Review Article

Does Gender Matter in the Relationship between Money Attitudes and Loan Default?
A case study among Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Owner-managers

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Abstract - *Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) play an important role in most economies, particularly in developing countries. However, the fast-growing and the honoured of importance roles contributed by SMEs have been shadowed bytheir high rate of bankruptcy and have been criticized for poor loan quality management, which leads to loan default. Even there are abundant previous research has been conducted to study the ability of SMEs, only a few had a look at the money attitude as the determinant factor. Thus, the objectives of this study are to access the significant relationship of the determinant factor that influence SME owner-manager decision to default on loan repayment.This study employed a cross-sectional research design in which 612 questionnaires were distributed to the SME owner-manager within the state of Kedah, Malaysia. The data is analyzed by PLS-SEM using SmartPLS 3.0. The finding explained that Power-prestige, Retention-time have a significant relationship on Loan Default while the interaction effect of gender has no significant effect on the relationship. The study empirically supports the Default Behaviour Theory that perceived individual choices to default are driven by different determinant factors. In addition, the finding could be presumed as a guide to the SMEs to understand the attitude and characteristics they hold to make the decision and perform their financial management commitment. The feature of cross-sectional data employed in his study, which were collected at one point in time, restricted the researcher from observing and, consequently, examining the dynamic feature of the effects of determinant factors on loan default.*

Keywords - *SMEs, Owner-manager, Loan Default, Power-prestige, Retention-time, Religiosity.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) sector is a global force as it accounts for the majority of the business enterprises over the world. Discussion on all aspects due to SMEs has gained substantial interest among economists, scholars and policymakers worldwide. There is a considerable potential attempt to gather quantifiable information to ascertain the prevailing conditions that differentiated SMEs performance and provide insight into the factors that contribute to SMEs survival.

Across countries at all levels of development, SMEs have been recognized as the economic development engine for the world economic (Panigrahi, 2012). SMEs play a vital role in driving industrial development (Matlay&Westhead, 2005), accordingly promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, providing employment and decent work for all, promoting sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation, and reducing income inequalities (OEDC, 2017).

World Bank in the year 2008 reported that approximately over 500 millions of these businesses are in operation over the world, and the number currently grows each year. Based on the record, within the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries, Malaysia has the third-largest total number of SMEs, which represented 98.5% of companies *(SME Annual Report 2012).* However, based on the record, more than 50% of SMEs are collapse within the first five years of operation (Reiss, 2006; Ahmad &Seet 2009) and Malaysia recorded an approximately 60% of failure rate. In parallel with the criticism of unstructured loan repayment as well as poor financial management (Morduch, 1998; Knight, Hossain& Rees, 2009), some alarming information on SMEs NPLs that concerned on the quality of SMEs loans has been released (Bernama, 2010).The NPL of SMEs is on the high side, which on average is around 12% to 30%.(The Star,

September 2, 2014) higher than the NPL of commercial bank loans, which is around 0.95% to 3%.Therefore, the fast-growing and the honoured of importance roles contributedby SMEs have been shadowed bytheir high rate of bankruptcy. The negative bankruptcy rate started to turn up in 2013 after the action was taken, however, remained the SMEs NPLs ratio for the first part of the year 2017 was higherthan the banking industry level due to the bigger risk present in the SME space (The Malaysian Reserve, September 26, 2017).

