ASSESSMENTS OF STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON HOME ECONOMICS ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY IN TWO COLLEGES OF EDUCATION IN KWARA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The study assessed Students' Perception On Home Economics Entrepreneurial Skills For The Sustainability In Two Colleges Of Education In Kwara State, Nigeria. The study was guided by two research questions and corresponding hypotheses the perception of male students revealed that Home Economics as a course of study is meant for the females due to Nigeria cultural believe that domestic work is only for the females and there is no significant differences between male and female students' Home Economics entrepreneurial skills and sustainability. the researcher recommended that Entrepreneurial skills be introduced to the curriculum of all students in Colleges of Education, The Government should provide practical materials and ingredients to be used in leaving entrepreneurial skills. and Students in Government Kwara State Colleges of Education should participate fully in practical to acquire enough entrepreneurial skills for self-employment and sustainability and finally the investigator concluded that Entrepreneurial skills in Home Economics such as food service, sewing, interior and exterior decoration, child care, laundry services and so on make the youths to be very creative and busy. and should be promoted in our schools and colleges.

Keywords: Assessment, Perception, Home Economics, Entrepreneurial Skills, Sustainability

Introduction

Entrepreneurship is an individual's ability to turn ideas into action. It includes creativity, innovation, and risk-taking, as well as the ability to plan and manage projects in order to achieve objectives. It is seen as vital to promoting innovation, competitiveness and economic growth. Fostering entrepreneurial spirit supports the creation of new firms and basic growth. However entrepreneurial skills also provide benefits regardless of whether a person sees their future as starting a business. Entrepreneurship which is one of the most powerful economic forces known to humankind is empowering individuals to seek opportunity were other fund intractable problems. Entrepreneurship is the symbol of business tenacity and achievement; it is a vital source of change in all facets of society (Anurag and Rinku 2015).

Adam & Amy (2021) defined entrepreneurship as one of the resources economists categorize as integral to production, the other three being land, natural resources, labour and capital. An

entrepreneur combines the first three of these to manufacture goods or provide services. They typically create a business plan, hire labour, acquire resources and financing, and provide leadership and management for the business. Indeed (2021) asserted that entrepreneurial skill can encompass a broad range of various skills sets like technical skills, leadership and business management skills and creative thinking. Entrepreneurial skills can include a large range of both soft and hard skills. Because of the many business roles entrepreneurs may take on, they may also develop a variety of different skills set to accommodate the growth of their businesses and brands.

Home Economics is one of the school subjects that have application to every facet of human endeavor. Home Economics is not a new subject but one that has being in existence for a long time. In modern times, efforts to formalize domesticity of house hold go back as far as the mid – 1800s with one of the most influential early examples being the treaties on domestic economics for the use of young ladies at home. The shared interest of Home Economics pioneers is the wellbeing of the family and it strengthen the home to benefit the broader society (Hadiza *et al*., 2018). Home economics is a unique field of study that focuses on improvement of the welfare of the individuals, families and nations that will solve the most pressing problems of the present as well as the future. It is a field that deals with economics and management of the home and the community. The mission of Home Economics is to respond to the problems of individuals, families and the society as a whole. Entrepreneurship plays an important in economic development through creation of utilities and generation of employment (Ogamba 2019).

Noor (2019) stated that skills are not a person's fundamental, innate capacities but must be developed through training, practice and experiences. Skill acquisition or gaining effective and ready knowledge in developing one's aptitude and ability in a particular field. While becoming a successful entrepreneur is natural for some, others require certain essential skills to start and lead a business to success. Successful entrepreneurs have mastery over both hard and soft skills. Hard skills like accounting, marketing and financial planning are critical for running and managing a business and soft skills like communication, problem solving and decision-making help to scale up business. Mastery of entrepreneurship skills requires practice and a dedicated learning plan.

