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A comparative study to determine the level of Superstitions Behaviors between football and badminton female players

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Abstract

The aim of the study to observe the level of Superstitions Behaviors between Football and Badminton players. The investigator collected the data on total Fifty (N=50), Football and Badminton inter-university level female players, selected as subjects. To measure the level of superstitions Behaviors of the subjects, the superstitions beliefs and behaviour scale constructed by Buhramann *et al.* (2004) was administered. After collecting the data unpaired t-test was employed. The level of significance 0.05 percent was set. The outcome of the study that found statistically significant results, at ($P < .05$) .05 level of significance were observed with regard to level of Superstitions Behaviors between Football and Badminton female players.

Keywords: Superstitions Behaviors, football and badminton f

Introduction

The idea of superstition in strategic decision making and its impact on decision outcomes. We propose that, in addition to rational and intuitional approaches, managers sometimes rely on supernatural or non-physical causality, i.e., superstition. To understand this silent but critical issue, we apply a two-level study approach to investigate superstition among business decision makers in China. On the personal/decision-maker level, we examine how personal traits are linked to superstitious belief and practice in business decision. On the incident/decision level, we examine how decision characteristics are linked to the use of superstition and consequent decision outcomes. Compared to rational thinking and intuition, superstition seems to have a distinct role in decision-making.

Ultimately Decision making is an integral part of everyday life and level of self-confidence is related to the time it takes to make a decision. Myers (1962) ^[3] indicated that a person's decision making process depends to a significant degree on their cognitive style; as in most decision-making situations, an individual faces different degrees of uncertainty. In probabilistic terms, this situation is called ambiguity. Decision making is the process of sufficiently reducing uncertainty and doubt about alternatives to allow a reasonable choice to be made from among them. Larkin (2013) ^[2] has defined a decision as a judgment, a final resolution of a conflict of needs, means or goals; and a commitment to action made in face of uncertainly, complexity and even irrationally. Therefore decision making is an important part of all science-based professions, where specialists apply their knowledge in a given area to making informed decisions. The scientific studies discussed reveal that superstitious behaviours are illusions of control at times of uncertainty and distress. Two of these studies discussed revealed that people with an increase in superstitious behaviours also had increases in anxiety symptoms and decrease the quality of decision making power while in decisive settings. In our study, we initially aimed to determine the difference in superstitious behaviour and decision making among individual, dual and team sport groups.

Superstitious behaviors are not only confined to college campuses, athletes, or investors, they can also be found across all cultures. In the Trobriand Islands of New Guinea, anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski observed how islanders relied on superstitions at times of uncertainty or dangerous situations,

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such as when fishermen fished in the deep sea versus the relative safety of lagoons Singh, *et al.* (2014) [4].

Methods

For the purpose of the study, fifty female Football and Badminton inter-university level players selected 25 in each sports. The subject’s age ranging between 18-25 years. To measure the level of superstitions Behaviors of the subjects, the superstitions beliefs and behaviour scale constructed by Buhramann *et al.* (2004) was administered.

Superstitions Behaviors

Superstitions Behaviors questionnaire consists of forty two (N= 42) questions. These questions were to be answered by a tick mark in the respective boxes given next to each question. The questionnaire was arranged in a logical order and each question was worded clearly to enable the subjects to understand and answer those questions without much difficulty.

Scoring

The scoring of each of the items was as follows; “Agree”, “Dis-Agree” and “Not Aware”.

After collecting the data unpaired t-test was employed. The level of significance 0.05 percent was set.

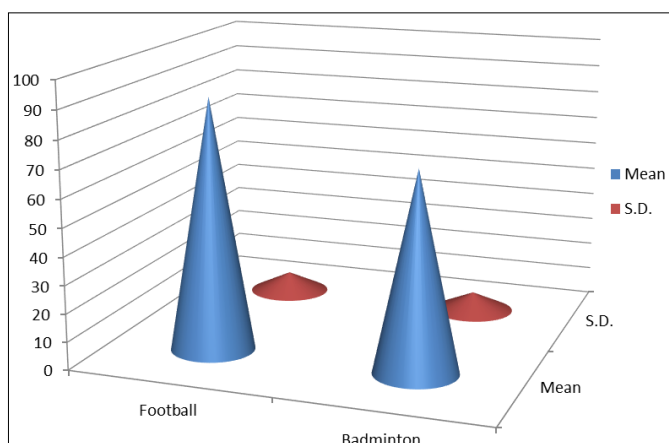
Results

Table 1: Shows Mean and Standard deviation results with regard to Superstitions Behaviors questionnaire between Football and Badminton female players

Group	Mean	S.D.	t value	P value
Football	90.36	7.12	9.655	0.0001
Badminton	71.32	6.82		

*t_{0.05}(48) = 2.0106

Table and figure 1 depict that the Mean and SD values of Superstitions Behaviors level of Football and Badminton female players were 90.36 ± 7.12 and 71.32 ± 6.82 respectively. The obtained “t” value 9.655 (2.0106) was found statistically significant, (P < .05) .05 level of significance.



Discussion of the outcome

The results of the study show that significant differences in the level of Superstitions Behaviors questionnaire between Football and Badminton female players. Football players display the better Superstitions Behaviors as compare the Badminton players.

According to Dr. Richard Lustberg, creator of the Web site Psychology of Sports, superstitious behavior and rituals play a

significant role in the mental preparation for a competition (Chick, 2008) [1].

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