

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STUDENTS' WORK VALUES AND ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION AMONG VIETNAMESE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Work value has long been considered as one of the critical reasons for the youngsters' career choices. Nevertheless, how work values change in a specific context and their impact on entrepreneurial intention has not been fully examined. This study investigates the relationship between Vietnamese students' work values and entrepreneurial intention. Based on a survey of 805 students in Business Administration, E-Commerce, Human Resource Management, and Marketing, the study identified the 8 most important work values of Vietnamese students, in which "Social status" is a very unique value of the Vietnamese collectivist culture and prominence to self-respect. The research findings also show that students who appreciate Autonomy and Authority and Challenge tend to be an entrepreneur; on the contrary, students with work values including Work load or Security will choose to be a wage employee. Based on these results, various recommendations have been proposed for improving entrepreneurship education in Vietnamese universities.

Keywords: Work Values, Entrepreneurial Intention, Students, Vietnam.

INTRODUCTION

Work values have long been known as psychological factors to explain and understand the individual differences in organizational behavior. Many researchers have applied work values to explain the reasons for choosing vocational and career choices (Judge & Bretz, 1992) or to understand employee motivation and commitment (Kooij et al., 2010).

For youth people (i.e., graduate students) facing the career choice, the start-up decision is a choice between two options including paid employment and self-employment (Katz, 1992). In this case, it is clear that career values will be good explanations for this choice (Kolvereid, 1996a). Moreover, if we know which values explain the choice of paid employment, which values explains the choice to start a business; this will be valuable information to help youngsters and educators have a specific direction for learners as well as the selection of good candidates for a specific course.

In entrepreneurship studies, various authors have pointed out that personal values play relevant roles in corporate social entrepreneurship (Hemingway, 2005) or may have a role in explaining the formation of intention antecedents and also moderate their effect on the entrepreneurial intention (Fayolle et al., 2014). Researchers argue that values and motivations are closely related since both of them are linked to the notion of goals. More important goals induce a stronger motivation to plan thoroughly. The higher the priority given to a value, the

more likely people will form action plans that can lead to its expression in behavior (Gollwitzer, 1996).

Although work values have been identified as an important role, research on the specific role of values and motivation in entrepreneurship is still relatively scarce” and “there are several relevant gaps in knowledge concerning the role which they play in entrepreneurship. In particular, the articulation of values and motivations within the entrepreneurial process perspective and the widely-used entrepreneurial intention models could be very promising (Fayolle et al., 2014).

Clarifying the link between career values and entrepreneurial choice will be particularly meaningful in the Vietnamese context. The Government of Vietnam has taken 2016 as the year of “*Startup Nation*” that has started the new period in which the government implemented strongly to encourage the people to start a new business. The universities in Vietnam have also been strongly involved in the process of promoting student start-ups by increasing teaching and encouraging students to choose the entrepreneurial career. However, encouraging students to start a business should be based on scientific evidence of their career choices. Students have different career values, and they should all not be encouraged to start a business.

To narrow the research gap in understanding the role of work values and explaining entrepreneurial intention or entrepreneurship behavior, this study examines the relationship between work values and the intention to start a business in the context of collectivist values in Vietnam. Our study is expected to have two major contributions. Firstly, the objective of the study is to identify specific work value factors in the context of emerging economies with their own culture like Vietnam. The second is to determine the relationship between the factors of work value and the intention to start a business and answer the question on what values encourage the choice of starting a business and what value does not encourage the choice of starting a business.

The paper is organized as follows: after the introduction part, Section 2 presents the literature review. Section 3 is devoted to methodology. The obtained results are in Section 4. Section 5 provides discussion and recommendations. Finally, conclusions, limitations and future research directions are given in Section 6.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Work Values

Schwartz (Schwartz, 1992) defined values as abstract beliefs about the desirable goals - ordered according to relative importance, which guides individuals as they evaluate events, people and actions. Values are distinct from some psychological concepts as attitudes, which apply to more concrete objects (Hitlin & Piliavin, 2004) and needs and motives (Kooij et al., 2010), which are “energetic” concepts directly connected to action.

In this study, we apply the interpretation of (Consiglio, Cenciotti, Borgogni, Alessandri, & Schwartz, 2017) about career value: “*Work values as expressions of broad personal values in the organizational context*” and “*They are goals or conditions that individuals seek to reach in their job*”.

