 0, it indicates that the data point's score is identical to the mean score.

The study used purposive sampling technique to identify the sample units of the entrepreneurs in Yobe state. This a judgmental non-probability sample. The main objective of using purposive sampling technique is to produce a sample that can be logically assumed to be representative of the population (Lavrakaz, 2008).



RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Gender

Most of the respondents were male (67.3%). This is likely because entrepreneurship is often seen as a male-dominated field, especially in the North-east. However, it is encouraging to see that there is a significant number of female entrepreneurs in Yobe State (32.7%).

Table 1. Frequencies of GENDER

GENDER	Counts	% of Total	Cumulative %
Female	112	32.7 %	32.7 %
Male	230	67.3 %	100.0 %

This suggests that there is a growing trend of women starting their own businesses in the state. In summary, the data suggests that there is a good mix of genders among entrepreneurs in Yobe State. This is important for fostering a diverse and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Education

Table 2 show that many of the respondents had a secondary education (35.1%). This is followed by those with no formal education (28.4%), vocational training (11.4%), university education (10.2%), and polytechnic education (14.9%).

Table 2. Frequencies of EDUCATION

EDUCATION	Counts	% of Total	Cumulative %
None	97	28.4 %	28.4 %
Polytechnic	51	14.9 %	43.3 %
Secondary	120	35.1 %	78.4 %
University	35	10.2 %	88.6 %
Vocational	39	11.4 %	100.0 %

This distribution of education levels suggests that a significant portion of entrepreneurs in Yobe State have not completed formal education beyond secondary school. While this may pose some challenges for these entrepreneurs, it also highlights the potential for entrepreneurship to provide opportunities for individuals with diverse educational backgrounds. It is also worth noting that a considerable number of respondents have received vocational training (11.4%). This suggests that there is a growing emphasis on practical skills and training in the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Yobe State. This diversity of education levels can contribute to a more vibrant and innovative entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Age

Table 3 shows that most entrepreneurs are between the ages of 30 and 40 (58.4%). This is the age group where people typically have more work experience, financial resources, and confidence to start their own businesses. A significant number of entrepreneurs are between the ages of 20 and 29 (34.0%). This suggests that there is a growing trend of young people starting their own businesses in Yobe State. A small number of entrepreneurs are over the age of 50 (5.0%). This suggests that entrepreneurship is not limited to young people, and that there are opportunities for people of all ages to start their own businesses.

Table 3. Frequencies of AGE

AGE	Counts	% of Total	Cumulative %
20 - 29 years	116	34.0 %	34.0 %
30 - 40 years	199	58.4 %	92.4 %
40 - 50 years	9	2.6 %	95.0 %
50 above	17	5.0 %	100.0 %

There are few entrepreneurs between the ages of 40 and 50 (2.6%). This could be due to factors, such as the challenges of starting a business later in life, or the fact that people in this age group may be more focused on their careers or families. The data suggests that there is a wide range of ages among entrepreneurs in Yobe State. This diversity of ages can contribute to a more dynamic and innovative entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Enterprises

The data from table 4 shows that most enterprises in Yobe State are involved in trading (37.7%), followed by agriculture (31.9%), manufacturing (17.3%), services (11.4%), and others (1.8%).

Table 4. Frequencies of ENTERPRISES

ENTERPRISES	Counts	% of Total	Cumulative %
Agriculture	109	31.9 %	31.9 %
Manufacturing	59	17.3 %	49.1 %
Others	6	1.8 %	50.9 %
Services	39	11.4 %	62.3 %
Trading	129	37.7 %	100.0 %

This suggests that the Yobe State economy is heavily reliant on trading and agriculture. Manufacturing and services are also important sectors, but they are not as significant as trading and agriculture. The "others" category likely includes a variety of small businesses that are not easily classified into the other categories.

Location

The data in table 5 shows that many enterprises in Yobe State are in Bade (38.9%), followed by Nguru (17.8%), Yusufari (11.7%), Karasuwa (13.2%), Jakusko (11.4%), and Machina (7.0%). This suggests that bade is the most entrepreneurial location in Yobe State. It is likely that this is due to the size and population of Bade, the availability of resources, and the level of economic development.

