

Influence of Old Age People's Superstition on the Mindset of Today's Youth

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Abstract—In this Modern era, none of the Youth believe in Superstition. People who use to believe Superstition are very rare these days. People who use to believe in Superstition were the one who are now our Grandparents age. They use to believe in Superstition a lot. Now-a-days people believe in scientific research and methodologies instead of things like Superstition. Superstitious beliefs are formed by opinions passing on generation to generation. Superstitious beliefs are social phenomena. Objective of recent research is to study the impact of old age people's superstition on the mindset of today's youth. The current research also explored differences for superstitious beliefs and happiness among young male and female adults from rural and urban backgrounds. Economic and social status affect in the tendency towards superstitious behavior. Study remained successful to reflect the superstitious behavior patterns among males and females. Findings revealed what are the mindset of today's youth about superstition and how it is totally different from people who use to believe in it before. For several centuries, various superstitious behaviours have dominated Indian way of living, but none has ever thought that how exactly these came into existence. The most of the researchers said that majority of youth is breaking these superstitions and taking initiatives to make people aware about its uselessness. Most superstition from the past have been proven by science as unnecessary, ineffective or just plain silly but are still practiced by normal intelligent people today. Around the world, there are many reappearing themes for superstition. Every country has its own localized take on each theme. In this article researcher reviews on previous researches. There is much different kind of researches in the field of superstition and there are different theories related to the origin of superstition. Superstition is influenced by different social and psychological factors. In this article those researches have also been discussed which through light on social and psychological factors of superstition among today's youth and old age people.

Keyword: Superstition, Influence, Beliefs, Today's Youth, Mindset.

Introduction: The term superstition is derived from the Latin superstition, meaning "to stand over in awe." Superstition refers to belief that certain event or things will bring good or bad luck. Superstition has different meanings in different cultures. Pandit and Sanskrit scholars in India set some taboos or inhibitions of human behavior. Many superstitions still rule the lives of the backward classes and tribal people. Superstition is the one of the most believed feeling which is believed by our old age people's mostly. It is a widely held but

irrational belief in supernatural influences, especially as leading to good or bad luck, or a practice based on such a belief. Beliefs that run to counter to rational thoughts consumers and expectations play an important role. But in Today's world the influence of old age people's superstition is different than today's Youth. The influence of old age people's superstition is having a very great impact on today's youth. Our old age people sometimes pressurize today's youth to believe in superstition and its consequences. Sometimes they say not to wash Hair on Tuesday and sometimes they say not to cut Nails on Thursday. These kind of Superstitious things are having a very different and great impact on today's youth. Some of the people believe in it saying that our elders believe in it and its truth but more than 70% of youth does not believe in it. They believe that whatever is said by their elders is not true and they are just having a superstitious mind that's it. Most of us are superstitious in some way or the other people are not able to overcome the traditional snag of the past. Superstition is simply nothing rather believing blindly in something without verification. Earlier superstitions were created as a way to deal with the ignorance and fear of the unknown things. Often, superstitions are born from casual coincidences. For example, if an athlete wears a particular pair of shoes on a day he performs particularly well, he may continue to wear the same pair of shoes in the belief that the shoes were responsible for the success. People who are of old age now believe in superstition a lot and they want that today's youth should believe in it too and trust on them that whatever they say is truth and it is truth, it's not superstition. Due to all these activities of our old age people's some of the youth is convinced but some are not. They believe that whatever they see is truth not what is said by our old age people is truth. Sometimes today's youth get into an aggression of proving that there is no thing called superstition in this world. We live in a world full of Truth not Superstition. Today's youth try to prove wrong by doing certain task like washing their hairs on Thursday's saying that it will not cost any consequence at all, Eating Non-Veg on Tuesday's etc. But its not only about those who does not believe in it, There are many who believe in superstition. Many are there who follow all the superstitious or we can say the truth which is believed

by their old age people is true and they follow the way their elders say them to follow. They work as they are said to and they believe in it truly.

