

An Investigation into the Ethical Ideology of Immigrant Entrepreneurs in South Africa

Olawale Fatoki

*Department of Business Management, Turfloop Campus, University of Limpopo,
Limpopo Province, South Africa
E-mail: Olawale.fatoki@ul.ac.za*

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ABSTRACT Corruption and other unethical practices are endemic in the business environment. An individual's ethical ideology provides guidelines that can be used in evaluating ethically questionable behaviours and ultimately the decision to refrain or engage in them. The study investigated the ethical ideology of immigrant entrepreneurs in South Africa. In addition, the study examined whether there is a significant gender difference in the ethical ideology of immigrant entrepreneurs. The results showed that immigrant entrepreneurs are more idealistic than relativistic with respect to their ethical ideology. Most of the immigrant entrepreneurs can be classified as situationists. Female immigrant entrepreneurs are more idealistic and relativistic than males. However, the gender difference is not statistically significant. Recommendations to improve the ethical behaviour of immigrant entrepreneurs are suggested.