Table 5. Frequencies of LOCATION

LOCATION	Counts	% of Total	Cumulative %
Bade	133	38.9 %	38.9 %
Jakusko	39	11.4 %	50.3 %
Karasuwa	45	13.2 %	63.5 %
Machina	24	7.0 %	70.5 %
Nguru	61	17.8 %	88.3 %
Yusufari	40	11.7 %	100.0 %

Assessment of the Measurement Model

Outer loadings

Outer loadings are a measure of how well a measurement item correlates with its respective construct. In other words, it indicates how strongly an item is related to the underlying concept it is intended to measure. Outer loadings are typically interpreted in the context of other items that measure the same construct. A general rule of thumb is that outer loadings should be greater than 0.70 to be considered good indicators of the construct.

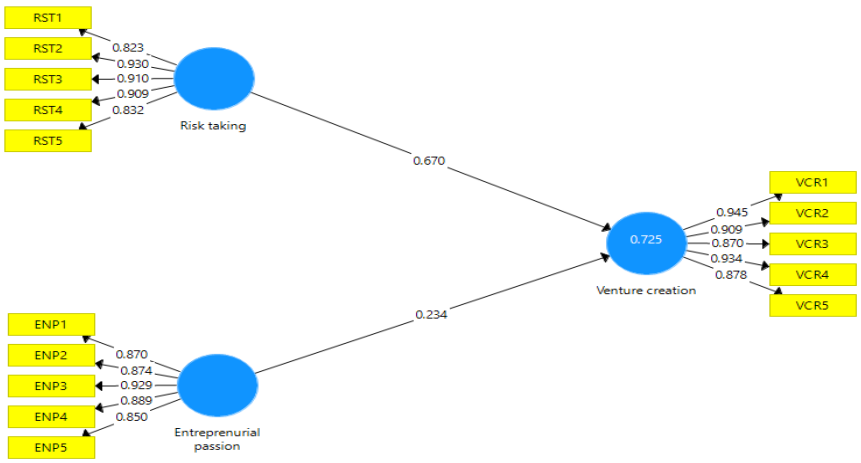
Table 6. Outer loadings

	Entrepreneurial passion	Risk taking	Venture creation
ENP1	**0.870**		
ENP2	**0.874**		
ENP3	**0.929**		

ENP4	**0.889**		
ENP5	**0.850**		
RST1		**0.823**	
RST2		**0.930**	
RST3		**0.910**	
RST4		**0.909**	
RST5		**0.832**	
VCR1			**0.945**
VCR2			**0.909**
VCR3			**0.870**
VCR4			**0.934**
VCR5			**0.878**

From table 6, all the five items for entrepreneurial Passion (ENP) have high outer loadings, ranging from 0.850 to 0.929. This suggests that these items are all good measures of entrepreneurial passion. Similarly, For Risk-Taking (RST), all the five items also have high outer loadings, ranging from 0.823 to 0.930. This suggests that these items are all good measures of risk-taking. Likewise, for Venture Creation (VCR), all the five items have high outer loadings, ranging from 0.870 to 0.945. This suggests that these items are all good measures of venture creation.

Fig 1. Outer loadings



Construct Reliability and Validity

Construct reliability refers to the consistency of the measurements of a construct across different data collection methods or different occasions. It indicates whether the measurements are consistent and stable over time. While construct validity refers to the extent to which a measure accurately measures the construct it is intended to measure. It indicates whether the measure is capturing the true meaning of the construct.

Table 7. Construct Reliability and Validity

	Cronbach's Alpha	**rho_A**	**Composite Reliability**	**Average Variance Extracted (AVE)**
Entrepreneurial passion	**0.929**	**0.936**	**0.946**	**0.779**
Risk taking	**0.928**	**0.930**	**0.946**	**0.777**

Venture creation	**0.946**	**0.948**	**0.959**	**0.824**

From table 7, all three constructs - entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking, and venture creation - exhibit high levels of internal consistency, indicating that the items measuring each construct are highly related to each other. Additionally, the high values of rho_A and composite reliability further confirm the reliability and consistency of the measures.

