



Research Paper-Education

A STUDY OF MISCONCEPTIONS AND CUSTOMS **OF THE GIRL STUDENTS OF** **WOMEN'S ARTS COLLEGE**

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ABSTRACT

The researcher felt the need to study on customs or superstitions. In society men and women give so much importance to these things. The students also come from the same atmosphere. We live in the jet age today. On one hand man has reached on the moon and on the other hand man is surrounded by unscientific and illogical thoughts. The effect of these misconceptions on the mind of the students can be known through research. The researcher carried out the present study so that superstitious people can get right direction. Via this study, the researcher tried to know which types of misconceptions the women of arts colleges suffer from. It is hoped that in today's fast changing age, the present study will be useful to bring some positive change in the society.

Keywords: *Misconception, Custom, Belief*

INTRODUCTION

The four Vedas, the Vedanta, the Upanishad, and the eighteen Puranas are the real identity of Indian culture because they are the main pillars on which Indian culture is

depended. The one of the pioneer founders of this culture is Manu Maharaj. In his religious book 'Manusmriti', Manu has given essential doctrines of life. People can live happily. With these doctrines, marriage life becomes harmonious. People can carry out their social dealings harmoniously. In short the purpose of these principles was that perfect human society should come into existence and social harmony should take place. He gave certain customs so that man can live his life taking care of his culture, and can do social dealings. He combined certain things with human life so that man's life does not remain dry or uninteresting. He gave certain rules and activities based on circumstantial needs of human life. But with the passing of time, man became custom bound. In stead of acquiring complete knowledge and understanding, he started accepting superficial dealings and he gave more importance to customs and became traditional.

Man turned towards ignorance through certain customs and traditions. Efforts play an important role for any costume to become a tradition. For example, the tradition of looking at god's idol or singing morning hymns – all these things must have taken lot of efforts from man's side. Even in the present days, one tendency is seen that children are named after the name of lord Rama and lord Krishna. In short, religious faiths and devotion are also responsible for customs and traditions. For example, fasting one time on certain day, to do worship at the threshold of the door, not to oil the hair on Saturday, etc. traditions were not understood properly by people and they gave special place to these customs and traditions in their life.

Man does his dealings on the basis of trust. Man has deep trust on one or the other thing in his life. For example one may trust on his son, on his wife, on his brother, on his friend, on his collogue, on some religious leader etc. When trust becomes intense it results into faith but this trust or faith does not take much time to result into misconceptions or superstitions. Today men, women, children, the whole society is found trapped by misconceptions. People are ready to follow one or the other person faithfully and blindly. His every word becomes sermon for blind follower. Today misconception or superstitions have taken control over man's mind and life. For example, going to the experts of black arts, believing in ghost and evil spirits, and considering them as god or goddesses etc. Superstitions arising from fake miracles done by the cheating 'sadhoos' has caught man badly.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the present study are as under:

1. To construct a questionnaire to know the effect of the beliefs about the misconceptions and the customs prevailing among the girl students of women's arts colleges.
2. To study the effect of area on the beliefs about misconceptions and customs prevailing among the girl students of women's arts colleges.
3. To study the effect of Caste category (Open, SEBC, SC, ST) on the beliefs about misconceptions and customs prevailing among the girl students of women's arts colleges.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

In the present research the research questions are as under:

1. Which type of beliefs about misconceptions and customs may be there among the girl students of women's arts college?
2. Is there the significant difference in the beliefs about misconceptions and customs among the girl students of women's arts colleges because of the difference in area?
3. Is there the significant difference in the beliefs about misconceptions and customs among the girl students of women's arts colleges because of the difference in Caste category (Open, SEBC, SC, ST)?

TYPE OF RESEARCH

The field of the present research was educational psychology. In the present study, the researcher constructed herself one questionnaire and studied the beliefs about misconceptions and customs prevailing among the students. The present research is of applied type of research.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The aim of the present study was to know the beliefs about the misconceptions and the customs prevailing among the girl students of women's arts colleges so

the data regarding the beliefs was collected through questionnaire. This type of information can easily be known through survey method. So the researcher preferred to use Survey method for the study.