Identify and Measure Work Values

There exist various theoretical views on work values. Consiglio et al. (Consiglio et al., 2017) identified that “*Wide variety of taxonomies about the measurement of individual work values*” and “*Some scales emphasize personal preferences, whereas others take the moral aspect of values into account*”. For example, Schwartz’s model (Schwartz, 1992) on basic personal values has been applied to many studies including (Consiglio et al., 2017; Espíritu-Olmos & Sastre-Castillo, 2015). Schwartz’s (Schwartz, 1992) model identifies ten basic personal values presumably recognized by and motivating for individuals across cultures. However, Schwartz (1992) suggested that this is only universal aspects of value content researchers' next task is to find values associated with culture-specific aspects. According to Fischer (Fischer, 2006), personal values are influenced by socialization processes and are, therefore, partly determined by the predominant cultural values in society. This study also showed that there is substantial variability of values across individuals and as a result, the level of congruence between personal and cultural values may also be relevant (Fischer & Schwartz, 2011).

In this study, the authors expect to identify specific career values associated with the own Vietnam cultural context and to find work values that support or do not support the propensity of starting a business. The work values proposed by Kolvereid (Kolvereid, 1996a) may be appropriate for this research direction (Tran, 2011). Based on a study on master students in business, Kolvereid has identified 11 values in which five values have connection with the tendency to be a self-employment, including economic opportunity, authority, autonomy, challenge, self-realization, and participate in the whole process; six values related to the tendency to be a wage employment including security, social environment, work load, avoid responsibility and career. The values emphasizing personal preferences have been utilized in various studies (Tkachev & Kolvereid, 1999; Tran, 2011) Therefore; the authors use this scale of work values and adapt it in the context of our research.

The Role of Work Values in Explaining Entrepreneurial Intention and Orientation

Entrepreneurial intention is the quality that leads an individual to pursue a career in self-employment or establish his or her own business (Fayolle et al., 2014). The role of work values or personal values in predicting entrepreneurial intention and behavior has been mentioned in several studies. Hayton et al. (Hayton et al., 2018) emphasized that individualist values have been repeatedly associated with entrepreneurial intentions and behavior. In nations with a similar level of development, a more individualistic culture is linked to a higher entrepreneurial activity (Liñán et al., 2013; Pinillos & Reyes, 2011). Similarly, Jaén et al. (Fayolle et al., 2013) pointed out that at the personal level, people prioritizing individualist values tend to exhibit higher entrepreneurial intentions. Since Vietnam is a country with collectivist culture, the research finding by Siu and Lo (Siu & Lo, 2013) may be useful when the authors indicated that the relationship between subjective norms and entrepreneurial intention is significantly stronger when the interdependent self-construal (collectivist values) is high. The research also identified that cultural values affect entrepreneurial activity differently, depending on the country’s income level (Fernández-Serrano & Romero, 2014; Liñán et al., 2013; Pinillos & Reyes, 2011). Several other studies on work values in explaining entrepreneurial intention and their findings are exhibited in Table 1. However, the conflicting results about values and entrepreneurial behavior need to be explained in future research.

Regarding the relationship between work values and entrepreneurial intention, the empirical study does not provide a consistent and solid result. (Espíritu-Olmos & Sastre-Castillo, 2015) investigated the influence of both personality traits and work values on entrepreneurial intention. The authors have shown that personality traits affect entrepreneurial intention more than work values do and only self-enhancement (one dimension of work value according to Schwartz (Schwartz, 1992) is significant on affecting entrepreneurial intention. However, the influence of work values on entrepreneurial intention has not been fully explained and this relationship needs to be investigated, especially in a specific context of Vietnam.