Furthermore, the average variance extracted (AVE) values for all three constructs are above the recommended threshold of 0.5, suggesting that the items measuring each construct have a strong shared variance. In conclusion, the construct validity and reliability of the measures for entrepreneurial passion, risk-taking, and venture creation are all high, indicating that the measures are reliable and valid, and can be used to accurately measure these constructs.

Discriminant validity

The Fornell-Larcker Criterion is a method for assessing discriminant validity, which is the degree to which two or more constructs are distinct from each other. According to this criterion, discriminant validity is established if the square root of the average variance extracted (AVE) for each construct is greater than the correlation between the construct and any other construct in the model.

Table 8. Discriminant validity (Fornell-Larcker Criterion)

	Entrepreneurial passion	**Risk taking**	**Venture creation**
Entrepreneurial passion	0.883		
Risk taking	0.707	0.882	
Venture creation	0.707	0.835	0.908

In this case as shown in table 8, the square root of the AVE for entrepreneurial passion is 0.883, the square root of the AVE for risk-taking is 0.882, and the square root of the AVE for venture creation is 0.908. The correlations between the constructs are 0.707 between entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking, 0.707 between entrepreneurial passion and venture creation, and 0.835 between risk-taking and venture creation. Therefore, the discriminant validity of the three constructs is established. This means that the constructs are distinct from each other and can be measured as separate constructs.

R-squared (R^2)

R-squared (R^2) is a statistical measure that indicates the proportion of the variance in a dependent variable that can be explained by an independent variable in a regression model. R^2 is often used as a measure of goodness of fit for a regression model. A higher R^2 value generally indicates a better fit of the model to the data.

Table 9. R square

	R Square	**R Square Adjusted**
Venture creation	0.725	0.723

The R square value in table 9 is 0.725, it indicates that 72.5% of the variance in the dependent variable (venture creation) is explained by the independent variables in the model. This is a relatively high R square value, which suggests that the model has a good fit to the data.

The adjusted R square value of 0.723 is slightly lower than the R square value. This is because the adjusted R square considers the number of independent variables in the model. The fact that the adjusted R square value is

close to the R square value suggests that the model is not overfitted. This means that the model can be used to make reliable predictions about venture creation.

f-squared (f^2)

The f-square value is a measure of effect size. It represents the proportion of the variance in the dependent variable (venture creation) that is explained by a particular independent variable.

Table 10. f-square

f square	**Venture creation**
Entrepreneurial passion	0.099
Risk taking	**0.815**
Venture creation	

In this case, the f-square value for entrepreneurial passion in table 10 is 0.099, which is relatively low. This suggests that entrepreneurial passion has a small effect on venture creation. The f-square value for risk-taking is 0.815 is relatively high. This suggests that risk-taking has a large effect on venture creation.

4.5 Multicollinearity test

Multicollinearity is a statistical phenomenon that occurs when two or more independent variables in a regression model are highly correlated with each other. This can cause problems with the interpretation of the regression results and can lead to unstable estimates of the regression coefficients. The Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) is a measure of how much the variance of an estimated regression coefficient is inflated due to multicollinearity. An inner VIF value greater than 10 is generally considered to indicate multicollinearity, which can bias the results of the regression analysis.

Table 11. Inner VIF

	Venture creation
Entrepreneurial passion	**2.002**
Risk taking	**2.002**
Venture creation	

From table 11, the inner VIF values for both entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking are 2.002, which is less than 10. This suggests that there is no multicollinearity issue with these variables and that they can be used together in a regression model.

Model fit.

Model fit refers to the degree to which a statistical model accurately represents the observed data. It assesses whether the model can capture the underlying relationships between the variables in the data.

