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An investigation on attitude of parents towards female participation in sports

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Abstract

This study was focused on the important role played by psychosocial factors influencing why some girls participate and while others do not participate in sports. In this study an attempt has been made to issues some of the problems against women's involvement in sports. A self-made questionnaire was prepared and 200 subjects were selected for the present study from both rural and urban areas of Patiala district of Punjab. The responses were collected and evaluated to access the parental attitude towards female participation in sports. Percentile and Frequency methods were used to access the parental attitude towards female participation in sports. The findings of the study reveal that majority of the parents possess positive attitude towards female participation in sports. Besides this some psychological constraints stops some parents in showing the positive attitude.

Keywords: investigation, female participation in sports

Introduction

Historically, it has been understood that the "natural order of the universe" consisted of man to the market place, woman at home with her family, woman the mistress of domesticity, man the master of all else, man the rational thinker, woman the guardian of morals, man dominant, and woman subordinate. The injection of equality between the two genders challenged the foundation of the social order. Women's competition in sports has been frowned upon by many societies in the past. The increase has been partly related to the drive for more women's rights. In the United States, female student's participation in sports was significantly boosted by the Act in 1972, preventing gender discrimination and equal opportunity for women to participate in sport at all levels. Pressure from sports funding bodies has also improved gender equality in sports.

Methodology and Procedure

The purpose of the study was to find out the parental attitude towards female participation in sports. A self-made questionnaire was designed so as to get the relevant information that can be used for various purposes. The information is to be collected from the different sources of data. 200 subjects are included i. e; both male and female parents have been selected for the present investigation from both rural & urban areas of the Patiala district of Punjab for the study. Random Sampling method is used for the collection of the data. A self-made questionnaire has been used for evaluating the parental attitude towards the female participation in sports from both urban & rural areas of Patiala district of Punjab. In order to analyze the data, percentage and frequency method were applied to find the percentage of parents agree & disagree with the various statements of questionnaire in order to evaluate the parental attitude towards female participation of sports. In order to analyze the attitude of parents towards female participation in sports, percentile method was used. The findings pertaining to attitude of parents towards female participation in sports are represented in the below table.

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Table 1: Percentage/frequency analysis of responses of parents for various statements related to the objectives of female participation in sports

	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	137	66%
Disagree	67	34%
Total	200	100%

The above table reveals that majority of parent’s possess positive attitude towards female participation in sports. 66% of parents have Agree that the female participation in sports have contributed to the development of their physical, mental & social aspects of their life.

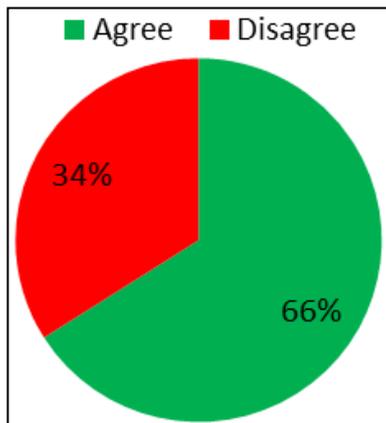


Fig 1: Percentage analysis of responses of parents for various statements related to the objectives of female participation in sports

Findings and Conclusion

The findings of the study reveal that majority of the parents possess positive attitude towards female participation in sports. Besides this some psychological constraints stops some parents in showing the positive attitude. The study also reveals that the female participation in sports have made them economically and psychologically strong at the grass root level. The study shows that there should not be any gender hindrance for females to participate in various events at national, international & Olympic level. Now –adays females are given prime and equal importance as their male counterparts. They participate in almost all the events in which their male counterparts participate. Participating in various events have made them fit and healthy. Recently females have turned as professionals and have become popular than males like in tennis, badminton, & gymnastics. This study shows that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done to encourage more females to take part in sports. Hopefully this study may contribute towards some positive changes coming from the Department of Education and Training at national level, at provincial level and at district level and eventually filter down to the schools. This study contains information, which can put systems into place that may nurture girl’s interest in sport and eventually have more women representing the country at an international level. Changing negative attitudes of people regarding female sport participation might be one way of promoting females in the field of sports. The portrayal of female sport participants in the media will be a means of showing the female community that females can be as dedicated, as determined and can excel as well as their male counterparts. The results of this study have confirmed some of the psychosocial factors that have made it impossible for most of the girls to participate in

sports. This study has achieved its aims, which is to determine psychosocial factors that contribute to girls participating in sport.

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