Research	Author	Findings
Work values as predictors of entrepreneurial career intentions	Hirschi & Fischer, 2013	Self-enhancement and openness to change values predicted higher levels and conservation values lower levels of entrepreneurial intention. Gender moderated the effects of enhancement and conservation values on change in entrepreneurial intention.
Beyond Entrepreneurial Intentions: Values and Motivations in Entrepreneurship	Fayolle et al., 2014	Values may help to explain the formation of intention antecedents (e.g., attitudes), and also moderate their effect on the entrepreneurial intention. Values and motivations may also play a role in the intention–action link.
About the Interactive Influence of Culture and Regulatory Barriers on Entrepreneurial Activity	Fernández-Serrano & Romero, 2014	Cultural values and regulatory barriers are not related to entrepreneurship in the same way in countries with differing levels of development.
The influence of collectivistic personal values on the formation of entrepreneurial intentions	Hueso, Jaén, Liñán, & Basuki, 2020	The emphasis of collectivistic personal values triggers an indirect, negative effect on entrepreneurial intentions, through both the personal attitude and the perceived behavioural control.
Predicting entrepreneurial intentions from work values	Tipu & Ryan, 2016	The value-intention link and support the view that values can direct work choices in entrepreneurship.
Predicting Entrepreneurial Career Intentions: Values and the Theory of Planned Behavior	Gorgievski, Stephan, Laguna, & Moriano, 2018	Openness and self-enhancement values relate positively to entrepreneurial career intentions and that these relationships are partly mediated by attitudes toward entrepreneurship, self-efficacy, and, to a lesser extent, by social norms.
Culture, benevolent and hostile sexism, and entrepreneurial intentions	Stedham & Wieland, 2017	Both hostile and benevolent sexism are positively related to entrepreneurial intentions of both men and women
When do entrepreneurial intentions lead to actions? The role of national culture	Bogatyreva, Edelman, Manolova, Osiyevskyy, & Shirokova, 2019	Core aspects of national culture influence the association between entrepreneurial intention and subsequent action
What drives future business leaders? How work values and gender shape young adults' entrepreneurial and leadership aspirations	Lechner, Sortheix, Obschonka, & Salmela-Aro, 2018	Work values are implicated in shaping young people's aspirations to business leadership and contribute strongly to the gender gap therein.

METHODOLOGY

The scale

Student work values: Kolvereid (Kolvereid, 1996b) proposed 11 work values of student including Security; Work Load; Social environment; Avoid Responsibility; Career opportunity; Economic opportunity; Challenge; Autonomy; Authority (power); Self-realization; Participate in the whole process. In an empirical study on student in Vietnam context, Tran (Tran, 2011) indicated that “*Participate in the whole process*” can be excluded and “*Social status*” should be included. The questionnaire items related to each value are based on the works of Kolvereid (Kolvereid, 1996a); Tran V.T. (Tran, 2011). For example, “*Security*” value has questionnaire items including fixed income, stability and security. In total, there are 33 questionnaire items that are equivalent to 11 work values.

Then, 20 students in fourth year were interviewed to identify the most suitable work values in the Vietnam context. Each student was personally interviewed in estimated 30 minutes in two rounds. In the first round of interview, students were requested to think about their expected future jobs and identify the most five important values to them. In the second round, the students were provided 11 work values and then requested to give their opinions on the suitability of questionnaire items.

The items with more than 60% of students agreeing to be kept were included in the final questionnaire. Finally, 35 items of 11 work values were included in the survey Shows in Table 2.

Value	Code	Items
1. Security (SEC)	SEC01	Stability
	SEC02	Fixed income
	SEC03	Safety (unemployment insurance, Social Insurance, health insurance, ...)
2. Work Load (WOR)	WOR01	Not require too much effort
	WOR02	Family/leisure
	WOR03	Less stressful
	WOR04	Simpler, low complexity
3. Social environment (ENV)	ENV01	Dynamic working environment
	ENV02	Larger social environment (colleagues, mutuality)
	ENV03	Social membership
4. Responsibility (RES)	RES01	Take the responsibility
	RES02	Have recognized positions in the organization
5. Career opportunity (CAR)	CAR01	Career opportunity, promotion
6. Economic opportunity (ECO)	ECO01	Good wages
	ECO02	Wages dependent effort
7. Challenge (CHA)	CHA01	Challenging
	CHA02	Interesting
	CHA03	Require multiple skills
	CHA04	Give feeling of success
	CHA05	Do not face risks" and difficult decisions
8. Autonomy (AUT)	AUT01	Freedom, independence
	AUT02	Be your own boss

Value	Code	Items
	AUT03	Choose own work tasks
9. Authority (power) (POU)	POU01	Authority
	POU02	Control the others
10. Self-realization = SELF	SEL01	Realize the own dream
	SEL02	Creative need, create something
	SEL03	Have the opportunity to develop and improve ability and skills
	SEL04	Have the opportunity to be self-assertive
	SEL05	Have the opportunity of further education and training
	SEL06	The job is suitable for the ability and quality.
11. Social status (SOC)	SOC01	Have a high social status
	SOC02	Be highly appreciated by family, friends and the others
	SOC03	Bring benefits to the community and nation
	SOC04	Be proud of the work

Entrepreneurial intention: The study utilized the scale of measuring entrepreneurial intention proposed by Linan and Chen (Liñán & Chen, 2009). This scale has been widely used in the research on the intention to start a business. It has six items as shown in Table 3.

