

Study of Superstitious Behaviour of Boys and Girls of Colleges from Rural Area

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Abstract

In the present research paper, a humble attempt has been made study of superstitious behavior in boys and girls of colleges from rural area. The differences about behavior regarding superstitions have been studied in terms of boys and girls students. Therefore, as a sampling 30 students of rural area from Kolhapur district have been selected.

L. N. Dube's and B. M. Dikshit's superstition scale is regarded as model.

Taken into consideration the outcomes of the study, it is observed that average among boys' students is 47 and standard deviation is 6.99. Taken into consideration the outcomes of the study, it is observed that average among girls' students is 58.93 and standard deviation is 13.93. Student's t-test is used to find differences and t value is 4.2. This level has been significant to 00.1 levels. It clearly suggests that there had been greater level of superstitions in boys than that of girls of colleges.

Key Word :- Superstitious Behaviour, Rural Area

Introduction:

A superstition is a kind of belief or practice that especially results from ignorance, and we accept it from blind belief. It includes black magic, rituals, human sacrifice or spreading rumors regarding the existence of ghosts. The practices of these things can greatly affect the life of human beings and it is generally termed spread of superstition.

Superstition is widely observed in India. It results in killing of innocent livings. Superstition has been increasing rapidly due to pretentious people, illiterate people and adherence to old traditions. In Vatican City, Exorcism is a kind of course that is taught to minimize the effects of possession. This course was started in 2005.

The Maharashtra Prevention and Eradication of Human Sacrifice and other Inhuman, Evil and Aghori Practices and Black Magic Act were passed in 2013. The founder of Maharashtra Andhasraddha Nirmoolan Samiti, Narendra Dabholkar, and Sham Manao, etc. were the social activists who took leading role for drafting of this law.

In society, every human being tries to follow tradition and norms at personal level. Belief is essential but there should not be superstition. During the months of Shravan and Bhadrapada, people generally tend to observe fast and donate to the concerned people. Observing the norms of the traditions may be sometimes essential but one must check the intensity of the receiver. Most of the time, people tend to donate the person who is well equipped. On the contrary, the person who really deserves help is neglected. We come across these people in our daily routine of life. We must check whether customs that we follow are really essentials or we follow them simply because someone else has asked us to follow them. We must be firm with our ideologies. It is not belief but our superstitions that are great threat to human beings.

My belief is honest and flexible in its structure. I will honestly try to search answers of my questions that strike me a lot. I always wonder about the dirt in the vicinity of the temples of Kashi Vishweshwara; commercialization of Sai Temple in Shirdi; and the dominating nature of middleman in Vitthal Temple of Pandharpur. These questions create

doubts about the very existence of god in the temple. My beliefs may provide me freedom of doing certain things. On the contrary, there are certain aspects that don't give satisfactory answers to my mind. Therefore, I will make my conclusions at rational level. Hence, my role will be judgmental.

During crisis, the memorization of deity gives me an inner strength to cope with challenges is a kind of belief. However, if it leads me to make promise to deity and if I fail to keep that promise it will bring misfortune. The said kind of belief is a kind of superstition. Likewise, there are certain things that are considered as superstitious. It includes having faith in possessed by specter; having faith in magician, Bhagat, bhanamati, or tricky magician; giving importance to horoscope, destiny, fast, rituals, magical strings that will remove all the obstacles in life. It also includes regarding women unholy during her menstrual recycling; considering traits of god in human beings, etc. The Indian Constitution has given its citizens the rights of developing scientific attitudes towards life. Therefore, every individual must try to raise the question to himself or herself before doing certain things. He must ask himself why he should do these things. Similarly, he must ask others why this sort of thing should be followed. All these things will greatly help to solve the problems. As most of the people haven't dared to ask these sorts of questions, it had been great loss to humanity. It was considered that women were having fewer teeth than that of men. For many years, the society agreed to this. Nobody, by that time had dared to count teethes of them. While travelling by airplane, Dr. Salim Ali, while counting birds from flock, said that there were 70 birds. When someone asked what makes you the sense to count them as seventy, he answered "because Salim Ali says so". There are many things like this that took the society backward.

Keep quiet...don't speak...don't ask why this...

Why? This question had never been liked by sociologists. Socrates was asked to drink glass of poison after being suggested to check the very existence of god at rational level. Galileo was made blind and was forced to die in seclusion for his statement that the earth revolves around the sun. Even a Europe had no reaction to this for many years.

Purpose:

- To study superstitions among college students of rural area

Objective:

- 1) To study superstitions among college students of rural area

Hypothesis: It is hypothesized that

- 1) Compared to boys' students of rural area, the girls' students of rural area are more superstitious.
- 2) There may or may not be differences among rural students.

Sampling Selection:

In order to test superstition among the students of rural area, the students of B.Sc. Part II & B.Sc. Part III from Kolhapur district have been selected. 30 boys and 30 girls have been selected from the age group of 20 to 21.

Test:

Superstition scale was prepared by L. N. Dube and B. N. Dixit to assess superstitious behavior. It consists of 40 statements with three alternatives each. The high coefficient of the scale is high superstition and low coefficient of the scale is less superstition. This scale has Spearman Brown coefficient of 0.82 and Kuder Richardson efficiency is 0.84.

Methodology:

It was our aim to study superstitious behavior of the students in rural area. The objective of our research was the percentage of superstition in girls in rural area is greater than that of boys. Therefore, we took the permission of the principals from the colleges in rural area. Therefore, we choose 30 girls and 30 boys students from B.Sc. and they were divided on the basis of their gender. The students of B.Sc. Part II & B.Sc. Part III from Kolhapur district have been selected. After giving instructions, we asked them to solve questionnaires that consist of 40 questions. By making use of t-test, we drew coefficient and its level 0.01 proved to be significant.

Results:

Students	Number	Average	Standard Deviation	Liberation Number	T value	Level of Meaning
Boys	30	58.93	13.93	58	4.2	0.01
Girls	30	47	6.99			

Taken into consideration the result, it is observed that the average percentage of boys' students is 47 and its standard deviation is 6.99. Likewise, it is observed that the average percentage of girl's students is 58.93 and its standard deviation is 13.99. The t test has been used to differentiate the students and its coefficient is 4.2. This coefficient is significant to the level of 0.01. Hence, in the present research it is observed that the greater percentage of superstition is observed in boys than that of girls.

Discussion:

In rural area, the percentage of superstition among girls is higher than that of boys. However, in the present research, it is observed that boys are more superstitious than girls. Taken into consideration the results, it is found that the average 47 is observed in girls from rural area and its standard deviation is 6.99. Likewise, average 58.93 is observed in boys and its standard deviation is 13.93. The liberation number of two groups is 58 and its t coefficient is 4.2. This coefficient is significant to the level of 0.01. Hence, in the present research it is observed that the greater percentage of superstition is observed in boys than that of girls. In rural area, tradition, norms, superstitions make great impact on mind since childhood. Therefore, slight boundary exists between belief and superstition. While trying to find the answer of the question whether superstition greatly exists among boys' students it is found that the number of girls' students in attending college is greater than that of boys. Likewise, they are superior in reading and co curricular activities of the colleges. Therefore, greater superstitions exist among boys than girls. Instead of having education own educational development, boys prefer to spend their time in wandering in society.

Conclusion:

In rural area, girls are more superstitious than boys. But it is concluded that boys are more superstitious than girls.

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