

Abstract

This study investigated the effects of religiosity and religious affiliation on various dimensions of death attitude. A hundred and twenty-three Christians and 137 Buddhists from both genders matching in demographic characteristics completed a battery of tests on death attitude and religiosity. Results revealed that while *intrinsic religiosity* correlated negatively with *fear of death* and positively with *approach acceptance of death*, *extrinsic religiosity* correlated positively with *fear of death*. Subsequent qualitative analysis revealed that depending on their religious affiliation, intrinsically religious individuals attained lower *death fear* through different mechanisms: Christianity provides clear answer about believers' destiny after life, which reduced their level of *not sure*. Buddhism, on the other hand, stresses on the *impermanence* of life, which in the end also shield believers from negative death concerns. Therefore, while it is appropriate to conclude that religion in general protects people from *death fear*, cross-religion differences in other aspects of death attitudes should not be ignored.