In the SMEs business setting, the roles of the owner are very important. The owner is initially the manager who actually runs the business. Thus, owner-manager refers to an individual who had established the business, may own the entire shareholding and mostly manage the business on their own. Basically, the owner-manager prizes their independence, especially as the main decision-maker and will usually seek to increase wealth for the company. Thus, the company is a reflection of the owner need, desires and personality. Results of the study by Allen-Ile and Eresia (2008) demonstrated the existence of a strong relationship between management style and propensity to default. Thus, owner-managers tend to exhibit certain attitudes associated with the management style.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Generally, thereis abundant previous research on the ability of SMEs to make the loan repayment. Among of the factors, researchers found out that social attributes, demographic, management style, financial leverage, local culture, loan characteristics, borrowers characteristics, lending-group characteristics, information, training, business types, social ties and psychological have an impact on loan default or repayment (Acquah&Addo, 2011; Afolabi, 2008; Allen-Ile &Eresia, 2008; Al-Mamun, Wahab&Malarvizhi, 2011; Al-Sharafat, Qtaishat&Majdalawi, 2013; Ameyaw-Amankwah, 2011; Berhanu&Fufa, 2008;Bhardwaj&Bhattacharjee, 2010; Cassar, Luke &Wydick, 2007; Chang, 2013; Epstein &Yuthas, 2010; Fidrmuc&Hainz, 2010; Godquin, 2004; Guttman, 2007; Jouault& Featherstone, 2011; Kohansal&Mansoori, 2009; Nguta, 2013;Magali, 2013; McCann &McIndoe-Calder, 2012; McHugh &Ranyard, 2012; Mokhtar, Nartea&Gan, 2012; Nyahende, 2013; Okurut&Kinyondo, 2009; Onyeagocha, Chidebelu, Okorji, Ukoha, Osuji&Korie, 2012; Page 1979; Papias, 2009; Paul, 2011; Roslan& A. Karim, 2009;Sharma & Manfred, 1997; Sinha, Dhaka &Mondal, 2014; Taiwo Awiyemi & Olowa, 2010; Tammi, 2013;Wongnaa&Awunyo-Vitor, 2013). However, very few of those studies look at the effect of money attitude towards loan default or repayment (Bhardwaj&Bhattacharjee, 2010; Timothy, 2015). Despite a claim by Falahati&Paim (2011), Joo& Grable (2004), Shim, Xiao, Barber & Lyons (2009), moneyattitude play an important role in determining personal financial management. Thus, it can be argued that there is a literature gap in the study that needs to be addressed.

Subsequently, the roles of religiosity in the financial aspect have not been widely explored compared to the research of religiosity in consumer spending and purchasing (Souiden& Rani, 2015). Baele, Farooq and Ongena (2014) had studied religiosity and loan default rate, Hess (2012) had study on religiosity, and personal financial decision, Alam, Janor, Zanariah, Che-Wel, and Ahsan(2012) studied the religiosity and intention to undertake Islamic home financing, Idris, Bidin and Saad (2012) had studied on religiosity and zakat compliance behaviour.

This study tries to determine the significant relationship between factors that influence SME owner-manager decision to default on loan repayment and attempt to investigate the moderating effect of a different gender.

A. *Loan Default*
The problem of loan default hasgained the world's intention in the last three to four decades as it would ultimately hurt the whole economy (Farhan et al., 2012). It can be something as simple as just missing a payment or being late on a payment, or it can be an avoidance of all payments. The model of loan default could be in terms of binary, simply modelling the probability of payment default, while others go further and model the extend of default such as the number of outstanding, days of delays and amount of arrears (Moffatt, 2005). Default loans will negatively affect the enterprises in terms of reducing the loanable fund allocation. Enterprises would have limited financial resources for their operation; this will impact the growth in the industries (Al-Sharafat, Qtaishat&Majdalawi, 2013; Wongnaa&Awunyo-Vitor, 2013; Addae-Korankye 2014).

Many researchers believed that loan default behaviour could mostly be predicted by characteristics of individual borrowers (Bhardwaj&Bhattacharjee, 2010). Generally,a person with stronger perceptions and positive attitudes have more effective money management (Joo& Grable, 2004). They are capable of meeting the financing terms and cost, as well as making good financial decisions and achieving their financial goals. Studies of financial issues revealed that money attitude play an important role in determining a person' financial management and level of well-being (Joo& Grable, 2004; Shim, Xiao, Barber & Lyons, 2009)

B. *Power-prestige*
There is a traditional view of money as a symbol of success and a tool for showing power and prestige (Phau& Woo, 2008; Hou and Lin, 2009; Li, Jiang Shen& Jin, 2009; Durvasula&Lysonski, 2010; Hafez, El Shan &Rahman, 2013). According to Hou and Lin (2009), moneyattitude is deciding factor in loan default because it influences compulsive spending since the use of money as a tool of power-prestige has the potential to lead to the use of loan facilities. Consequently, we assumed that individuals, including owner-managers, might focus on the gratification

they can achieve from the process of spending instead of the burden release they may get from the loan repayment commitment they made.