In table 12, the SRMR, d_ULS, d_G, and Chi-Square values are all very close to 0, which suggests that the estimated model fits the observed data very well. Additionally, the NFI value is close to 1, which further confirms the good fit of the model.

Table 12. Model fit summary

	Saturated Model	**Estimated Model**
SRMR	0.065	0.065
d_ULS	0.503	0.503
d_G	0.515	0.515
Chi-Square	943.608	943.608
NFI	0.839	0.839

Hypotheses test

The first hypothesis of the study is restated as:

Hypothesis 1: Entrepreneurial passion has a positive and significant relationship with venture creation in Yobe State.

Table 13. Path coefficient

	Original Sample (O)	**Sample Mean (M)**	**Standard Deviation (STDEV)**	**T Statistics (|O/STDEV|)**	**P Values**
Entrepreneurial passion -> Venture creation	0.234	0.237	0.078	2.991	**0.003**
Risk taking -> Venture creation	0.670	0.669	0.074	9.053	**0.000**

The path coefficient for the relationship between entrepreneurial passion and venture creation is 0.234. This indicates that there is a positive relationship between the two variables, meaning that as entrepreneurial passion increases, so does venture creation. The T-statistic for this relationship is 2.991, and the p-value is 0.003. This means that the relationship between entrepreneurial passion and venture creation is statistically significant at the 0.01 level. Therefore, Hypothesis 1 is supported. Entrepreneurial passion has a positive and significant effect on venture creation in Yobe State.

The second hypothesis of the study is restated as:

Hypothesis 2: Risk-taking has a positive and significant relationship with venture creation in Yobe State.

The path coefficient for the relationship between risk-taking and venture creation is 0.670. This indicates that there is a strong positive relationship between the two variables, meaning that as risk-taking increases, so does venture creation. The T-statistic for this relationship is 9.053, and the p-value is 0.000. This means that the relationship between risk-taking and venture creation is statistically significant at the 0.001 level. Therefore, Hypothesis 2 is supported. Risk-taking has a strong positive and significant effect on venture creation in Yobe State.

Both entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking are important factors in venture creation. However, risk-taking appears to be a more important factor than entrepreneurial passion. This is because the path coefficient for risk-taking is much larger than the path coefficient for entrepreneurial passion, and the T-statistic for risk-taking is also much larger.

FINDINGS:

The study reveals that entrepreneurial passion is a multifaceted construct comprising various dimensions, including intense positive emotions, identification with the venture, and a sense of purpose and meaning. Passionate entrepreneurs experience a deep emotional connection with their ventures and demonstrate high levels of motivation, persistence, and commitment. They are driven by the desire to make a difference and pursue opportunities aligned with their personal values and interests.

Regarding risk-taking, the study finds that passionate entrepreneurs exhibit a willingness to take calculated risks. They perceive risks as necessary and embrace them as part of the entrepreneurial journey. Passionate entrepreneurs are more likely to identify and evaluate opportunities, weigh the potential rewards against the associated risks, and make informed decisions based on their passion-driven vision.

Venture creation is influenced by entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking. Passionate entrepreneurs are more proactive in seeking out and creating opportunities, leveraging their passion as a driving force. Their willingness to take risks allows them to overcome challenges, adapt to changing circumstances, and bring their ventures to fruition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings, the authors suggest that fostering entrepreneurial passion can be beneficial for venture creation. They emphasize the importance of self-reflection and self-awareness to identify and cultivate passion. Entrepreneurs should align their ventures with their personal values, interests, and sense of purpose to enhance their passion. Additionally, the study highlights the need for entrepreneurs to develop risk assessment and management skills to ensure that risk-taking is informed and calculated.

CONCLUSION

The study concludes that entrepreneurial passion and risk-taking are intertwined and influential factors in venture creation. Passion serves as a driving force, fueling motivation and commitment, while risk-taking allows entrepreneurs to navigate uncertainties and pursue opportunities. By understanding and harnessing their passion and taking calculated risks, entrepreneurs can enhance their chances of successfully creating and developing ventures.

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