Alexandra (2018) opined that sustainability refers to doing business without negatively impacting the environment, community or society as a whole sustainability in business generally addresses two main categories: The effect business has no the environment and the effect business has on society. Beyond helping curb global challenges, sustainability can drive business success Stalling e'tal(2015) sees sustainability as a business approach to creating long term value by taking into consideration how a given organization operates in the ecological social and economic environment. Sustainability is built on the assumption that developing such. One of the problems in Nigeria today is unemployment of the youths which has

taken toll on increased social vices such as banditry, insurgency, kidnapping, prostitution, armed robbery, cybercrime and other social vices. The individuals, family and the society are facing many challenges and changes due to the economic situation in the country. The problem in Nigeria is caused by lack of entrepreneurial skills on the part of most graduates that are produced in thousands every year without jobs.. Home Economics as a field of study that provide the necessary knowledge for imparting skills for self-reliance and a more fulfilled life, compatible with the present situation in the society. This calls for the need for the present study to identify the entrepreneurial skills among Home Economics students in selected Kwara State Colleges of Education. Entrepreneurial skills in Home Economics include food and nutrition skills home management skills and clothing and textile skills. Colwell(2019) explains that entrepreneurs play a significant role in bringing new products, services and innovations to the market place, which in turn promote job creation, economic growth and lead to prosperity, efficiencies and competitive advantages.

It was asserted that in the present economic situation, having knowledge of an academic subject is no longer sufficient for a new graduate. Entrepreneurial skills provide individuals with the ability to recognize commercial opportunities, self-esteem, and entrepreneurial skills

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to assess students' perception on home economics entrepreneurial skills for the sustainability in two colleges of education in kwara state, Nigeria. specifically, the study examine:

i. identify the perception and personal information on Home Economics students in Kwara State Government Colleges of Education.
ii. examine Home Economics entrepreneurial skills for sustainability among the selected students in the study areas.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided this study

i. What are the perceptions and personal information on Home Economics students in Kwara State Government Colleges of Education?
ii. What are the Home Economics entrepreneurial skills for sustainability?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated and tested in this study.

Ho[1] There is no significant differences between male and female students on Home Economics entrepreneurial skills

Ho[2] There is no significant differences between male and female Home Economics entrepreneurial skills and sustainability.

Methodology

This study was descriptive research of the survey type. The population for the study included the selected students in two colleges of education (Ilorin and oro) learning home economics as a course. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 110 students from the two colleges of

education in Kwara state. The research instrument that was used in this study was a questionnaire adapted from sujata Mishra (2017).

Results

This section presents the analysis of data obtained in the course of the research, it reports the results of the study with relevant interpretations.55 questionnaire copies were administered to the respondents, 55 were valid for data analysis. The results are presented under the three basis sub topics; viz; answer to the research questions, hypotheses tested and summary of the findings, Answer to the research questions raised in the study. The following are presented the above sub topics.

Research Question One: What are the perceptions and personal information on Home Economics Students in Kwara State Government Colleges of Education?

Table 1: Distribution of Respondent's personal information N-205

S/N	VARIABLE INFORMATION	F	%
1	Kwara state college of education Ilorin	25	,45.46
2	Kwara state college of education Oro	30	54.54
3	Gender: Male	5	9.10
	Female	50	90.90

Source: Field survey (2023)

Key: f= Frequency %= Percentage

Table 1 show that 25(45.46%) of the respondents are from Kwara State Colleges of Education Ilorin, 30(54.54%) of the respondent are from Kwara state college of education Oro. and 45(22.0%) of the respondents from Kwara State College of Education Oro On the basis of gender five male respondents was recorded (9.10%) and 50(90.90%) respondents were females. On perception, all of the respondents believed that Home Economics entrepreneurial skill is for the females. 55(100%).

Research Question Two: What are the Home Economics entrepreneurial skills for sustainability?

Table 2: Mean and rank order of respondents on Home Economics entrepreneurial skills for sustainability

S/N	VARIABLES	$\bar{x}$	SD	RANK
1.	Operation of food service delivery	3.97	1.24	3rd
2.	Production of Refreshing drinks	4.05	1.07	2nd

3.	Preparation of Snacks	3.57	1.09	11th
4.	Pattern drafting	4.10	1.89	1st
5.	Flat pattern making	4.61	9.08	12th
6.	Machine Repair	4.76	1.19	7th
7.	Garment sewing	4.71	1.23	9th
8.	Sewing indigenous apparel	4.65	1.07	10th
9.	Laundry	4.73	1.09	8th
10.	Gardening	4.88	1.03	4th
11.	Decoration	4.85	1.97	5th
12.	Bead making	4.49	6.20	16th
13.	Homemade cleaning agent	4.42	4.95	17th
14.	Knitting	4.39	4.89	18th
15.	Day care operation	4.52	5.01	13th
16.	Child counseling	4.17	3.77	6th
17.	Professional care giving	4.35	4.79	19th
18.	Child tutoring	4.41	4.94	14th
19.	Interpersonal relationship skills	4.25	4.34	20th
20.	Communication skills	4.31	4.63	15th
	Grand mean	**4.41**	**3.27**	