Therefore, they are likely engaging in overspending for un-budgeting items, which may lead to increased debt, delaying payment and creating financial problemsfor the company. Individual who holds such strong beliefs will use the money as a means to impress others and gain recognition (Yamauchi &Templer, 1982). The power-prestige attitudebecomes among of the substantial causes for individuals seeking loans, spending excessively for something unnecessarily(Wang,Lv, & Jiang, 201; Bhardwaj and Bhattacharjee; 2010) therefore, having a great potential to default for loan payment and confront personal bankruptcy problem (Robert and Jones, 2001).

C. Retention time

The retentiontime indicated a conservative attitude in spending where individuals utilize money as a means to plan and prepare for the future and are more likely to engage in financial planning (Yamauchi &Templer, 1982). An individual who greatly owned the retention-time attitude believed that every debt must be repaid higher chances to repay on time because they definitely decide to keep the surplus in current for future needs and avoid loan (Bhardwaj&Bhattarcharjee, 2010; Shin &Ke, 2013; Hafez, El Shan &Rahman, 2013). An owner-manager who are highly concerned about future security will use money as a means to plan and prepare for the future and believes that money is more likely to engage in financial planning and save money for the future. These managers are conservative in spending money, tend to save the surplus for their current and future needs and have very low need preference for a loan.

D. Religiosity

Since the ancient period, religion has played an important role in the life of human beings. According to Khraim (2010), religion is one of the most universal and influential social institutions that significantly influence people's attitudes, values and behaviours at the individual and societal levels (Khraim, 2010). The previous research showed that firm religious belief would encourage good behaviour while low religious belief leads to the immoral behaviour of an individual (Alam, Mohd., &Hisham, 2011; Alam, Janor, Zanariah, Che-Wel&Ahsan, 2012; Baele, Farooq&Ongena, 2014; Hess, 2012; Idris, Bidin&Saad, 2012; Souiden& Rani; 2015). The extended religiosity studies in the economic and business agreed that religious believers generally do not engage in unethical behaviour; instead, they are more likely to maintain high moral and ethical standards and their decision-making process in the business environment is guided by their moral and ethical values (Bruce 1993; Stern, 2000; Schultz, Zelezny&Dalrymple, 2000; Gardner & Stern, 2002; Shariff&Norenzayan, 2007; Norenzayan 2008; Hilary and Hui 2009).

Religiosity is a complex concept and difficult to define for at least two reasons. The first reason is the uncertainty and imprecise nature of the language, and secondly, the current interest in the concept of religiosity crosses several academic disciplines which approach religiosity from a different vantage point, and few consult one another (Hardcroft, 2006). Baele, Farooq and Ongena (2014), based on their finding, suggested that religion, either through individual piousness or network effects, may play a role in determining loan default. The result of a study conducted by Boone, Kurana and Raman (2013) had explained that religious believers are highly ethical to avoid violating religious, moral and social norms. Hess (2012), who had examined whether people in areas of high religious, social norms are likely to have higher credit scores and lower levels of credit card debt, foreclosures, and bankruptcies, indicated that individuals residing in areas with strong religious, social norms tend to have significantly higher credit scores as well as significantly lower levels of credit card balances, foreclosures, and bankruptcies compared to those individuals residing in areas with lower levels of religiosity. The previous literature showed that multi-dimension religiosity is normally positively influenced by certain individuals' behaviour which means firm religious belief will encourage good behaviour while low religious belief will cause bad behaviour.

