

Review of: "The antithetical relationship of Entrepreneurship and Corruption on Radicalization among the Moroccan Youths: An Empirical study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The review of the antithetical relationship of entrepreneurship and corruption on radicalization among the Moroccan youths: An empirical study

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When I received the paper for review, I was perplexed. I didn't know whether to accept it or not. It was the first time I'd been asked to review a paper dealing with social phenomena such as radicalization, terrorism, entrepreneurship, and corruption in my country, Morocco. Especially when the authors developed a biased point of view and sought to condemn the country and its efforts to deal with the various social phenomena addressed in this article. After thinking about it for a while, I decided to accept it for two main reasons. First, as a researcher, I have to develop a sense of neutrality towards any paper, whatever the phenomenon, whatever the case or cases studied. Even if the authors have prejudices, try to defend them, and give them scientific validity. Second, I felt a responsibility to bring a different perspective related to the topic.

Major Comments

The research is interesting; it addresses a global issue, i.e., the radicalization among Moroccan youth. Morocco, like many other countries, is concerned by the issue of its youth being recruited by international terrorist groups and also when it is accused of all terrorist attacks around the world.

I believe that the authors are courageous and bold in conducting this study, which aims to examine the relationship between radicalization, terrorism, corruption, and entrepreneurship in the presence of such an important gap in the literature. However, the paper raises many concerns about the following points:

- The writing style is more journalistic than academic, where the authors are not neutral in their ideas, whereas the

concern of a researcher is seeking and finding the veracity behind any studied phenomenon.

- The authors should review the structure of the paper to fit academic writing standards: introduction, literature review, methods, results, discussion, and conclusion.
- All the cases mentioned by the authors of Moroccans involved in terrorist attacks are European citizens, born, educated, marginalized, and radicalized in Europe as a result of the failure of local governments' immigration policies. Indeed, it will be interesting to study the relationship between the radicalization of immigrant youth and immigration policies.
- The use of only one source of data, i.e., the quantitative method, is insufficient and will not provide a better understanding of the social phenomena under study. Since radicalization, terrorism, and entrepreneurship are social phenomena, it will be useful to study them in their context in order to explore, understand, determine, and identify the main factors that lead to this problem among youth. In fact, it becomes necessary to study and analyze the behaviors, beliefs, and opinions of the participants through qualitative research techniques such as interviews, focus groups, observation, and content analysis. Therefore, we propose to approach the issue using mixed methods techniques and specifically the exploratory sequential mixed methods, which is characterized by three phases. The first is the use of qualitative data techniques. The second is the collection and analysis of quantitative data. And the third is the integration of the data generated from both sources.
- The data is outdated; it was collected between 2015 and 2016. Since then, many initiatives have been launched by the Moroccan government in order to promote entrepreneurship among the youth, encourage them to become self-employed, create value, and support the economic development of the country. In addition, many national and international events have occurred since then, such as COVID-19, i.e., may bias the views of respondents.
- The use of unindexed sources and daily newspapers as references.

Suggested Revisions

The authors should address the following points:

Abstract

- The abstract should summarize the problem, methods, results, discussion, and conclusion in a single paragraph.
- The announced results are not aligned with the objectives.

Keywords

Why did the authors add Sustainable Development as a keyword?

Introduction

The authors should answer the following questions:

- What is the problem?
- What are their motivations to run this research?
- Why did they decide to study this phenomenon in Morocco?
- Why did the authors link taking arms and the failure of the entrepreneurship campaign in Morocco?
- What is the research question?
- What are their hypotheses that will be tested through the study?
- What is the methodology they adopted, their approach, and what are their items?
- What are their potential findings?

Literature review

- The literature review section is more descriptive than analytical. This section should provide background information on the topic, discuss all cited sources, and present the authors' added value to the field.
- The Literature review should cover all the aspects of the subject such as: Moroccan Events: A conceptual overview, entrepreneurship in Morocco, starting a business in Morocco, and corruption and clientelism in Morocco.
- The literature review should lead to a conceptual framework which is a representation of the relationship between the research variables.

Methods

The authors should rewrite the methods section to clarify certain points related to:

- Why quantitative research was chosen?
- How the problem was studied?
- Why did they choose Morocco as a case study?
- Why did they choose two pollsters, one wearing a hijab and the other wearing a headscarf?
- How the data were collected?
- What language did they use to collect the data?
- What are their variables?
- How did they choose these variables?
- What are the explanatory or independent variables?
- What are the response or dependent variables?

Results

The authors should:

- Present the main findings, explain, and justify them.

Discussion

The authors should:

- Discuss and compare their results with those of other authors.
- Provide a test of hypotheses.
- Present the limitations of the research.

Conclusion

The authors should answer the following questions:

- Did the research answer the research question?
- What are their future research plans, and how do they relate to the current study?

References

- Some references are outdated.
- Some references are not indexed and belong to daily newspapers.