POPULATION AND SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

• Population

Population is a very important aspect of research. Findings of the study are not possible, until the population and the sample are not defined correctly. The population of the present study was the girl students of women's colleges of Mehsana district, the details of which are shown as under:

No.	Name of College	Urban	Rural	Total No. of Girl Students
1	Smt. M. S. Shah Women's Arts College, Kadi	✓		608
2	Smt. R. R. H. Patel Women's Arts College, Vijapur	✓		705
3	Nima Girls Arts College, Gozaria		✓	416
4	Smt. Anandiben Shankarbhai Chaudhari Women's Arts and Home Science College, Mehsana	✓		1510
5	Shree J. M. Patel Arts and m. N. Patel Commerce Women's College, Unjha	✓		839
6	Smt. C. C. Women's Arts and Sheth C. N. Commerce college, Visnagar	✓		706

• Sample

Out of all the women's colleges of Mehsana district, one college from urban area and one college from rural area were selected through randomly. The selection of the students was done through Stratified Random sampling method, the details of which are as under:

No.	Name of College	Urban	Rural	Total No. of Girl Students
1	Nima Girls Arts College, Gozariya		√	416
2	Smt. C. C. Women's Arts and Sheth C. N. Commerce college, Visnagar	√		706
	Total			1122

A stated above out of total 1122 girl students from rural and urban women's colleges, 584 girl students were given the questionnaire. The details according to area and Caste category are as under:

Caste Category	Urban				Rural				Total
	F.Y. B.A.	S.Y. B.A.	T.Y. B.A.	Total	F.Y. B.A.	S.Y. B.A.	T.Y. B.A.	Total	
Open	85	51	85	221	24	31	50	105	326
SEBC	52	50	46	148	28	18	14	60	208
S.C.	13	13	14	40	1	4	3	8	48
S.T.	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2
Total	150	114	146	410	53	54	67	174	584

CONSTRUCTION OF THE TOOL

Tool of Data Collection

It is necessary for the researcher to collect certain information to understand and to get solution of any problem. For the information the researcher has to plan different techniques. To make the techniques easy, certain things are inevitable.

For data collection in any research selection of proper tool is necessary. For different types of research different types of tools can be used which are shown below.

1. Questionnaire
2. Opinionnaire
3. Attitude Scale
4. Interview
5. Psychological test

The present research is an educational survey. The aim of this study was to know the beliefs about the misconceptions and the customs prevailing among the girl students

of Women's arts colleges. Therefore the researcher decided to use self made Questionnaire for data collection.

There three main types of Questionnaire.

1. Closed or fixed Choice Questionnaire
2. Open form Questionnaire
3. Pictorial Questionnaire

For the present study Free form type of questionnaire was selected. The details about it are as under:

Free Choice Questionnaire

In the Free form Questionnaire the respondent has freedom to give his or her response in his or her words and his or her context. This method of data collection provides the respondents opportunities to present their attitude, beliefs, and thoughts. An example of this type of questionnaire is as under:

1. Should monetary presents be given on auspicious occasion of marriage?

Yes No don't know

- If yes, then why should monetary presents be given on auspicious occasion of marriage?

- If no, then why should not monetary presents be given on auspicious occasion of marriage?

• Construction of the Questionnaire

1. The researcher consulted the senior citizens of the society and collected number of statements for the questionnaire.
2. The experts of the filed were consulted and formed subject related statements.
3. The topic was discussed with the friends and classmates and on that basis certain statements were formed.
4. With the help and guidance of the research guide some statements were framed.

5. Some statements were obtained through reading of related literature.
6. The other statements were formed through the experience of the researcher herself.

In this way the researcher collected 50 statements. The all the statements were divided in two groups. For the ease of the study the researcher kept two parts of the tool according to the subject viz. misconceptions and customs. The other aim of the division was proper assessment.

There were total 35 statements in the questionnaire. According to the guide's suggestions first 1 to 18 statements were about misconceptions and the next 19 to 35 statements were about customs. Thus the first part was about misconceptions and the second part was about customs. The prepared questionnaire was given to the 14 experts for their suggestions and opinions. They were requested to give their suggestions regarding the questionnaire. The suggestions and opinions could be obtained from 10 experts out of the 14 experts.