E. Gender

Researchers believed that gender could probably become a powerful predictor for social preferences (Benjamin, Choi & Strickland, 2010). The role of gender on loan default has been highlighted vastly in many previous studies (Roslan and A. Karim, 2009; Li, Jiang, Shen& Jin, 2009; Falahati&Paim, 2011; Mokhtar, Nartea&Gan, 2012; McHugh &Ranyard, 2012; Nyahende, 2013). Gender is also an important determinant of money attitudes (Hanashiro, Masuo, Kim &Malroutu, 2004) which might influence the decision made for default. Previous studies found a significant positive influence of different gender on the repayment performance and loans default rate (Nyahende, 2013, Mokhtar,Nartea&Gan, 2012; Roslan& A. Karim, 2009; Papias, 2008). However, a study conducted by McHugh and Ranyard (2012) found significant negative effects of gender on the loan default.

III. SAMPLING AND DATA COLLECTION

This research employed a cross-sectional research design in which data was collected and analyzed quantitatively over a period of three months. A total of 612 self-administered structuredquestionnaires were distributed to the targeted SMEs owner-manager who directly manage the company and takes loan within the state of Kedah, Malaysia. The survey questionnaires arrangement started with an introduction pertaining to the study as the front page in order to prevent unnecessary work, as suggested by Barbie (2005). The number of returned questionnaires represented 57% of the response rate. However, twelve questionnaires were not

usable since nine of the questionnaires were incomplete, and the other three were found not answered. Therefore, these twelve questionnaires were rejected from data analysis and only 334 questionnaires, which represented a 55% response rate, were analyzed in this research.

IV. MEASUREMENT

This study adapted the empirical validated scale Money Attitude Scale (MAS) developed by Yamauchi and Templertoto assess the respondent's attitude. MAS is the first empirical validated scale developed by Yamauchi and Templer in 1982 and has been used by many researchers widely to measure the money attitude of individuals (Bhardwaj&Bhattacharjee, 2010). For the purpose of the study, the researcher adapted 2 constructs (power-prestige and retention-time) for 16 items for data analysis. Meanwhile, religiosity has been measured using eight items Islamic Religiosity Scale (IRS) by Alam and Hisham (2011), who had earlier modified the Islamic religiosity scale presented by Rehman and Shabbir (2010).Judgments about the extent of the religiosity scale were gauged using eight items. Six items were adopted from Rehman and Shabbir (2010), and the remaining two items were developed by the researchers. Meanwhile, the owner-manager loan default was measured using Loan Usage Scale (Bhardwajand&Battacharjee, 2010).The Loan Use Scale (LUS) was originally developed by Robert and Jones (2001) to measure credit card usage, which later was then modified by Bhardwaj and Battacharjee (2010) to predict loan default. All of the scales of the item measured used a five-point Likert scale ranging from 1=Strongly Disagree to 5=Strongly Agree.
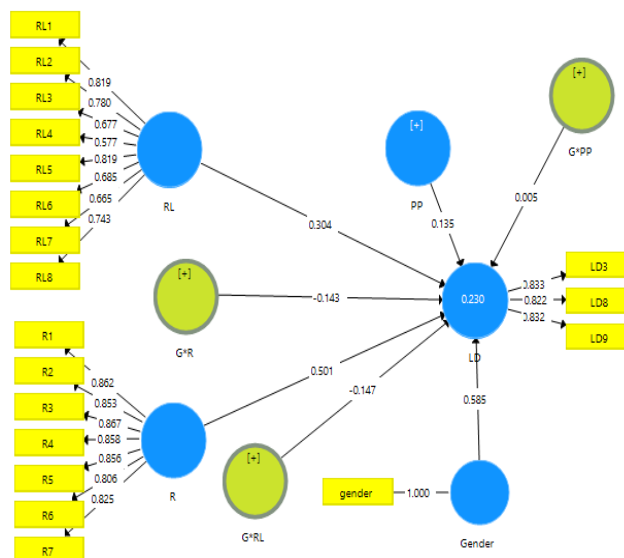
V. DATA ANALYSIS

Descriptive data analysis was conducted to understand the nature of the studied group by summarizing and describing the demographics and business profile. The analysis of the data showed that the respondent mainly comprised approximately 204 males or 69.9%, and 130 or 38.9% female respondents. About 68.2% of the respondents' ages are between 25 – 35 years old and 36 – 45 years olds, which is about of the total respondents. The researcher found that 3.6% of respondents received primary education, 40.7% were secondary school leavers, 18.6% obtained certificated, 24.9% diploma, 10.5% bachelor degree, and about 1.8% master degree and PhD. Meanwhile, halves numbers or 53% of respondents have 2-5 numbers of the household. 25.1% had less than 2, 19.2% had around 6-9, and 2.4% had more than 9 households.

