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IMPACTS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AMONG UNIVERSITY PLAYERS IN SELECTED SPORTS AND GAMES

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ABSTRACT

The study analysis of socio-economic status, psychological factors among University men players of six selected sports and their inter relationship. The ninety players from Cricket, Tennis, Football, Hockey, Kabaddi and Kho-kho games. The selected players were classified into three groups suchas group –I was high expenditure sports, group –II was middle Expenditure sports and group –III was low expenditure sports, based on the amount of money spent by the Participants. Cricket and Tennis considered high expenditure sports. Football and Hockey Considered medium expenditure sports, Kabaddi and Kho – Kho considered low expenditure sports. The players age from 18 to 25 years. The socio-economic status, anxiety and aggression were selected as dependent variables and were measured with socio-economic status scale by Kuppuswamy (means of weighted scale), Rainer Marten's Sports Competition Anxiety Test (SCAT) through questionnaire and Smith's Aggression questionnaire respectively. The analyze socio-economic status was measured by adopting a modified version of B. Kuppuswamy scale, Sports Competition Anxiety Test (SCAT), Rainer Martens (SCAT) tool was used and Aggression was assessed with the Smith's questionnaire tool. The test hypotheses one-way analysis of variance and simple linear regression were used. Schaffe's post hoc'test was used for multiple components. Socio-economic status of the players of high expenditure sports was higher and that of low expenditure sports was low. This correspondence between socio-economic status and types of sports could be attributed to two interrelated reasons. Those who belong to low socio-economic stratum do not poses adequate awareness about the high expenditure sports and they generally know low expenditure sports and develop interest on them. Secondly, even if they know the high expenditure sports they could not afford to train themselves or purchase the required equipments. The poor socio-economic localities as well as schools, the students play only low expenditure sports. Anxiety differed between the players of three types of sports. The players of low expenditure sports had greater anxiety as compared to that of the high expenditure sports. Socio-economic status of the University players have significant effect on the type of sports they take part and type of sports one player had a significant effect on anxiety while its effect on aggression was not significant. The socio-economic status of the players had significant negative effect on aggression on the contrary its effect on anxiety was

neither substantial nor significant.

Key words: Socio-Economic status and Psychological factors in selected Sports.

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of the study is to relate socio-economic status, anxiety and aggression of university level men players of six major sports viz., Tennis, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Kho-kho and Kabaddi and their inter relationship. The socio-economic factors play a vital rolein an individual's performance and achievement in sport and sports. The social class in which a child belongs decisively influences both physically as well as psychologically its personality development. This influence continues to be present throughout one's life Yobu, (1993). Groupe, (1990), status that social situational factors play a more important function in accounting for socialization of sports roles. There have occurred much data showing that opportunities to become involved in sports are differentially distributed among various groups of sport involvement. A strong inference is that sport is strongly influenced by socio-economic background. A number of studies show that social status has positive relationship with personality development, economic achievement and sports participation of students. In short, the importance of socio-economic status as a determinant of high and low playing performance has been emphasized by the findings of studies made in the Western Countries Sivakumar, (1994).

Competition Anxiety in Sports:

Anxiety plays a vital role in sports and sports. Normally all sports men have some level of anxiety. Even coaches have anxiety to a certain level. When the players are more anxious their level of performance also decreases. If it is at a low level, it will lead to better performance. So higher the anxiety lower the performance, lower the anxiety better the performance. Therefore the level of anxiety should be minimized.

Aggression in Sports:

Sports may be arranged along a scale according to the intensity and type of aggression inherent in each. Some sports require a great deal of physical force directed against one's opponent, whereas others require forceful actions against the environment instead of direct aggression. Studies on aggression have positive relationship with development of sports achievement and sports participation of students. The importance of aggression in sport as a determinant of sports development has been emphasized in a fitting study Ramakrishna Reddy, (1995). Studies relating to socio-economic status, anxiety and aggression of sports men are rare especially in the Indian context. The present study tries of fill this gap by making a survey of University level players of six selected sports viz. Tennis, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Kho-Kho and Kabaddi.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

To enquire into the levels of socioeconomic status of University level men players of selected sports and levels of anxiety and aggression among the University level players of selected sports. To analyse the relationship between socioeconomic status and anxiety and aggression.

