



A STUDY OF SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEFS AS RELATED TO GENDER

Dr. Deepti Gaur

Assistant Professor, B.Ed. and M.Ed. department, B.S.A College,
Mathura, UP.

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

Where:

χ^2 = Chi Square obtained
 \sum = the sum of
 O = observed score
 E = expected score

ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study is to find out the relation between superstitious beliefs and gender. A sample of 280 subjects (140 males and 140 females) was selected through random sampling from Mathura District for the present study. Statistical analysis was done through chi-square test. The result of the study reveals that the superstitious beliefs is significantly related to gender. The result shows that the females are more superstitious than males.

KEYWORDS : Statistical analysis , chi-square test , superstitious beliefs and gender.

INTRODUCTION

Superstitions are deep rooted and as old as the man on the earth. Superstition means the blind faith for the supernatural and these are the irrational fear for unknown. Generally it is seen in relation with religion. Superstitions are not confined in the boundaries of a particular country but it exists everywhere on the earth in different manner. Superstitious beliefs are individual as well as social. These are still very much alive in the modern world. This is really surprising. In the age of science, the superstitions may be seen as the product of men's conscious nature as well as the adjustment with the need of society. They correlate the natural happenings with their own affairs. They do not want to reason out the courses of events.

In general rural, uneducated and people with low intelligence are seen as more superstitious but the person having education, intelligence and good socio-economic status may be superstitious. In the present the researcher has attempted to find out the level of superstitious to non- superstitious as related to gender.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

- Keinan Giora (2002), has done the study to know the effects of stress and desired for control on superstitious behavior. The results revealed that stress increases the frequency of magical thinking and superstitious behavior and the stress reduces the individual's sense of control.
- Griffiths, Mark D and Bingham, Cardyn (2005) examined the superstitious beliefs of the players. They found significant relationship in beliefs, luck and superstitions and a greater percentage of players reported 'everyday superstitious beliefs'
- Sagone, Elisabetta and Caroli Maria E (2014) examined the relationship of locus of control with personal beliefs about superstitions by Sicilian middle and late adolescents of senior high school in Italy and found the late adolescents are more internally locus of control believer than the middle one while the middle were more superstitious than the late one.
- Kose, Huseyin, Argan M.T and Ibrahim Ciman (2015) did his study on the dimensions of superstitious beliefs and behaviors. They examine the role of superstitions among soccer fans. They conducted factor analysis to express the factors to explain their superstitious behavior. Five factors were revealed and named 'Totems', 'Lucy items', 'Bad luck beliefs', 'ignore and lucky behaviors'.

- Srivastav, M (2017) studied the relation between superstitious behavior and stress. The result revealed significant relationship between stress and superstitious behavior and high stress cause to high superstitious behavior.

OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the level of superstitious beliefs.
2. To find out the difference in the level of superstitious beliefs among males and females.

HYPOTHESIS

1. There is significant difference in the level of superstitious beliefs among males and females.

Method

The survey method is used in the study.

Sample

For the present study, 280 persons were selected from Mathura District. On the basis of random sampling out of which 140 males and 140 females were selected.

Tools used

Superstition scale was used to measure the level of superstitious to non superstitious among the subjects. It is developed and standardized by Dr. LN Dubey and BM Dixit. It is highly reliable and valid scale.

Statistical Technique

Chisquare test is employed

Result and Discussion

Table -1
Contingency table of different categories and gender

Superstitious level →	Superstitious	Moderate	Non-Superstitious	Total
Gender				
Male	45(57)	70(62)	25(21)	140
Female	69(57)	54(62)	17(21)	140
Total	114	124	42	280

Chi square = 8.31

df = 2

Significant at 0.05 level

Result obtained by contingency table is significant with 2 df at 0.05 level of significance. Thus the null hypothesis, there is no significant different in the level of superstition among males and females is rejected. Thus it is inferred that female are more superstitious in comparison of males.

Table -2
Percentage table of different categories and gender

Superstitious level	Superstitious	Moderate	Non-Superstitious
Gender			
Male	32.14	50	17.86
Female	49.29	38.57	12.14

Percentage table shows that females are more superstitious than males.

Results indicate that there is a significant difference in the levels of superstition among males and females. Thus it is clear that females are more superstitious in comparison of males.

CONCLUSION

As it is clear from the results that the females are more superstitious than the males as we know the female more religious and the atmosphere of home may be the causes of their superstitious beliefs.

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