

≈ SUMMARY ≈

HOPE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND FORESIGHT

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Principle Topic

Hope Theory is a psychological theory which aims to explain why and how people move from identification of goals to pathways setting and action. Developed by Professor C.R Snyder, it identifies pathways thinking, agentic belief (willways) and goal identification as central to the development of Hope.

Research into Hope and Entrepreneurship has shown that successful entrepreneurs demonstrate higher Hope scores than others, and as such can expect many side benefits, from increased social satisfaction to better health outcomes. Both Entrepreneurship and Foresight hold an image or intention as central to the success of their endeavors. Hope Theory can inform both disciplines through its teasing out of pathways and willways thinking and the role these play in goal attainment. The intersection of Hope Theory, entrepreneurship and foresight has many interesting implications for both entrepreneurs and educators.

Methodology

The objectives of the is paper are to; (i) explain Hope Theory, the research which has already occurred, and its relevance to entrepreneurship and foresight, and (ii) outline some suggestions for future research into the intersection of the three capacities.

Implications

Research has shown the people who have high Hope scores will be happier, healthier and more successful. Hope is positively related to improved outcomes on almost all measures of happiness and well-being. Central to entrepreneurship and foresight is the ability to develop an image or goal to be attained. The intersection of capacities in entrepreneurship, foresight and Hope may well result in individuals who can not only generate a rigorous forward view, but also find pathways and willways to achieve their goals.

Educators of entrepreneurs should be aware of the role Hope plays in successful entrepreneurship, and the method through which Hope can be installed in individuals may be useful in bolstering successful entrepreneurial activities.

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