- **Experts' Suggestions about the questionnaire**

After the preparation of the questionnaire, it was given to the experts by post and face to face contact. The list of the experts and their suggestions are shown in the following table.

Experts' Suggestions

No.	Expert's Name	Suggestions
1	Prof. Ketanbhai Maheta College of Education, Vadasma.	Que. no. 2, 19 and 23 should be changed.
2	Dr. Divyaben Sharma M. Ed. Department (Education) Ganpat Uni., Kherva.	Keep the number of items less.
3	Dr. Sonalben Patel M.Ed. Department (Education) Ganpat Uni., Kherva.	Avoid repetition of the questions.

4	Prof. Anilbhai R. Patel Aaradhana College of Education, Sector- 28 Gandhinagar.	Add new questions.
5	Prof. N. M. Daslaaniya C. C. Women's Arts College, Visnagar.	The Questionnaire is reliable.
6	Prof. J. G. Metiya C. C. Women's' Arts College, Visnagar.	Que. no. 1, 2, 12, 24 and 25 are not reliable.
7	Prof. Gayatriben Barot Nima Girls' Arts College, Gozariya	Keep the questions suitable to the age groups.
8	Prof. Mahendrabhai Dave Nima Girls' Arts College, Gozariya	Frame the questions in such a way that the students can understand them easily.
9	Prof. Vinod H. Pandya Women's College, Unjha.	Be careful about the rules of word formation.
10	Dr. Rajendrasinh Vaghela Nima Girls' Arts College, Gozariya	Certain statements should be simple.

As shown in the above table all the suggestions made by the experts were followed and changes were made. At last there were 30 questions in the final form of the questionnaire. In the final form, question no. 1 to 14 were about misconceptions and the question no. 15 to 30 were about customs.

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

In the present study, construction of the questionnaire for checking the beliefs about the misconceptions and the customs prevailing among the girl students of Women's arts colleges was important. For data collection the researcher herself met the girl students of the selected urban and rural women's college and instructed them how to give their responses in the questionnaire. After the evaluation of all those responses, the proper data was collected.

- **Methods of Data Analysis**

In the present study, the researcher worked out the simple statistics of percentage for analysis and interpretation of the data according to the variables of area and caste category.

- **Experiences during the Data Collection**

When the researcher started the data collection and visited colleges of urban areas, the teaching had been over, so the students were absent. It took a lot of time in waiting for the students. One whole week passed for the work. In rural colleges the NAAC team was to come in the colleges. Therefore the data collection had to be done according to their suitability. Moreover the data was to be collected from the students of F. Y. S. Y. and T. Y; the tool had to be administered in different classes on different time schedule according to the time table of the college. The data from some students could be obtained during the recess time only.

The students responded to the questionnaire with interest and according to the instructions.

COLLECTION AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

- **Data Collection**

In the present study one questionnaire was constructed to know the beliefs about the misconceptions and the customs prevailing among the girl students of Women's arts colleges. After the construction of the questionnaire, the researcher consulted the experts and requested them to check the questionnaire and give suggestions. On the basis of the experts' suggestions corrections were done and the final form of the questionnaire was made ready. Then the researcher herself met the girl students of the selected urban and rural women's college and instructed them how to give their responses in the questionnaire. After the evaluation of all those responses, the proper data was collected.

- **Analysis**

In the present study, the researcher worked out the simple statistics of percentage for analysis and interpretation of the data according to the variables of area and caste category.

- Question no. 1 to 14 are about misconception, while the question no. 15 to 30 are about customs.

Que. 1 Does evil look have evil effect the person?

During the interpretation it was found that out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 41.95% of the girl students believed that the evil look has evil effect on the person. According to them, if someone eats something out of the house, it may result into evil look and evil effect on the person. Those girl students were also found believing that any good looking person may become the victim of evil look.

Que. 2 Should lemons and green chilies be hung at the entrance of house or shop on Saturday?

During the interpretation it was found that out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 29.79% of the girl students believed that lemons and green chilies should be hung at the entrance of shop on Saturday. According to them, hanging lemons and green chilies at the entrance of house or shop on Saturday is a sign of good omen. These lemons and chilies at the entrance can raise the income in the shop and also the evil spirits remain away.