Entrepreneurial intention (INT)	INT01	I am ready to do anything to be an entrepreneur
	INT02	My professional goal is to become an entrepreneur
	INT03	I will make every effort to start and run my own firm
	INT04	I am determined to create a firm in the future
	INT05	I have very seriously thought of starting a firm
	INT06	I have the firm intention to start a firm some day

Data collection

The data were collected in several successive steps. First, focus groups were conducted to explore the role of work values in explaining entrepreneurial intention. Next, focus groups pre-tested the questionnaire, and identified additional variables (that could affect the dependent variable) not present in the original survey instrument. A pilot study was then conducted using the modified questionnaire, and the instrument was modified, once again, for the final survey.

The questionnaire consists of two parts: the first part of the questionnaire includes 35 question items related to work values and six question items related to Entrepreneurial intentions. The questions were asked on a 7-point Likert scale from “*Strongly Disagree*” to “*Strongly Agree*”. The second part collects student basic information: major, gender, academic year (3rd year or 4th year), cumulative GPA, working experience, have been trained on entrepreneurship (Yes/No), Have participated in any extracurricular activity (Yes/No). In order to get a high response rate, the survey was conducted in class before the lecture started. The paper questionnaires were delivered by hand (manually) to every respondent. The survey took no more than 30 minutes to complete.

Data analysis

Data were analyzed using SPSS statistical software. The used quantitative data analysis techniques include descriptive statistics, exploratory factor analysis, reliability analysis, and multiple regression. The exploratory factor analysis and multiple regression are two main techniques to identify students' work values and explore the relationship between the work value and students' entrepreneurial intention.

RESULTS

Descriptive statistics analysis

The descriptive statistics analysis is presented in Table 4.

Name of category		Frequency (number students)	of	Percentage (%)
Major	Business Administration	385		47.80%
	E-Commerce	183		22.70%
	Human resource management	128		15.90%
	Marketing	109		13.60%
Gender	Male	127		15.8%
	Female	677		84.2%
Student year	3 rd year	555		68.9%
	4 th year	250		31.1%
Cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale)	Less than 2.0	6		0.7%
	2.0 to less than 2.5	123		15.3%
	2.5 to less than 3.2	531		66.0%
	3.2 to less than 3.6	132		16.4%
	3.6 or above	13		1.6%
Working experience	No	83		10.3%
	Part-time working	299		37.1%
	Temporary working (short period)	321		39.9%
	Working at home	77		9.6%
	Other	25		3.1%
Have been trained on entrepreneurship?	Yes	660		82%
	No	145		18%
Have participated in any extracurricular activity?	Yes	427		53%
	No	378		47%
Total		N=805		100%

The survey was conducted between August 05, 2018, and March 8, 2019, and reached 915 students in four different departments. After excluding incomplete and invalid responses, the samples are from 805 third year and fourth year students at Thuongmai University, Vietnam. The student majors, including Business administration, Electronic commerce, Human resource management and Marketing, are likely to be directly related to business and entrepreneurial

activities. The time of conducting survey was at the end of the academic year. The group of 3rd year and 4th year students have a clear understanding of work values and career orientation after graduation. Most students have a cumulative GPA from 2.0 to 3.6 on a 4.0 scale. Only 10.3% of students do not have any working experience. The majority of students (82%) have been trained on entrepreneurship (most of them took an extra short course or curriculum sessions on start-ups). More than half of students (53%) have participated in extracurricular activities.

Students' work values

Regarding students' work values, the factor analysis has been carried out on 35 initial question items. The result of factor analysis presented that eight factors (Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis; Rotation Method: Promax with Kaiser Normalization; KMO =0.906; Bartlett's Test with sig. =0.000) with Total Variance Explained =61.72%. The factors were then renamed as Wages and career opportunity (F1); Self-realization (F2); Social status (F3); Work load (F4); Organizational membership (F5); Autonomy and authority (F6); Security (F7); and Challenge (F8). The factors are sorted in decreasing order based on the Eigenvalues (>1). This order reflects the degree of importance of work values that students expect from the future career.

