

## Forgiveness and death anxiety in tribes

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### ABSTRACT

This study examined forgiveness and death anxiety in tribes. Research consists of 50 men and women between 20 and 70 years aged tribes were used for the study. In order to select subject in the present study the random sampling method was used. For the research survey method was adopted for the collect data using Upinder dhar death anxiety scale(DAS) and Samani forgiveness scale (FS) were used. Also, in order to analyze the data through t-test were used for the differences between the men and women in their forgiveness and death anxiety. The data analysis showed that, there is no differences between men and women in forgiveness, both are average in forgiveness and very low level of death anxiety in tribal men and women.

**Keywords:** Forgiveness, Death anxiety, Tribes and Culture

Largely unconscious the awareness of our finite existence, the fact that we all must die, has a profound impact on our thoughts, feelings, and behaviour. The fear and emotional anguish associated with anticipating the end of life are so painful that we must protect ourselves. People find it difficult to tolerate facing their mortality directly. Therefore, they repress the full realization of death and dying, and develop various defences to keep the suppressed material at bay. As existential psychologists Victor Florian and Mario Mikulincer (2004) rightly observed, the paralyzing terror produced by the awareness of one's mortality leads to the denial of death awareness and the repression of death-related thoughts. The fear of death can be defined as the anxiety experienced in daily life caused by the anticipation of death. It can be the result of facing death through illness and aging or experiencing circumstances that force a confrontation with the idea of death. It can also include many aspects of dying, such as pain and suffering, feelings of abandonment, loss of dignity, and of "nonbeing," not living up to one's potential (May 1983; Heidegger 1962).

As a personality disposition , forgiveness may be understood as a personality to forgive other across a wide variety of interpersonal circumstances, In this sense, people can be scaled along a forgiving unforgiving continuum, with most people falling somewhere toward mean of the population. The disposition to forgive might itself have several aspects (Mullet-98).As a quality of social units, forgiveness may be understood as an attribute that

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## **Forgiveness And Death Anxiety In Tribes**

is similar to intimacy, trust or commitment, some social structures ( e.g., marriage, family or communities) are characterized by a high degree of forgiveness, whereas other social structures are characterized by less forgiveness. Through this research, researcher want to study the forgiveness and death anxiety in Shettahalli camp tribal people.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The aim of the research is to understand the differences between men and women in forgiveness and death anxiety. The hypothesis and objectives are formulated bellow;

#### ***Objectives of the study***

1. To know the forgiveness and Death anxiety in Tribes
2. To understand the differences between men and women in forgiveness and death anxiety.

#### ***Hypothesis of the study***

1. There is significant differences between forgiveness and death anxiety in tribes.
2. Women have higher the forgiveness and death anxiety than the men.

#### ***Sample size and design***

1. The sample consists of 50 tribes (25-men, 25-women) from Shattahalli camp Hunsur, Mysore district (Karnataka). The random sampling methods were adopted for the assessing forgiveness and death anxiety in tribal people.

#### ***Research tools/Materials***

1. Forgiveness Scale by (FS-SA) Dr.Samani Shreyas and Amal Pragya (2008).This scale consists of 25 standardized items. The reliability of the test is .709 it is significant at .01 level and content validity found by validation of the test.
2. Death anxiety Scale (DAS) by Upinder Dhar et.al (2013). The scale constituted 10items, the reliability of the scale was determined by calculating split -half reliability coefficient was 0.87 and validity of the test is 0.93.

#### ***Statistical techniques used in analyzing data***

Keeping in the views of objectives and hypotheses of the study, the following statistical techniques mean SD and t-value were applied and the purpose for which they were used.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In this section, researcher tried to assess the forgiveness and death anxiety in tribal men and women using forgiveness scale by Samani Amal and Shreyas Pragya and death anxiety scale by Upinder et.al. The data were analysed bellow.

**Table No.1.Shows the mean, SD and t-value of forgiveness in men and women.**

<b>Forgiveness</b>		
<b>Group</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>
Mean	84.40	86.36
SD	8.30	8.50
SEM	1.66	1.70
N	25	25
t-value	0.8251	
p-value	0.4134(NS)	