Review Of Literature

Superstition is what which is unreal. It has its different meaning for different age group of people's. There has to be a wide and further research to know how much people should believe in it and what things they do in Superstition. There should be more awareness about superstition in the world because many of the people do believe in Superstition and specially today's youth follow what they are said to follow related to Superstition. **(Preeti'17)**

Some of the traditional superstitious beliefs that had prevailed long back have eventually vanished, replaced with contemporaneous superstitions, while many others still persist (Bajari & Hortacsu 2004). Superstitious behaviour arises from an indelicate nexus between cause and effect or action and outcome (Foster & Kokko 2009). Therefore, concurrences recurred results in reflex action.

(Hariom Sharma'17)

Superstitions are different for different countries and society. There are different theories about the development of superstitious behaviour, given by researchers. superstitious behaviour can arise through conditioning. People are inclined to see themselves as a cause, even in situations in which they are not influencing the situation. This explanation holds that people carry out superstitious behaviours in order to influence situations in which, in reality, they have no control. **(Granthaalayah'15)**

The purpose of this review is to compare and contrast western and eastern conceptualizations of happiness and optimal functioning. Towards this end, accounts of happiness and optimal functioning provided in western philosophy and scientific psychology are compared with those in some eastern schools of thought. Six fundamental differences in western and eastern conceptualizations of the good life are identified and discussed in the context of broader psychological theory. It is hoped that this theoretical analysis will stimulate more culturally informed research among happiness researchers. **(Joshnloo M'14)**

They want to investigate understanding of antecedents and result of superstitious beliefs. For survey they take 206 South Korean and 218 us respondents. The result was found that both models support the horoscope importance path and the behavioral superstitious beliefs path. This study augments the superstition literature by exploring carefully selected yet under-researched determinants and consequences of superstitious beliefs across eastern and western groups. **(Jeremy J. Sierra at el. '15)**

To see the impacts of fortification timetable and rivalry on producing superstitious practices and convictions were probe 72 individuals. Ascribing significance to the inert lever, an example of exchanging between levers, or to the enlightenment of the lights was thought to be superstitious convictions. Members were either run alone or in sets, and control of the fortification calendar brought about gatherings which were coordinated in likelihood of support, and in addition in bunches which were crisscrossed. The outcomes are talked about in term of connections between superstition, the deception of control, and self-adequacy. Contrasts between tentatively initiated and regularly held superstitions are likewise talked about. **(Jeffrey Rudski'00)**

Examined there was economic threat that predicted the level of superstition in Germany. That was measured by levels of real wages unemployment, and industrial production. The economic threat variables significantly predicted level of superstition in two of the three superstition indexes. The results support Fromm's thesis that threat produces authoritarianism and corroborate Sales' investigation of U. S. archival data. **(Vernon R. Padgett 1982)**

Conducted a study a ten-year scientific study into the nature of luck has revealed that, to a large extent, people make their own good and bad fortune. The results also show that it is possible to enhance the amount of luck that people encounter in their lives. **(Wiseman'03)**

Examined how deductive adaptation and scientific knowledge interact with people's this-worldly adapt superstition by presenting a case study of school teenage in urban China. Experimental results show that both scientific orientation and scientific knowledge have a significantly negative effect on superstition and their effects are independent from each other. **(Anning Hu'15)**

Objective

1. To study the level of superstitious belief among young adults.
2. To study that old age people's superstition have different impact on Today's Youth.

Hypothesis

1. There is no superstitious belief among young adults.
2. There is no significant relationship between superstitious beliefs and happiness of young adult individuals.
3. There is no great impact of Old age people's superstition on today's youth.
4. There is significant differences of happiness and beliefs among old age people and today's youth.
5. There is a little number of people in today's youth who believe in superstition.

Research Method

The Data for this research is collected through Interview Method. It is a set of Printed or written questions where the questions will be asked by the interviewer, for the purpose of survey or statistical study. By taking a sample size of 20 people from Delhi NCR.