Among work values, it should be noted that “*Social status*” ranked third, after “*Wages*” and “*Self-realization*”. The “*Social status*” value reflects social status; being highly appreciated by family, friends and the others; and being proud of the work. This finding shows that “*Social status*” is a very unique value, suitable to the Vietnamese collectivist culture that gives prominence to self-respect.

Factor	Items and factor loadings	Cronbach's Alpha
Wages and career opportunity (F1)	Wages dependent effort	0.902
	Good wages	0.847
	Career opportunity, promotion	0.647
Self-realization (F2),	Creative need, create something	0.784
	Realize ones dreams	0.777
	Have the opportunity to be self-assertive	0.767
	Have the opportunity to develop and improve ability and skills	0.766
	Have the opportunity of further education and training	0.557
Social status (F3)	Be highly appreciated by family, friends and the others	0.858
	Have a high social status	0.789
	Be proud of the work	0.751
	Bring benefits to the community and nation	0.649
Work Load (F4)	Not require too much effort	0.778
	Less stressful	0.836
	Simpler, low complexity	0.795
Organizational membership (F5)	Social membership	0.874
	Take the responsibility	0.847
	Have recognized positions in the organization	0.718
Autonomy and	Be your own boss	0.836

Factor	Items and factor loadings		Cronbach's Alpha
authority (F6)	Choose own work tasks	0.824	
	Authority	0.701	
	Control the others	0.640	
Security (F7)	Stability	0.723	0.853
	Fixed income	0.755	
	Safety (unemployment insurance, Social Insurance, health insurance, ...)	0.787	
Challenge (F8)	Challenging	0.599	0.654
	Require multiple skills	0.787	
	Give feeling of success	0.530	

Each factor consists of from three to five question items. The reliability statistic was used to measure the reliability of the scale. Cronbach's alpha values for each scale are shown in Table 5. The Cronbach's alpha values of seven scales (F1-F7) fall in the reliability level (0.8 -0.9). Only F8 has Cronbach's Alpha value of .654 which is acceptable (Nunnally & Bernstein, 1999). The new factors (F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8 – each presents for a factor) were formed by the average calculation of all items in the scale. These factors were then used for multiple regression analysis.

Regression Analysis

Multiple regression analysis is used to investigate the relationship between 8 work values and students' entrepreneurial intention.

Scale reliability and validity of entrepreneurial intention

Before conducting regression analysis, scale reliability and validity of entrepreneurial intention is examined. The output of exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and Reliability analysis is shown in Table 6. Also, the exploratory factor analysis provides loading factors as shown in Table 5. The Cronbach's Alpha value of 0.896 is within a high reliability range.

Items and factor loadings		Cronbach's Alpha
I am ready to do anything to be an entrepreneur	0.700	0.896
My professional goal is to become an entrepreneur	0.847	
I will make every effort to start and run my own firm	0.801	
I am determined to create a firm in the future	0.851	
I have very seriously thought of starting a firm	0.822	
I have the firm intention to start a firm some day	0.845	
<i>EFA:</i> KMO = .888 Bartlett's Test, Sig.= .000 Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis; 1 components extracted		

The Relationship between work values and entrepreneurial intention

The regression analysis with 8 independent variables (F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8) and a dependent variable (Entrepreneurial Intention) was carried out and the results are shown in Table 7.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
			Std. Error	Beta			Tolerance	VIF
1	(Constant)	2.902	0.372		7.793	0.000		
	F1	-0.057	0.064	-0.039	-0.876	0.381	0.533	1.875
	F2	0.093	0.066	0.064	1.413	0.158	0.523	1.913
	F3	-0.042	0.062	-0.030	-0.680	0.497	0.539	1.854
	F4	-0.126	0.034	-0.138	-3.732	0.000	0.796	1.257
	F5	-0.026	0.049	-0.021	-0.516	0.606	0.645	1.550
	F6	0.295	0.050	0.240	5.883	0.000	0.653	1.533
	F7	-0.114	0.046	-0.098	-2.469	0.014	0.691	1.448
	F8	0.277	0.056	0.201	4.914	0.000	0.647	1.545

Dependent Variable: Entrepreneurial Intention
 Predictors: (Constant), F8, F4, F7, F6, F5, F1, F3, F2
 Adjusted R Square =0.134
 F = 16.467, Sig. =0.000