VI. MODEL AND HYPOTHESIS TESTING

Underlying the Default Behaviour theory, the researcher comes out with the following research model:

H1: There is a significant relationship between power-prestige and loan default.

H2: There is a significant relationship between retention time and loan default

H3: There is a significant relationship between religiosity and loan default

H4: Gender moderates the relationship between power-prestige and loan default.

H5: Gender moderates the relationship between retention-time and loan default.

H6: Gender moderates the relationship between religiosity and loan default.

Fig. 1 Theoretical Framework

A. Measurement Model

Data collected in this study has been analyzed using SmartPLS 3.0. Based on the analysis, six items of loan default construct (LD1, LD2, LD4, LD5, LD6, LD7,) with low loadings are subsequently dropped, and all of the others items are retained since exceeding the recommended loading value of 0.708 (Hair et al., 2017).

Assessment of measurement models includes Composite Reliability (CR) and Average Variance Extracted (AVE) as well as Fornell-Larcker criterion to assess discriminant validity. Composite reliability measures were used in order to assess the internal consistency of the construct. As exhibited in Table 1, the composite reliabilities of the different measures used in this study ranged from 0.868 to 0.947, an indication of internal consistency and that all constructs are within acceptable limits and reliable since all of the constructs values are above the minimum recommended 0.70 thresholds (Chin, 2010; Hair et al., 2014).Meanwhile, the indicator's outer loading and AVE were used in order to assess convergent validity. Table 1 shows the outer loading for Loan Default range from 0.823 to 0,833, Power-prestige from 0.75 to 0.993, Retention-time from 0.806 to 0.867 and Religiosity from 0.577 to 0.819. These explain that all the constructs explained more than 50% of their indicator's variance.In addition, consistent with the guidelines of Fornell and Larcker, the AVE for each measure exceeded 0.50. AVEs

in this study ranged from 0.526 to 0.718, indicating that the construct explains more than half of the variance of its indicators on average (Chin, 2010;Hair et al., 2014).These

means that the construct meets reliability and convergent validity requirement at this stage.

Table 1. Measurement Model

Measured variable	Item	Loading				CR	AVEs
		LD	PP	R	ALL		
I always pay off my loans according to the instalment schedule.	LD3	0.833				0.868	0.687
I am seldom delinquent in making payments on the loan.	LD8	0.823					
I rarely defer my payments of loan instalments.	LD9	0.832					
I use the money to influence people to do things for me.	P1		0.993			0.942	0.646
I must admit that I purchase things because I know they will impress others.	P2		0.766				
In all honesty, I own nice things in order to impress others.	P3		0.838				
I behave as if money were the ultimate symbol of success.	P4		0.77				
I must admit that I sometimes boast about how much money I make.	P5		0.808				
People I know tell me that I place too much emphasis on the amount of money a person has as a sign of his success.	P6		0.75				
I seem to find that I show more respect to people with money than I have.	P7		0.767				
Although I should judge the success of people by their deeds. I am more influenced by the amount of money they have	P8		0.753				
I often try to find out if other people make more money than I do.	P9		0.76				
I do financial planning for the future.	R1			0.862		0.947	0.718
I put money aside on a regular basis for the future.	R2			0.853			
I save now to prepare for my old age.	R3			0.867			
I keep track of my money.	R4			0.858			
I follow a careful financial budget.	R5			0.856			
I am very prudent with money.	R6			0.806			
I have money available in the event of another economic depression.	R7			0.825			
I regularly offer prayer five times a day.	RL1				0.819	0.898	0.526
I fast regularly in the month of Ramadhan.	RL2				0.78		
I pay Zakat Fitrah every year if I meet the prescribed criteria.	RL3				0.677		
I always pray for Friday (Jummah) prayers every week.	RL4				0.577		
I try to follow Islamic injunctions in all matters of my life.	RL5				0.819		
I always keep myself away from earning through haram (prohibited) means.	RL6				0.685		
I regularly recite the Holy Quran.	RL7				0.665		
I always try to avoid minor and major sins.	RL8				0.743		

