

CALL FOR CHAPTER PROPOSALS
Proposal Submission Deadline: April 2, 2019
Understanding the Relationship Between Religion and Entrepreneurship

A book edited by

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Introduction

Drakopoulou Dodd and Gotsis (2007) have argued that “the interrelationship between religion and enterprise is highly context-specific, and will vary markedly over time and social setting. This relationship is also mediated by other socio-cultural variables, including political structures and ideologies, and religious symbolism in the worlds of work and education.

The influence of religion upon the decision-making of individual entrepreneurs will be affected by their socio-temporal setting, which impacts upon the content of religious theology they espouse, the salience of religion in their lives, the sources of religious authority which they recognize, and the social status which being a believer brings. Where salience is very high, entrepreneurs will utilize religious criteria to inform their decision-making, even to the extent of harming their short-term commercial interests. Conversely, where salience is lower, religious criteria will be sacrificed to commercial gain, where a decision-making dilemma exists.

Religion affects the psychological state of entrepreneurs, and, where religion is well-regarded, enhances happiness and satisfaction. Social standing in a religious group can provide an additional means for the generation and utilization of entrepreneurial social capital, especially where ethnicity is strongly associated with specific religious adherence.

Recent thoughts on the religion-entrepreneurship link also indicate that religion can provide the environmental munificence supportive of entrepreneurship (Drakopoulou, Dodd & Seaman, 1998). This, according to these authors, is because of its emphasis on honesty, perseverance, bravery, foresightedness, hard work and other general ethical standards. Religion, therefore, provides a legitimizing and supportive atmosphere for entrepreneurship.

According to Nikolova and Simroth (2013), adhering to religion and its practices exposes one to new behavioural patterns which can alter the lifestyle of adherents in all its ramifications. Hence, the teachings and precepts of religion serve as precursors to the development of traits, values and motivation for entrepreneurship. In the word of Weber (1930), religion ignites some characteristics in individuals which propel them into desiring to achieve more and as such become inquisitive, goal-driven and achievement-oriented. Therefore, by placing creativity or willingness to bear risk in a positive light, through teaching, the belief of adherents may be associated with greater productive entrepreneurship.

While supporting this assertion, Parboteeah, Walter, & Block, (2015) opined that individuals are more likely to pursue entrepreneurial careers in highly religious environments because religion shapes an entrepreneurship-friendly atmosphere by valuing hard work and thrift, by helping to cope with the burden of uncertainty, and by providing access to critical resources and information.

Religious leadership is a form of entrepreneurship, and successful entrepreneurship in many secular fields typically involves qualities that are very important in religious communities – qualities such as passion, commitment, and often a degree of unreasonable optimism that things will turn out well. Both secular and religious entrepreneurship take a variety of different forms, and exploring the links between them will be of great importance in understanding the way in which religion will continue to shape the world in the 21st century (Seabright, 2016);

The main issues that will be addressed in this book are:

- What does all this mean for the particular question whether religion contributes to entrepreneurship?
- What is the place of religion in a rational modern economy characterized by exchange among strangers?

Objective of the Book

The empirical relationship between religion and entrepreneurship has also been analysed on both micro and macro level; and has been studied within one religion and across multiple religions (for examples, see Audretsch, & Meyer, 2009; Rietveld & van Burg, 2013; Zelekha, Avnimelech & Sharabi, 2014 in Abereijo & Afolabi, 2017).

Although, religion has always been the exclusive domain of sociologists (such as Weber and Émile Durkheim), anthropologists (such as James Frazer) and historians (such R. H. Tawney), it is only in recent years that scholars trained in economics have begun to pay attention to this fascinating and increasingly important question using the tools of modern statistics and benefiting from the availability of systematic large scale data. Hence, based on a large-scale data set of nearly ninety thousand workers in India, Audretsch et al. (2007) have found that religion shapes the entrepreneurial decision. In particular, some religions, such as Islam and Christianity, are found to be conducive to entrepreneurship, while others, such as Hinduism, inhibit entrepreneurship.

Even when these scholars (sociologists, anthropologists and historians) discussed the economic impact of religious belief and practice, they rarely aroused the interest of scholars working within the discipline of economics, management or entrepreneurship. Moreover, while a rich and robust literature has emerged identifying a number of important characteristics and factors alternatively conducive to or impeding entrepreneurship and the impact of religion on economic development, religion has been noticeably absent and little is actually known about how religion affects the decision making of individuals (Audretsch et al., 2007).

The main purpose of this edited book is to generate a collection of theoretical and empirical

papers dealing with the relationship between religions and entrepreneurship in order to cope with the scarcity of research in this field.

Target Audience

The target audience of this book will be composed of researchers (professors, post-doctorate researchers or doctoral students) working in the field of international entrepreneurship.

Recommended topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

This edited book encourages submissions on the following themes, topics and approaches:

- The link between religion, culture and entrepreneurship
- Religion and the Entrepreneurial Process
- Religion, Society and the Entrepreneur
- Religion and the Entrepreneur
- The secular and religious entrepreneurship
- The interrelationship between religion and enterprise
- Religious entrepreneurs
- The influence of religion upon the decision-making of individual entrepreneurs
- Religion and the psychological state of entrepreneurs
- The influence of religion on the decision for people to become an entrepreneur.

Submission Procedure

Researchers are invited to submit on or before April 2, 2019, a chapter proposal of 1,000 to 2,000 words clearly explaining the mission and concerns of his or her proposed chapter.

Authors will be notified by April 16, 2019 about the status of their proposals and sent chapter guidelines. Full chapters are expected to be submitted by July 1, 2019, and all interested authors must consult the guidelines for manuscript submissions at <http://www.igi-global.com/publish/contributor-resources/before-you-write/> prior to submission. All submitted chapters will be reviewed on a double-blind review basis. Contributors may also be requested to serve as reviewers for this project.

Note: There are no submission or acceptance fees for manuscripts submitted to this book publication, Understanding the Relationship Between Religion and Entrepreneurship. All manuscripts are accepted based on a double-blind peer review editorial process. All proposals should be submitted through the E-Editorial Discovery™ online submission manager.

Publisher

This book is scheduled to be published by IGI Global (formerly Idea Group Inc.), publisher of the "Information Science Reference" (formerly Idea Group Reference), "Medical Information Science Reference," "Business Science Reference," and "Engineering Science Reference"

imprints. For additional information regarding the publisher, please visit www.igi-global.com. This publication is anticipated to be released in 2020.

Important Dates

April 2, 2019: Proposal Submission Deadline

April 16, 2019: Notification of Acceptance

July 1, 2019: Full Chapter Submission

Aug 29, 2019: Review Results Returned

Sep 26, 2019: Revisions due from authors

Oct 10, 2019: Final Acceptance Notification

Oct 24, 2019: Final Chapter Submission (All final accepted materials due from authors)

Inquiries can be forwarded to

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