## Forgiveness And Death Anxiety In Tribes

**Graph.No.1.** Mean score of forgiveness of men women.



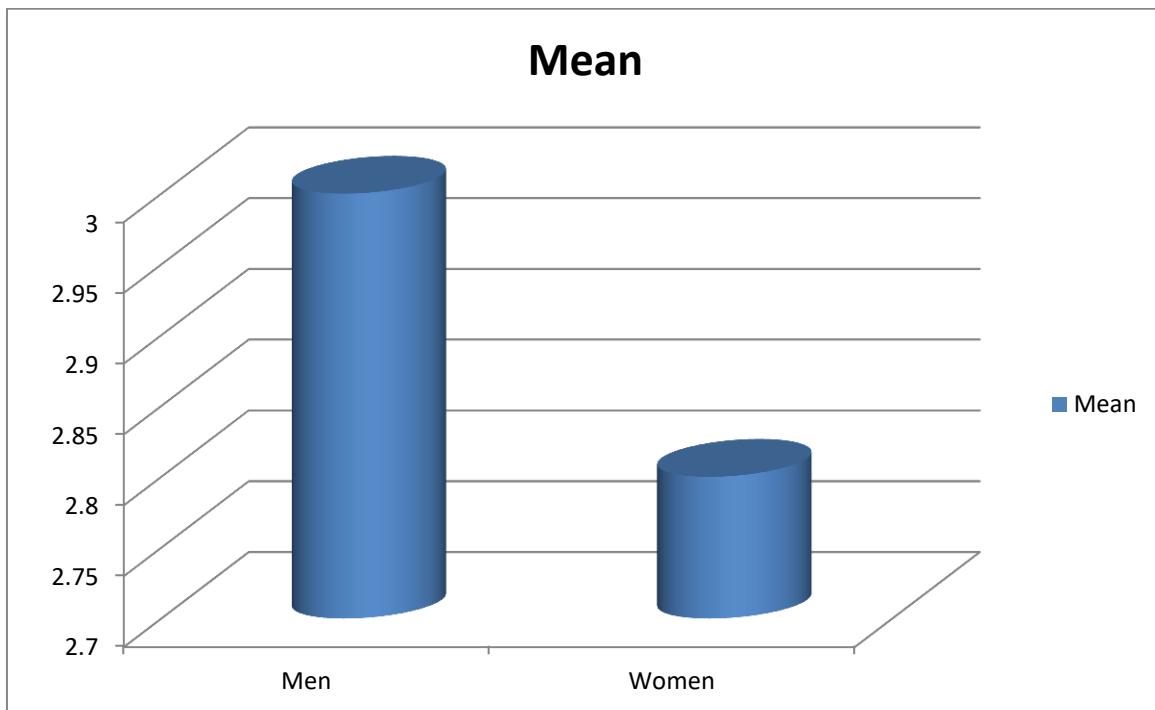
The above table reveals the forgiveness factors in men and women. In tribes women (M- 86.40) have more forgiveness factors than the men (M-84.40). This score indicates that, both the gender have shown average in forgiveness factors and no differences between men and women tribes. Supporting to above result by Michael E.( 2001) said human beings appear to an innate proclivity to reciprocate negative interpersonal behaviour with more negative behaviour. When insulted by a friend, forsaken by a loved one ,or attacked by an enemy, most people are motivated at some level to avoid or to seek revenge against the transgressor. The tendency to retaliate or seek retribution after being insulted or victimised is deeply ingrained in the biological, psychological, and cultural levels of human nature. Psychologically, the human proclivity for revenge is also codified in the norm of reciprocity (Gouldner,1960).

**Table.No.2.** Mean SD and t-value of death anxiety of men and women.

Death Anxiety		
Group	Men	Women
Mean	3.00	2.80
SD	1.68	1.91
SEM	0.34	0.38
N	25	25
t-value	0.3922	
p-value	0.6966	

## Forgiveness And Death Anxiety In Tribes

**Graph.No.2.Mean score of death anxiety in men and women.**



The above table shows the mean score of death anxiety of men and women tribal people. The men(M-3.00)is the higher than the women(2.80).This score indicates both the men and women tribes have experienced very low level of death anxiety it's means both the gender shown equal number of death anxiety and there is no differences between the tribes. The calculative result did not support the hypothesis that women were low level of death anxiety than the women. Kailash and Reynolds (1997) conducted interviews on death anxiety and attitude towards death of four ethnic groups of men and women of the age group of 20-70 years and found that age was a significant factor on the attitudes toward death and dying. Older subjects accepted facts related to death more frequently in comparison to younger subjects. Some other studies also showed relationship between attitudes toward death and certain Psycho-social variables. In a study of relationship between fear of death and religiosity reported by Long (1987), the results indicated that Church attendance had a significantly negative correlation with fear of premature death. The findings of **Hyams et.al.,(1988)** too, have reported that woman had higher mean scores than men on death and trait anxiety but they were similar in state anxiety. In this study tribal men and women belief is that, death means only a separation of the soul from the body. That is why the needs of the dead man could hardly be imagined as different from that of living man. Therefore, tribes approach of death anxiety is universal nature, tribes of Hunsur are no exception.

## CONCLUSION

1. The score indicates that, both the men and women have shown average in forgiveness factors and no differences between men and women tribes.
2. This score indicates both the men and women tribes have experienced very low level of death anxiety it's means both the gender shown equal number of death anxiety and there is no differences between the tribes. The calculative result did not support the hypothesis that women were low level of death anxiety than the women.

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**Conflict of Interest**

The author declared no conflict of interests.

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