Que. 3 Should the wet clothes of small children or infants be hung out for drying them?

During the interpretation it was found that out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 78.07% of the girl students believed that wet clothes of small children or infants should not be hung out for drying them. According to them if wet clothes of small children or infants are hung out for drying, somebody may do use black magic on those clothes. Moreover, poisonous insects may also affect them badly.

Que. 4 Should the omens of widow or widower be taken?

During the interpretation it was found that out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 60.62% of the girl students believed that the omens of widow or widower should not be taken. According to them, widow or widower are a sign of ill omen and because of that widow or widower the work can be done successfully and some accident may also take place because of that widow or widower.

Que. 5 If some snake or cat crosses the way, it may create ill omen?

During the interpretation it was found that out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 41.60% of the girl students believed that if some snake or

cat crosses the way, it may create ill omen. They believed that because of crossing the way by snake or cat, the work can be done successfully. so the person should return.

Que. 6 Does evil spirit or ghost enter into man's body?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 42.63% of the girl students believed in evil spirit and ghost and they can enter into human body. The person dominated by evil spirit or ghost behave abnormally.

Que. 7 Can a person use the tricks of spell or occultism (black magic)?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 37.5% of the girl students believed that one can use the trick of spell or occultism. They believed that some people use the tricks of spell or occultism to deprive other person of their progress.

Que. 8 Should we get our hair cut on Saturday?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 78.41% of the girl students believed that people should not get their hair cut on Saturday. Because they believed that Saturday is the day of god hanuman.

Que. 9 Should the garbage of the house be thrown out of the house at evening time?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 84.06% of the girl students believed that the garbage of the house should not be thrown out of the house at evening time. Because of bringing the garbage out, one has to suffer the loss of money.

Que. 10 Should onion be eaten during the month of 'Shraavan' (the tenth month of a Vikram year) ?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 71.91% of the girl students believed that onion should not be eaten during the month of 'Shraavan' (the tenth month of a Vikram year) because according to the hindu religion the month of 'Shraavan' (the tenth month of a Vikram year) is considered as a holy month.

Que. 11 Should we gamble on 'Janmaastamee'?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 31.84% of the girl students believed that there is nothing wrong in gambling on 'Janmaastamee'. because Lord Shri Krishna also used to play gambling.

Que. 12 Do the situation of up-side-down footwear create quarrels?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 25.34% of the girl students believed that up-side-down footwear creates quarrels.

Que. 13 Can we save ourselves from the effect of sins (bad deeds) by taking dip in the river Ganga?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 42.80% of the girl students believed that one can save himself or herself from the effect of sins (bad deeds) by taking dip in the river Ganga because it is the general belief that the Ganga is a holy river.

Que. 14 Does drinking water become unusable after eclipse and should it be removed from house in the morning?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 41.95% of the girl students believed that drinking water becomes unusable after eclipse therefore that water should be removed from the house in the morning because that water becomes impure.

Que. 15 Should widow wear colourful sari?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 49.31% of the girl students believed that widow can not wear colourful sari because it is asocial barrier.

Que. 16 Should the book of 'Garudpuraan' be read after somebody's death?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 20.89% of the girl students believed that the book of 'Garudpuraan' should be read after somebody's death. Reading of that book provides peace to that deceased soul and brings fruits of righteousness.

Que. 17 Should the eatables ('prasad') be distributed after offering of prayer with a sacred lamp to god or goddess?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 75.85% of the girl students believed that the eatables ('prasad') should be distributed after the offering prayer with a sacred lamp to god or goddess because it is considered as religious.

Que.18 Should market remain closed if somebody dies?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 15.23% of the girl students believed that market should remain closed if somebody dies because it is a way of manner of offering tribute to the deceased souls of person.

Que.19 Should there be funeral procession after a person's death?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 55.82% of the girl students believed that there should be funeral procession after a person's death because it is a general social practice.

Que. 20 Should Indian hemp be drunk on the day of the Mahashivaraatree?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 64.04% of the girl students believed that on the day of the Mahashivaraatree Indian hemp should be drunk. They believed that Indian hemp is eatables ('prasad') of lord Shiva. Even lord Shiva also enjoys Indian hemp.

