Research toward Finding a Relationship between Commemorative Behavior and Opinions About the Afterlife, Funeral Ceremony, Superstitious Beliefs, and Reincarnation

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This study investigates how commemorative behavior is related to opinions when people do the following: perform acts to commemorate something, contemplate the afterlife, perform funeral ceremony, adhere to superstitious beliefs, contemplate reincarnation, feel satisfied regarding their life, and give thanks for family.

Data was collected from college students (n=171) and senior citizens (n=137) by using a questionnaire survey.

The results show that commemorative behavior in senior citizens is related to how and the number of times they want their child to commemorate them after they have passed on. In addition, in the relationship involving consciousness when comforting one's spirit, there were both common and differing viewpoints held by college students and senior citizens. Furthermore, in thinking about life and death, the percentage that believed in metempsychosis (the afterlife) and in curses among college students was higher than senior citizens. In addition, females were higher than males in this regard.

The implications of these findings are discussed with the opinion that humans instinctively demand a connection with relatives who have passed on and who they had a close relationship with.