Source key: Field Survey (2023)

Key $\bar{x}$= mean SD= Standard deviation

Table 4 shows that all Home Economic skills for sustainability have mean scores that greater than 3.00 (bench mark) score set to determine the top most area of skills sustainability in Home Economics However items 4 ($\bar{x}$=4.10 SD=1.89), 2($\bar{x}$=4.05 SD=1.07), 1($\bar{x}$=3.97 SD=1.24), 10 ($\bar{x}$=3.8750 SD 1.03), 11($\bar{x}$=3.85 SD=1.97) took precedence over others and were ranked between 1st and 5thof the perception. This means that Home Economic entrepreneurial skills in Government Kwara State Colleges of Education in the area of skills for sustainability engage more on pattern drafting ,preparation of refreshing drinks, food, services, gardening, and decoration. The grand mean of 4.41 indicates that all the items are Home Economic skills for sustainability

Hypotheses Testing

In the study two null hypotheses were formulated and tested using T-Test at 0.05 level of significance. In view of this the results of the hypotheses are presented as follows:

Research Hypothesis one: There is no significant differences between male and female students on Home Economics enpreneurial skills

Table 1: T-test analysis of the differences between male and female students on Home Economics Entrepreneurial skills.

	T	df	Sig(2-tailed)	Mean difference	95% confidence internal of the difference		**Remark**
Male	91.877	2458	000	6.23058	Lower	Upper	
					6.0976	6.3636	
Female	144.028	2458	000	1.15860	1.1428	1.1744	Accepted
Opinion	159.982	2458	00	165.35055	163.3238	167.13373	

Significant at P < 0.05

The table above shows that the hypothesis is accepted. On gender, the perception of male students revealed that Home Economics as a course of study is meant for the females due to Nigeria cultural believe that domestic work is only for the females. The result above shows that the calculated t-values <0.05 level significance. Therefore, since the P. value (0.05, the null hypothesis is accepted

Research Hypothesis Two: There is no significant differences between male and female Home Economics entrepreneurial skills and sustainability.

Table 2: T-test Analysis of the difference between male and female students in Home Economics entrepreneurial skills and sustainability,

	T	Df	Sig(2-tailed)	Mean difference	95% confidence internal of Difference	Remark
Male	90.866	2456	000	5.23058	5.0976	Accepted
Female	140.200	2456	000	1.14860	1.1644	
Opinion	156.982	2456	000	155.35055	153.3663	

Table 2 above shows that the calculated t-value of 0.05 level of significance is less, therefore, since the p -value is <0.05, the null hypothesis is hereby accepted. This means there is no significant differences between male and female students' Home Economics entrepreneurial skills and sustainability.

Recommendation

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher recommended thus:-

1. Entrepreneurial skills be introduced to the curriculum of all students in Colleges of Education

2. The Government should provide practical materials and ingredients to be used in leaving entrepreneurial skills.
3. Students in Government Kwara State Colleges of Education should participate fully in practical to acquire enough entrepreneurial skills for self-employment and sustainability.
4. The Government should introduce entrepreneurial skills to all levels of education to ameliorate the problems of unemployment and social vices.

The Government should introduce policies that will support establishment of small scale and medium scale industries, these will increase the rate of youth employment for economic sustainability.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings shows that the problem of unemployment facing youths can be ameliorated by introducing them to entrepreneurial skills early enough in schools, college and the universities before their graduation in order to make them self-reliant and gainfully employed after school instead of depending so much on white collar jobs and government employment.

Entrepreneurial skills in Home Economics such as food service, sewing, interior and exterior decoration, child care, laundry services and so on make the youths to be very creative and busy. This helps them to sustain themselves in the current economic crises in the society. It also gives them the opportunity to explore their environment to succeed. The entrepreneurial skills acquired in the Colleges by Home Economics graduates brings about sustainable development and youth empowerment in the area of economic, social and political development and the benefits are immeasurable.

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