Based the obtained results, it can be concluded that only four factors with statistical significance (i.e., these four work values have an impact on Entrepreneurial Intention) are F4 - Work Load (sig=0.000), F6 -Autonomy and authority (sig=0.000), F7 –Security (sig=0.014,) và F8 –Challenge (sig=0.000). In which, F6 - Autonomy and authority (Standardized Beta = 0.240) and F8 –Challenge (Standardized Beta =0.201) have positive effect on Entrepreneurial Intention; whereas, F4 -Work Load (Standardized Beta = -0.138) và F7 –Security (Standardized Beta = -0.098) have negative effect on Entrepreneurial Intention. With adjusted R - Squared value of 0.134, the percentage of variation explained by work values that actually affect Entrepreneurial Intention is 13.4%.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Discussion

It is affirmed that there are eight work values; however, only four work values, including Work Load; Security, Autonomy and authority and Challenge, have effect on students' Entrepreneurial Intention. “*Social status*” is considered as a characteristic of the Vietnamese culture; however, it does not have statistically significant effect on Entrepreneurial Intention.

Two values, including F6 - Autonomy and authority (Standardized Beta =0.240) and F8 - Challenge (Standardized Beta =0.201), have positive effect on Entrepreneurial Intention. It is showed that more students want to be self-controlled and have rights in the workplace (Authority, Control the others) and these students have the tendency to choose to become entrepreneurs. Moreover, students who accept challenges (challenging jobs, jobs with multiple skills, and give them feeling of success) also want to involve entrepreneurship activities.

Work Load (Beta=-0.138) and Security (Beta=-0.098) have negative effect on Entrepreneurial Intention. It can be understood that students who prefer light duty works (Not require too much effort, Less stressful, Simpler, Low complexity) and security (Safety, Fixed income) are more likely to be a wage employee.

These findings, partially confirming Kolvereid's work (Kolvereid, 1996b), indicated that two out of six factors proposed by Kolvereid have a positive effect on Entrepreneurial Intention; and similarly, two in five factors related to wage employment were also consolidated. The study is consistent with Espiritu-Olmos and Sastre-Castillo's work (Espiritu-Olmos & Sastre-Castillo, 2015) when it revealed that "*Self-enhancement*" including "*Achievement*" and "*Authority*" have statistically significant effect on Entrepreneurial Intention.

The two most important work values derived by exploratory factor analysis are "*F1: Wages and career opportunity*" and "*F2: Self-realization*". In which the beta value shows that "*Wages and career opportunity*" and "*Self-realization*" have a respectively negative and positive effect on Entrepreneurial Intention. However, these factors do not have a statistically significant effect on Entrepreneurial Intention. Our study has demonstrated the specific characteristics of Vietnamese culture.

Recommendations

The findings may suggest several recommendations for entrepreneurship education and training. Firstly, regarding entrepreneurship education in university, if the graduated student is expected to be an entrepreneur, curriculum developers and lectures should focus on how to enhance positive attitude and develop entrepreneurial values including authority, challenges, and power.

Besides, entrepreneurial values need time to develop; therefore it should be done at a young age. This means that if Vietnam wants to spread the nation's start-up spirit and movement, entrepreneurship education should be integrated at the high school level, not just at the higher education level.

The work value is different for each individual. If youngsters expect to have a light duty, less challenging and stable job, they are not suitable for being an entrepreneur. It is not necessary to encourage all young people to start a business. Vietnamese youngsters can self-evaluate based on the eight work values proposed in this study to know whether they are suitable for engaging entrepreneurship activities. Educators should use an entry test on work values to select the most suitable students for start-up courses.

CONCLUSIONS, LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

A contribution of this study is that it identified eight work values for Vietnamese students, in which seven values can be found in the literature, the "*Social Status*" value reflects the particularity of the research context and the participants. The study also indicates that students who expect to have a job with light duty assignments and stability do not want to be an entrepreneur. "*Good Wages*" and "*Self-realization*" were considered as the two most important values; however, they do not have a statistically significant effect on Entrepreneurial Intention.

Our study is not without limitations; our sample is not fully representative of Vietnamese students and youngsters, so generalization and extrapolation of study results are limited. This study suggests that future studies on investigating the work values should be continued and fully explained for Vietnam's higher education context. The research question on why "*Self-*

realization” and “*Social Status*” do not have an effect on Entrepreneurial Intention needs to be focused and answered.

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