METHODOLOGY:

90 subjects were selected from University level men player in the age of 20 to 25 years each group consist of 30 players in selected sports. Group -I was high expenditure sports (Tennis and Cricket), Group -I was medium expenditure sports (Football and Hockey), Group -I was low expenditure sports (Kho-kho and Kabaddi). The data were collected with the help of five Ph.D scholars of Department of Physical Education who were well versed with the conduct of test (questionnaire), and collections under the direct supervision of the research scholar. The selected subjects of different sports were classified into three Categories such as high expenditure sports, middle expenditure sports and low expenditure sports, based on the amount of money spent by the participants. The cricket and Tennis sports were considered as high expenditure sports. Football and Hockey were considered as middle expenditure sports. The low expenditure sports were Kabaddi and Kho- Kho.The age of the subjects ranged from 18 to 25 years. The socio-economic status, anxiety and aggression were selected as dependent variables and were measured with socio-economic status scale by Kuppuswamy (means of weighted scale), Rainer Marten's Sports Competition Anxiety Test (SCAT) through questionnaire and Smith's Aggression questionnaire respectively. Socio-economic status was measured in terms of four variables, viz., caste, education, occupation and income.

ANALYSIS OF DATA:

The socio-economic status was measured by adopting a modified version of B. Kuppuswamy scale; the socio-economic status scale evolved by Kuppuswamy originally consisted of the factors of the education, occupation and income. The modifications included the inclusion of caste and changing the income range to accommodate inflation and changes in the income levels there to assess sports Competition anxiety test (SCAT), Rainer Martens (SCAT) tool was used. Another psychological variable aggression was assessed with the Smith's questionnaire tool. To analyse the data cross tabulations, percentages and average were used. To test the hypotheses one-way analysis of variance and simple linear regression were used. Schaffe's post hoc'test was used for multiple components. The one way analysis of variance was used to find out the significant difference among high expenditure, medium expenditure and low expenditure sports players on selected criterion variables such as socio-economic status, anxiety and aggression separately. Since, three groups were involved, whenever the ‗F'ratio was found to be significant, the Scheffe's test was used as post hoc test to find out the paired mean differences. The simple linear regression was used to find out the influence of socioeconomic status and psychological factors of university level players in select sports and sports. The percentage scores were also computed.

RESULTS AND FINDINGS OF STUDY:

The study related with socio-economic status with anxiety and aggression of players of three types of sports, viz, (High expenditure sports, Tennis, Cricket, Medium expenditure sports, Football, Hockey and Low expenditure sports, Kabaddi and Kho-Kho) while aggression didnot differ significantly. Socio-economic status of the players of high expenditure sports was higher and that of low expenditure sports was low. Previous studies on socio-economic status made rarely any comparison between the players of different expenditure of sports. This

correspondence between socio-economic status and types of sports could be attributed to two interrelated reasons. Firstly, those who belong to low socio-economic stratum do not posses adequate awareness about the high expenditure sports and they generally know low expendituresports and develop interest on them. Secondly, even if they know the high expenditure sports they could not afford to train themselves or purchase the required equipments. Further in the poor socio-economic localities as well as schools, the students play only low expenditure sports. Anxiety differed between the players of three types of sports. The players of low expenditure sports (Kabaddi and Kho-Kho) had greater anxiety as compared to that of the high expenditure sports (Tennis and cricket).

CONCLUSION:

1. Socio-economic status of the University level men players viz., caste, fathers education, occupation and annual income have significant effect on the type of sports they take part. The type of sports one plays had a significant effect on anxiety while its effect on aggression was not significant.
2. The socio-economic status of the players had significant negative effect on aggression on the contrary its effect on anxiety was neither substantial nor significant.
3. The low expenditure games (Kabaddi and Kho-Kho) had greater anxiety as compared to that of the high expenditure games (Tennis and cricket).

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