Subsequently, the discriminant validity of the model is assessed. According to the Fornell-Larcker criterion, the square root of each construct's AVE should be greater than its highest correlation with any other construct, except between HOCs and their corresponding LOCs (Hair et al., 2014).

Fornell and Larcker (1981), the indicator should load more strongly on their own constructs than on other constructs in the model, and the average variance shared between each construct and its measures should be greater than the variance shared between the construct and other constructs. The following Table 2 exhibited that the square root of AVE (diagonal) is larger than the correlations (off-

diagonal) for all reflective constructs. Thus, it indicates that all constructs exhibit sufficient discriminant validity.

Table 2. Discriminant Validity using Fornell and Lacker Criterion

	LD	PP	R	RL
LD	**0.91**			
PP	0.189	**0.896**		
R	0.412	0.132	**0.92**	
RL	0.326	-0.011	0.407	**0.851**

B. Structural model

Three direct hypotheses are developed between the construct. PLS-SEM using SmartPLS 3.2.3 was used to examine the relationships among latent variables in the model. T-statistics for all paths are generated to test the significant level. The path coefficient assessment found that all three relationships have an at-value $\geq$ 2.58, thus significant at 0.01level. The predictors of Power-prestige (β = 0.151, $p < 0.01$), Retention-time (β = 0.31, $p < 0.01$) and Religiosity (β = 0.201, $p < 0.01$) are positively related to Loan Default which explains 22% of variances of Loan Default. H1, H2, and H3 are supported. The R^2 value of 0.22 is above 0.13 and close to 0.26 value as suggested by Cohen (1988), which indicates in between moderate and substantial model.

The effect of size assesses how strongly one exogenous construct contributes to explaining a certain endogenous construct in terms of R^2. The f^2 of 0.35, 0.15 and 0.02 are considered large, medium and small effect sizes, respectively (Cohen, 1988). Thus, it can be observed that Power-prestige (f^2= 0.029) and religiosity (f^2 = 0.043)have a small effect in producing R^2 for Loan Default. Meanwhile, Retention-time (f^2 = 0.101)has close to medium effect in producing R^2 for Loan Default. Table 3 depicts the summary of the Hypothesis Testing.

Table 3. Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis	Relationship	Std. Beta (β)	Std. Error	t-value	R^2	f^2	Decision
H1	PP -> LD	0.151	0.164	3.071***	0.22	0.029	Supported
H2	R -> LD	0.31	0.305	5.636***		0.101	Supported
H3	RL -> LD	0.201	0.213	3.631***		0.043	Supported

The value of R^2 wasdifferent before (0.22) and after (0.23) the interaction through the booth stripping analysis. The R^2 change of 0.01 indicates that with the addition of the interaction term (gender), the R^2 has changed about 1%, a small size effect based on the guidelines given in Cohen (1988). Furthermore, all of the interaction terms are insignificant since the cut off value is 1.96 (α = 0.05) and 2.58 (α = 0.01). Therefore, H4, H5, and H5 are not supported.The result of the path analysis conducted on the full model is presented in Table 4 and Figure 2, 3 and 4.