Findings (Interview)

- 1)
 - Superstition is what which cannot be explained through Science
 - Superstition is set of Belief.
- 2)
 - Yes there are different type of Superstition, positive and negative Superstition
 - One more Superstition is Astra Puja which means the worship of weapons
- 3)
 - Superstition starts when different strategies are applied
 - Superstition starts at Cultural Events too
- 4)
 - Reason of Superstition is Lack of Education
 - Another reason for Superstition is because of Culture and Beliefs
- 5)
 - Superstition depends on Culture to Culture
 - Superstition depends on Situation too.
- 6)
 - Superstition is Based on Powers
 - Superstition is Based on Human weaknesses
- 7)
 - At some extent Yes we believe in Superstition. (Average)
- 8)
 - No they do not carry any object but have mindset towards it(Average)
- 9)
 - No, Theydo not believe in numbers, days etc as someone's date of birth is their lucky number
 - Sometimes joy is enough to become lucky not numbers
- 10)
 - Yes, They believe that animals can be unlucky as when Cat cross way
 - Sometimes the luckiest day to start anything is today

- 11)
 - Yes Location of a House can be Good or bad for the house which is sometimes called Vaastu while constructing the House
- 12)
 - People become Superstitious depending on Individuality of the person and his or her religious and cultural background
 - People become Superstitious depending on psychology and satisfaction of People
- 13) List for Superstitious Happenings-
 - Black Cat crossing Road
 - Not eating Non-Veg on Tuesday
- 14)
 - No, They never get any negative feelings as its people's Ideology to Believe or not(Average)
- 15)
 - Never, They will never believe in Superstition. (Average)

Study of Objective

The First Objective of this Research paper was to understand that what people believe about Superstition and how old age people's superstition beliefs are different from today's youth mindset about Superstition. By this research paper we came to know a lot about what people believe about superstition. How people are having different-different mindset for superstition. Many of the youth donot believe in superstition and they are having different opinions and perspective for their life than old age people. Today's youth rather believing in superstition they believe in reality and scientific opinions and methodologies. They believe that everything now a days is scientific than being thinking all the time about bad consequences which they are told by their elders. Superstition still exist in this world there are people of today's youth as well as old age people too who believe in superstition. They are having different opinions on different superstitions. Some believe that there is a lot of consequences and some believe that nothing bad will happen if they do certain tasks. This whole world is biased. No one really knows what is good for them and what is not good for them. For all those who think that there is Superstition. Like for example- Those people who believe in it or forced to believe in it they will never wash their hair on Thursday's, They will never eat Non-Veg on Tuesday's. They will never cross the road when they see that on the road they are going is already crossed by a black cat. They are having the same mentality as our elders are having. They are not fully but we can say they are somewhere convinced by old age people's mentality towards superstition. There are things called "Happening". The word "happiness" is used for different meanings, and these all meanings require different measure. Happiness refers as concerning the mind or

emotional state of well-being defined by position or polite emotions pasturing from contentment to extreme joy we have so many definitions of happiness that is given by different people. This all happens most of those people who believe in Superstition. Therefore from this research paper we came to know that there are very less number of people who believe in Superstition.

Our Second Objective is that when it come to those who believe in Superstition who are most probably our old age people. Today's youth believe in scientific methodology, accurate and truthful psychology they don't believe in what is said by their elders or other superstitious people. They believe what they see and for what they can find a solution is truth and everything else is wrong whereas on the other side there are people who believe in Superstitions and they are called Superstitious. Today's 70% of youth does not believe in Superstition and even they suggest to other people too that there is nothing called Superstition or Superstitious. Today's youth is mature enough to understand what is right and what is wrong. They know what is the philosophy behind every reason. They know why things are happening for example if a Black Cat has crossed the road of a vehicle they believe that its just an animal, Animals do cross the road just like human does. They do not believe that if the Black cat had crossed the road then the vehicle or people sitting inside that vehicle will face some consequences. This shows what is the influence of old age people's mindset on today's youth. Our elders truly believe in it but our youth not at all believe in it. Therefore which leaves a lot of difference between both the generations. Therefore, From this research we easily found that today's youth does not believe in Superstition and they are having a different mindset than old age people.