Que. 21 Should women keep their face covered(hidden) by sari from men?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 34.93% of the girl students believed that women should keep their face covered(hidden) by sari from men because it is a tradition.

Que. 22 Should there be a feast of sweet balls ('laadu') after man's death?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 36.30% of the girl students believed that there should be a feast of sweet balls ('laadu') after man's death because the deceased souls of person gets fruits of righteousness through that feast.

Que. 23 Should there be after death processions?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 61.47% of the girl students believed that there should be after death processions because the deceased souls of person gets fruits of righteousness through that procession.

Que.24 Should the custom of tonsuring the head of a male child ceremoniously be followed?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 56.16% of the girl students believed that the custom of tonsuring the head of a male child ceremoniously should be followed because people believe that it is a kind of religious ceremony that should be carried out at the religious temple of the specific goddess.

Que. 25 Should crows be offered kaagvaas (Prasad for crows) during 'Bhaadrapaksha' (the eleventh month of the Vikram year)?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 37.5% of the girl students believed that crows should be offered kaagvaas (Prasad for crows) during Bhaadrapaksha (the eleventh month of the Vikram year) because in this month deceased souls of ancestors ('pitrus') can get fruits of righteousness through the 'kaagvaas'

Que. 26 Should the son get his head shaved when his father dies?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 50.61% of the girl students believed that the son should get his head shaved when his father dies because it is a sign of mourning.

Que. 27 Should Muslim women wear veil ('burkha')?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 41.78% of the girl students believed that Muslim women keep veil ('burkha') because Muslim community believes that women can not show their face to the other than her husband. It is a kind of distance keeping.

Que. 28 Should the custom of mourning songs and breast beating in mourning be followed after a person's death?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 21.57% of the girl students believed that the custom of mourning songs and breast beating in mourning should be followed because it lessens the grief of death.

Que. 29 Should there be four water pots on the four sides of the square decorated structure where marriage ceremony is performed?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 35.78% of the girl students believed that the water pots should be kept on the square decorated structure where marriage ceremony is performed because it enhances the beauty of the marriage sight.

Que. 30 Should parents not send their daughter to her husband's home on Wednesday?

Out of total 584 girl students of women's Arts Colleges, 78.24% of the girl students believed that on Wednesday parents should not send their daughter to her husband's home. It is a tradition.

FINDINGS BASED ON RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Which type of beliefs about misconceptions and customs may be there among the girl students of women's arts college?

• Findings regarding Misconceptions

1. It was found that out of total 584 girl students of women's arts college 41.95% of the girl students believed in the misconception about evil look. According to these girl students, if some body eats something amid the public, he or she becomes the victim of evil look by somebody else. If some person is very beautiful, he or she may also become victim of evil look.
2. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 70.19% of the girl students were found to believe in the misconception that wet clothes of small children or infants should not be kept out for drying them. These girl students believed that some person can use the trick of spell or occultism.
3. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 60.62% of the girl students were found to believe in the misconception that the omen of any widow or widower should not be taken. According to these girl students, because of ill omen of any widow or widower, new work can be done successfully.
4. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 78.41% of the girl students were found to believe in the misconception that on Saturday we should not get our hair cut. Because it a sign of ill omen.
5. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 84.06% of the girl students were found to believe in the misconception that garbage of the house should not be thrown out of the house at evening time. Because of bringing the garbage out, one has to suffer the loss of money.

Findings regarding Customs

1. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 60.04% of the girl students were found to believe in the custom that during the festival of the Mahashivaraatree Indian hemp should be drunk. Because Lord Shiva used to drink it.
2. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 61.47% of the girl students were found to believe in the custom that after death or funeral procession should be

done. If this procession is done the deceased souls of person gets the fruit of righteousness.

3. Out of all the girl students of the colleges, 78.24% of the girl students were found to believe in the custom that on Wednesday parents should not send their daughter to her husband's home. It is a tradition.

2. Is there significant difference in the beliefs about misconceptions and customs among the girl students of women's arts colleges because of the difference in area?

