

Accounting Choices in Family Firms (An Analysis of Influences and Implications)

A Book Review

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1. Introduction

The book “Accounting Choices in Family Firms (An Analysis of Influences and Implications)” 9783319735870 (print) 9783319735887 (online), DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-73588-7, from Springer series Contributions to Management Science, is here object of reviewing. The authors, Ferramosca, Silvia, Ghio, Alessandro claim that it:

- Explores the relevance of different theories to the accounting choices made in family firms,

- Examines the impacts of culture and societal values on accounting choices,

- Provides a comprehensive and structured review of definitions of family firms,

- Offers numerous suggestions for future research on family firms and accounting choices.

It is composed of seven chapters:

1. Introduction

2. The Family Business

3. Earnings Management in Family Firms

4. Accounting Conservatism in Family Firms

5. Corporate Disclosure in Family Firms

6. The Relationship Between Accounting Choice and Family Business: What Is the Role of Culture?

7. Conclusions

2. The review

Along this book, the authors focus on the accounting options taken in the context of family businesses. With a large number of companies of this type all over the world, and its importance in the world economy is enormous, the interest of this work is therefore fully justified.

Actually, in a well-achieved text that is pleasant to read and methodologically and scientifically sound, a critical analysis of the current state of knowledge about the relationship between family firms and a wide range of accounting choices is carried out. Are addressed, for example,

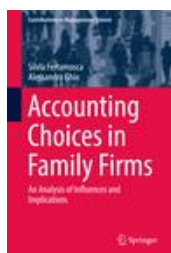
- The results management,

- The conservative stance regarding accounting,

- A dislike of financial and non-financial disclosure.

In examining the choices made in family businesses, the authors make extensive use and stress the relevance of agency theories, socioemotional wealth, stewardship, and resources.

The impacts of a country's culture and social values on accounting choices, which are obviously extremely relevant for this subject, are also approached in a very skillful and instructive way.



Further clues are presented for future research in this area. Giving a revealing overview of the influence of property types and cultures on family business accounting choices, the book identifies significant practical implications for family business management and the possible consequences of policy choices made by regulators and standardizers.

In short: Accounting Choices in Family Firms is a very interesting source of information for both Researchers, Professionals and Political Decisors, accessible to anyone interested in these topics.