Testing of Hypothesis

1. The Statement "There is no Superstitious belief among young adults" has been accepted because Today's youth believe in Scientific Philosophies rather than believing on what they are heard.
2. The Statement "There is no significant relationship between superstitious beliefs and happiness of young adult individuals" has been accepted because Young adult believe in reality they do not believe in luck.
3. The Statement "There is no great impact of Old age people's superstition on today's youth" has been accepted because Very less number of People agree with the ones who believe in it. Most of the youth believe in what they see.
4. The Statement "There is significant differences of happiness and beliefs among old age people and today's youth" has been accepted because Old age people have their own beliefs and happiness as they believe that if they do some Superstitious thing it will make them satisfied and on the other side Today's youth think just opposite of Old age people.
5. The Statement "There is a little number of people in today's youth who believe in superstition" has been accepted because from my survey there were some of them who agreed that Superstition still exist in today's world and everyone should believe in it.

Conclusion

To raise the important aspects in relationships between superstitious beliefs and happiness current study remained successful to reflect the behavior patterns among old age people and today's youth. To conclude this may be said that today's youth is changing their established behavior and learning new aspect of modern education system so as they demonstrated less amount of superstitious believes in comparison to their counterparts, that is, old age people in the current research. Interestingly findings are contradictory to the earlier research today's youth has found less suspicious in comparison to old age people. Earlier old age people use to believe in superstition but now none or we can say a little amount of youth believe in superstition.

The Influence of old age people's superstition is different on the mindset of today's youth. Very less amount of people of today's youth believe in Superstition. They do not follow any Superstitious rules. They do what they believe is right. They know specific reason for every happening. Though it is illusive and temporary, superstitions give a sense of control and boosts self-confidence. However, it is also true that superstitions have taken lives of innocents, bad effects on health, broken families, loss in business, increased traffic accidents and so on. A cost-benefit analysis suggest never to live the life under superstitious beliefs rather start to live a rational life. Lives attached to rational behaviours are expected to enjoying long lasting pleasant experiences than superstitious momentary experiences which ensures happiness in true sense. The social and educational factors seem to play their roles in changing belief system and improving happiness aspects of the individuals. Through this review of researches we can understand how superstitious grows in our behaviours affect us at cognitive level and conative level. Superstitions plays important role to develop positive attitudes in some situations and in some situations it become a bad practice. Superstitions and blind faith are two of the weakest mental quantity of any human being on earth not only with Indian society. It is impossible to change society on whole but yes as an individual one can adopt changes in life style and beliefs. Today science and technology growing fast, so we must develop scientific attitude among the people to eradicate superstitions. From this research paper we found a lot of common interest of today's youth towards Superstition as most of them do not believe in Superstition. Most of them felt the same feeling of Superstition. Most of them had the same thought regarding Superstition. The influence of old age people on the mindset of superstition on today's youth was totally different. As Today's youth does not follow the old age people's beliefs. They never felt the same way. Some of the

youth started proving themselves regarding superstitious things to prove that there is no superstition. There are scientific facts behind every happenings. Today's youth has been following the modern era things and they are adapting the modern as well as foreign culture. They are not following the things or we can say culture which is being followed by our elders. In today's era, Our elders still believe in superstition and still talk about it a lot. They want that today's youth should believe in it too. But somehow they are stuck in influencing today's youth related to superstition. They don't know how to influence them. They don't think that even they can influence our youth. Because they know that Today's youth is living in modern era and the do not believe in things like Superstition.

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my special thanks and gratitude given by my mentor Dr. Mehak Jonuja. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude towards Krishi Sanskriti and Jawaharlal Nehru University for providing with a platform to showcase this research paper.

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