• **Findings regarding Misconceptions**

1. The misconception, that evil look by someone works was found among the girl students of both rural and urban colleges.
2. Rural girl students of arts colleges had more misconceptions like spell and occultism, the existence of ghost and evil spirit. Rural girl students also believe that wet clothes of small children or infants should not be kept out for drying them, They students also believe that onion should not eaten in the month of Shravana, They also believe that on Janmaastamee, we should gamble. Rural girl students also believe that up-side-down footwear creates quarrels. They also believe that after the eclipse, drinking water becomes unusable so it should not be used but should be removed from the house in the morning. In short, these types of misconceptions are found more among rural girl students.

The urban girl students of arts colleges had more misconception like "On every Saturday lemon chilly should be hanged at the door or the house or the shop." They also believe that ill omen of widow or widower should not be taken. They also believe that it is inauspicious, if a cat or a snake crosses one's way. Urban girl students also believe that it is not good to get hair cut on Saturday. They also believe that one can save himself or herself from the effect of bad deeds by taking dip in the river Ganga. In short, these types of misconceptions are found more among urban girl students.

• **Findings regarding Customs**

1. Beliefs in the customs like "a widow can not wear colourful sari", "Muslim women should wear veil", "On Wednesday, parents should not send their

daughter to her husband's home." were found more in the girl students of urban area.

2. Beliefs in the customs like "on the day of the Mahashivaraatree Indian hemp should be drunk." "Women should keep their face covered(hidden) by sari (hidden) from men." , "After death a feast of sweet balls ('laadu') should be organized.", "The custom of mourning songs and breast beating in mourning should be followed." were found more in the girl students of rural area.

3. Is there the significant difference in the beliefs about misconceptions and customs among the girl students of women's arts colleges because of the difference in Caste category (Open, SEBC, SC, ST)?

• **Findings regarding Misconceptions**

1. The girl students of SEBC category were found having more beliefs in misconceptions than the girl students of Open and SC category.

• **Findings regarding Customs**

1. The girl students of SEBC and SC category were found having more beliefs in customs than the girl students of Open category.

MEJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. It was found that rural girl students believed more in the misconceptions than the girl students of urban area.

2. The girl students of rural area were found to believe in customs more than that of urban area.

3. It was found that the girl students of SEBC category believed more in the misconceptions.

4. The girl students of SEBC category and SC category were found to believe more in customs.

5. Some girl students were found unknown about logic behind misconceptions and customs.

6. Most of the girl students were found socially bound and also accepting those restrictions.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. Efforts should be made to develop understanding of the logic behind any misconceptions and customs among the students.
2. The students should be made aware about the misconceptions prevailing in the society.
3. The students should be made aware about the hidden meaning and intension behind the customs.
4. The government should make legal provisions to restrict certain misconceptions.
5. Even the society itself should disregard certain customs.
6. The visit of some organizations fighting against misconceptions should be organized for the students.
7. The experts of psychology should be invited to make students aware about the reality behind the beliefs of ghost or evil spirits.
8. Realistic thinking about the beliefs of omen or ill omens should be developed among the students through examples.
9. Society and Teachers should make efforts to create realistic attitude among the students about different misconceptions and customs.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

During the study, many questions arose in the researcher's mind. Study on those questions can be carried out. So the suggestions for the further are as under:

1. A comparative study on the thought about misconceptions and customs among the male students of college.
2. A study on the effect of misconceptions on the students of higher secondary schools.
3. A study on the effect of misconceptions on the students' mind.
4. A study on the opinions of the teachers and the guardians about misconceptions and customs.
5. Customs and people's beliefs – A Study.
6. The effect of misconceptions and customs on society – A Study.

CONCLUSION

In the present study, the researcher's main objective was to know different beliefs about misconceptions and customs among the girl students of women's arts colleges. In the study, the researcher has tried to fulfill the objective through the analysis and interpretation of the data. The details like 'What do the girl students believe about misconceptions and customs?' and 'which types of misconceptions and customs do they believe in?' have been discussed in the research report. It will be helpful to show the direction and will be useful for betterment of the society. This small effort of the researcher would be meaningful if it would be useful to the society.

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