

WHAT ARE THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF IRANIAN FEMALE ADOLESCENTS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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Background & purpose: Cultural, social and educative vulnerability is less in Iranian adolescents. This article examines the spiritual needs of Iranian female Adolescents

Material and methods: A conventional content analysis approach was used for analyzing the participants' experiences and their perceptions. To collect data 8 focus group discussions were conducted with 67 female adolescents (12-19 years) and 11 semi-structured interviews were done with key informants based on open sampling, with the aim of maximum variation from urban and rural areas of Sari in the North of Iran. All the interviews were audio recorded and transcribed verbatim.

Results: Four main categories emerged from the collected data: Religious attitude, Religious practice, Religious aesthetics and Rationality in religion.

Conclusion: Our study show that Iranian female adolescents search some of their health needs in connection to undying source of inspiration and need to explain the beautiful religious truths for them firmly and reasonably. Failure to meeting these needs could lead to irrecoverable cultural and social vulnerability to adolescents.