

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57068

Title: Entrepreneurial Journeys: A Gendered and Scaled Analysis of Challenges and Support Systems for Business Owners.

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*).....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		Yes		
Techn. Quality	Yes			
Clarity		Yes		
Significance		Yes		

Reviewer's Name – Dr. Himanshu Gaur

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This study offers a thoughtful and nuanced exploration of entrepreneurial journeys by integrating gender and business scale as key analytical dimensions. The research is well-grounded in the broader field of Entrepreneurship Studies and makes a meaningful attempt to bridge gaps between theoretical insights and real-world experiences. The use of a mixed-methods exploratory design, combining literature review with semi-structured interviews of Indian-origin entrepreneurs in the United States, adds depth and contextual richness to the analysis. The findings effectively highlight how entrepreneurial challenges evolve across different stages, particularly emphasizing resource constraints and legitimacy issues during the startup phase and increasing operational complexity during growth stages.

A notable strength of the study lies in its identification of informal support systems and self-financing strategies as dominant across entrepreneurial stages, which reflects practical realities often overlooked in formal policy discussions. Additionally, the study presents an interesting perspective on gender dynamics, suggesting that gender-based disparities are perceived more as structural or indirect rather than explicitly experienced by participants. However, the limited sample size of ten respondents may restrict the generalizability of the findings, and the study could benefit from a more diverse and larger sample to validate these insights. Furthermore, a deeper engagement with intersectionality—such as the combined effects of gender, culture, and migration—would strengthen the analysis.

Overall, the research contributes valuable insights into how firm scale influences entrepreneurial challenges and access to support systems. It offers important implications for policymakers and practitioners by emphasizing the need for scale-sensitive and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystems.