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The Effects of Demographic Variables on The Perception of Entrepreneurial Intention in University Students: Evidence of Turkey

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ABSTRACT

The question of why people are engaging in entrepreneurial activities is a question that seems still unanswered. Despite the fact that the concept of entrepreneurship surrounding us, there is a little evidence of how people become entrepreneurs in the first place. Forty years of accumulated literature suggests that entrepreneurial activity mainly ties with the proliferation of the innovative activities. This is why entrepreneurial activities play a major role in the economic development of a nation. It is also accepted that entrepreneurial activities trigger the social context of the society. From this perspective the question of how people become entrepreneurs in the first place is of interest. Entrepreneurial intention is defined as conscious state of mind that effects and directs personal attention, events and behavior towards planned entrepreneurial behavior (Bird, 1988). From the theoretical point of view entrepreneurial intention is associated with many different aspects of individuals such as, psychographic attributes like habits, beliefs, values, personal competencies or personality traits. On the other hand, some studies approach the phenomenon from a more quantitative perspective like age, gender, genetics, economic status. The aim of this study is to capture the entrepreneurial intention among university students based on some demographic variables such as gender, the income of the household (parents), the institution that the parents are working for (public or private), the year of the education for students (freshman, sophomore, junior or senior) and the residency location (big cities, counties or cities). Entrepreneurial intention survey data is collected from the university students in Turkey. This data will be analyzed by using regression analysis. Keywords: Entrepreneurial Intention, entrepreneurship, regression analysis. JEL Codes: C1, M190.

KEYWORDS Entrepreneurial Intention; entrepreneurship; regression analysis

JEL C1