Do I think I could be an Entrepreneur? U1523387 Justin Ng

Having almost come to the end of this module, some self-reflection regarding the module in its entirety seems appropriate. I suppose I, and perhaps a few of the other students may have begun to do speculate and toy with the question ‘do I think I have what it takes to be a successful Entrepreneur?’ Having explored many aspects of Entrepreneurship,perhapsthe idea of potentially being one seems less far-fetched.

Having covered the importance of motivation and passion in Entrepreneurship, it seems like the role in which Psychology plays has a big influence among Entrepreneurs. In particular, the role of ‘the Dark Triad’. Despite the idea of being an Entrepreneur sounding appealing, the traits associated with the Dark Triad didn’t seem to align with what I would consider to be my own personality traits. In wanting to learn more about the implications of the Dark Triad I found a paper that recognized how the applications of the Dark Triad had not been thoroughly examined so it ‘aims at closing this gap by studying how narcissism, Machiavellianism and subclinical psychopathy relate to entrepreneurial intention’ (Kramer M, Cesinger B, Schwarzinger D, Gelleri P, 2011).

This paper focuses around the concept of Entrepreneurial Intention, considering it as the first step in becoming an Entrepreneur as it relates to the initial decisions of whether to pursue ventures in Entrepreneurialism (Kramer M, Cesinger B, Schwarzinger D, Gelleri P, 2011). Secondary factors among Entrepreneurial Intention includes ‘perceived desirability’, which reflects the social attractiveness of becoming an Entrepreneur; ‘perceived feasibility’, which reflects one’s own perception of their ability to successfully carry out an entrepreneurial career and the ‘propensity to act’ which relates to one’s willingness to actively pursue the decisions they have made (Kruger, 1993). The traits of the Dark Triad seem to show a direct positive correlation to Entrepreneurial intention and its subfactors (Kramer M, Cesinger B, Schwarzinger D, Gelleri P, 2011).

With all this considered, these implications have cast a small sense of doubt. The traits that come along with the ‘Dark Triad’ are simply characteristics I do not possess nor wish to either. If this is what it takes to become a ‘successful’ Entrepreneur, then perhaps my intrigue in becoming one should be drawn to a halt. However, I don’t think it would be practical for me to be deterred just after reading one piece of literature which in itself illustrates that it needs more research. Additionally, the study seems to be steered more towards those who wanted to follow the more traditional route of being an entrepreneur rather than other alternatives types.

The concept of having a social aim at least to some degree is more appealing to me as achieving exponential financial gain has never been something of vital priority. The idea of being part of something that aims to achieve a particular social goal sounds much more fulfilling. In conclusion, despite not having any association with the traits of the dark triad, I don’t think this factor would have any effect on me if I chose to venture into Entrepreneurship and I see my attitude aligning more with the entrepreneurial mindset with regards to fear of failure! Additionally, I think in recognizing that there is a positive correlation to Entrepreneurship and the ‘Dark Triad’, I would try to adapt and tap into aspects of these characteristics in order to make entrepreneurial progress without hopefully sacrificing my integrity.

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**References**

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