Table 4. Hypothesis Testing for Moderator Effect

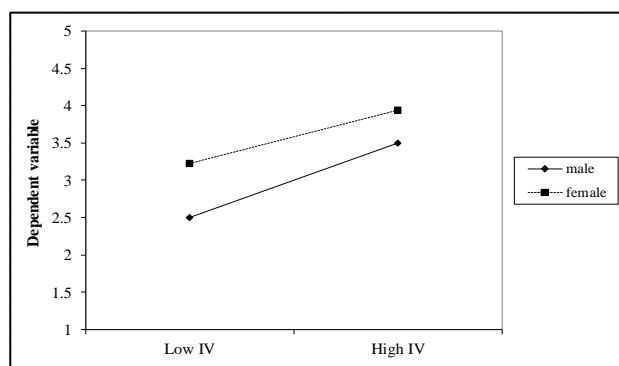| Hypothesis	Relationship	Std. Beta(β)	Std. Error	t-value	Decision
H4	G*PP -> LD	0.005	0.101	0.049	Not Supported
H5	G*R -> LD	-0.143	0.116	1.236	Not Supported
H6	G*RL -> LD	-0.147	0.193	0.761	Not Supported

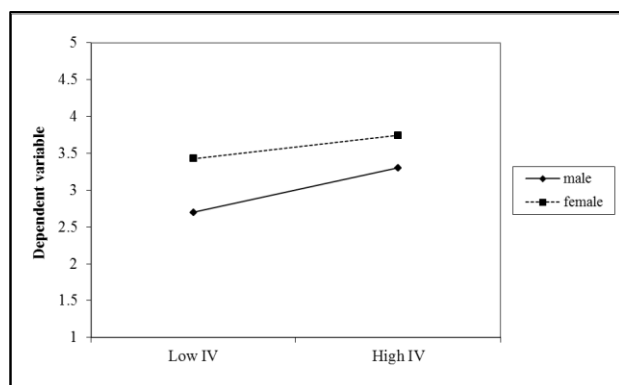**Fig. 2 Gender not moderate relationship between Power-prestige and LD**

Fig. 3 Gender not moderate relationship between Retention-time and LD

VII. THEORETICAL IMPLICATIONS

The findings of the current study show that some of the theoretical relationships conceived in the theoretical framework are empirically supported. Specifically, the current study proves that there is a significant relationship between Power-prestige, Retention-time and Religiosity with Loan Default. The current study contributes further knowledge concerning the importance of the factors studied as predictors of Loan Default compared to many of the past studies discussed the findings of loans in others setting of determinants factors such as social attributes, demographic, management style, financial leverage, local culture, loan characteristics, borrowers characteristics, lending-group characteristics, information, training, business types, social ties and psychological. Moreover, the study empirically supports the Default Behavior Theory that perceived individual choices to default are driven by different determinants across domains. For the current study, the determinant factors appear to be among the prevailing explanation for default choices in loan repayment.

VIII. PRACTICAL IMPLICATION

The result of the finding discussed could be presumed as a guide to the SMEs to understand the attitude and characteristics they hold to make a decision and perform their financial management commitment. Understanding the

significant relationship may help the owner-manager effectively manage finance and avoid further unwelcome circumstances such as bankruptcy. Certainly, the finding clarifies that there is no gender difference in the loan default decision making. Besides providing parameters for policymakers to develop an effective financial aids scheme and support programs for SMEs with the vision of creating sustainable business in the market, the result could also be served as a reference to the financial aids providers to have clues on how the owner-managers of SMEs respond to loan default currently.

IX. LIMITATION AND FUTURE RESEARCH

A case study approach might be a better potential choice in order to be capable to examine the relationships since the current study is only based on the questionnaire research design in order to obtain the data. Consequently, the feature of cross-sectional data, which were collected at one point in time, restricted the researcher from observing and, consequently, examining the dynamic feature of the effects of determinant factors on loan default. Likewise, longitudinal research is highly recommended since it would help the researchers to validate the findings attained from the cross-sectional method regarding the change in human views, behaviour and attitudes. This is because a longitudinal approach could explain the complex relationships among money attitude, religiosity and loan default over a long period of time.

X. CONCLUSION

The main objective of the current study is to the factors that influence SME owner-manager decisions to default on loan repayment. The findings supported Hypothesis 1, 2 and 3 but rejected Hypothesis 4, 5 and 6. Therefore, it could be concluded that Power-prestige, Retention-time and Religiosity have significant relation with Loan Default. However, gender as having no effect on influencing the relationship between the factors and deciding to default on a loan.

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