

Comparative study on: Attitudes of family towards Participation of male and females in Sport; in *Nekemte* city, Ethiopia.

Tarekegn Girma

Abstract

Purpose of this research was to compare the attitude of family towards participation of male and females in sport; in Nekemte city, Ethiopia. To conduct this study descriptive survey research design were employed. Totally, one hundred thirty five (135) subjects, in which 45 female, 45 male and 45 families of the children are selected for the study. Researcher purposively selected both male and females subjects from the same family. In order to get adequate information the researchers used self made questionnaires. The SPSS version 20 computer program had been employed to calculate and analyze the data. Further for the quantitative analysis paired t-test was employed. The finding of present study revealed that families have negative attitudes towards females compared to male in sport participation. The mean and standard deviation score of family attitude towards female were 1.2839+ .26119 where as the mean and standard deviation score of family attitude towards male were 1.1383+ .22741 respectively. This indicates that the mean score of attitudes of family towards female was (M=1.2839) higher than the mean score of attitudes of family towards male (M=1.1383). This shows that parents have good/positive perception for male than female during sport participation (the lower the mean shows positive perception whereas the higher the mean shows negative perception). Based on the finding, in developing countries, like Ethiopia families give less attention for females and restrict them from sport participation. According to the finding, they prevent females from sport participation due to the following misunderstandings: they consider sport as male work, they think harassment would be there in sport arena and, lastly they think sport participation and academic achievement as controversially. Families negative attitudes decrease the confidence of females to overcome the above mentioned misinformation. Researcher recommends that, it is better family have positive attitudes towards female in order to increase participation of females in sport.

Contribution/Originality: This study contributes in the existing literature to differentiate attitudes of family towards male and females during sport participation. The study used to increase participation of females in sport in case of Ethiopia. Finally, it is also helps to aware benefits of sport participation to females in Ethiopia.

- **Introduction**

Traditionally, men have been associated with sports. Dubbert (1979) believes men's desire to be active in sports is due to a primitive instinct in men to hunt. Gilder & Tiger (1979) state sports are the manifestations of the characteristics that are male. Sports are assumed to be escapes from women and femininity as evidenced in the exclusion of women from sports (Dubbert, 1979). Men are provided with bonds that extend off of the playing field with other men that ostracize women (Horrocks, 1995).

Sage (1990) believes parents dissuade their daughters from participating in organized sports, especially once the girls reach puberty, but encourage and at times even coerce their boys in to competitive sports. Girls do not receive systematic or steady rewards while they are developing their motor skills (Greendorf 1992). McPherson, Curtis, and Loy (1989) assert that girls need encouragement from both parents to even participate, let alone be competitive in a sport. Boys report receiving more support for sports participation and physical activity from parents than girls (Anderssen & Wold, 1992); however, support from parents is more important to girls (Spreitzer & Snyder, 1976).

Women athletes meet more oppression than most other women in the American society (Hart, 1971). Sage (1990) points out that women who choose to "participate in competitive sports face social isolation and censure" (p. 45). Women who play sports, especially traditional masculine sports, are challenged by men. For instance, women bullfighters are looked at as "amusing novelties" (MacClancy, 1996, p. 77) and women playing cricket, rugby, or boxing are viewed with "surprise, humour, or revulsion amongst men" (Horrocks, 1995, p. 151). Leighton (1992) shares a personal story of his daughter who would not participate in Little League even though she possessed strong skills because she did not want to be like the boys and different than the other girls. "The dissonance between the behavioral characteristics necessary for success in athletics and those that are considered appropriate for women can produce a real identity crisis in the young female who is struggling to establish her own identity and enjoys participating in sports" (Harris, 1980, p. 227).

- **Objectives of the Study**

To compare attitudes of family towards Participation of male and females in Sport; *in Nekemte city, Ethiopia.*

- **Materials and methods**

The purpose of this study was to compare attitudes of family towards Participation of male and females in Sport; *in Nekemte city* under 17 football projects, *Ethiopia*. Study was descriptive study in terms of the nature and the method it employs. *The research was conducted on Nekemte city under seventeen (17) football project. Totally, one hundred thirty five (135) subjects, in which 45 female, 45 male and 45 families of the children are selected for the study from Nekemte city under 17 football projects. In order to get adequate information the researchers used self made questionnaires. After the data were collected, the raw data were entered into computer and were analyzed by SPSS Software (Version 20). Further for the quantitative analysis paired t-test was employed*

• **Results**

Table:1. Descriptive statistics on the perception of family towards Participation of male and females in Sport.

	Group	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Attitude	female's attitudes	45	1.2839	.26119	.03894
	male attitudes	45	1.1383	.22741	.03390

As indicated in the above table1, the mean and standard deviation score of family attitude towards female's sport participation indicates 1.2839+ .26119 where as the mean and standard deviation score of family attitudes towards male sport participation shows that 1.1383+ .22741 respectively. This concludes that the mean(M=1.2839) score of family attitudes towards female was higher than the mean (M=1.1383) score of family attitudes towards male. To check the observed mean difference on the perception of family towards the participation of male and female in sport, independent t-test was conducted.

Table 2: MD, 95%CI, t, df and P value for the perception of family towards the participation of male and female in sport.

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means					
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference
Attitude	Equal variances								

	assumed								Lower	Upper
	Equal variance assumed	3.80	.054	2.821	88	.006	.1456	.05163	.043	.24825
	s not assumed			2.821	86.36	.006	.1456	.05163	.043	.24825

As shown in the above table 2, the independent sample t-test revealed that the observed mean differences between the two groups (family perception) was found to be statistically significant, $t(88)=2.821$, $MD=.1456$, $p<.05$. The finding of present study shows that the mean score of family attitudes towards female sport participation was higher than mean score of family attitudes towards male sport participation. This shows that family have good/positive perception towards male than female during participation of their children in sport.

• **DISCUSSION**

Purpose of this research was to compare attitudes of family towards participation of their son and daughter in sport; in Nekemte city, Ethiopia. Finding of the study mentioned that there would be significant differences on attitudes of family towards their son and daughter in case of sport participation. The finding of present study revealed that families have negative attitudes towards females compared to male in case of sport participation.

• **CONCLUSION**

Purpose of this research was to compare attitudes of family towards participation of their son and daughter in sport; in Nekemte city, Ethiopia. Totally, one hundred thirty five (135) subjects, in which 45 female, 45 male and 45 families of the children are selected for the study from Nekemte city under 17 football projects. In order to get adequate information the researchers used self made questionnaires. The study employed descriptive statistics. The finding of present study revealed that families have negative attitudes towards females compared to male in case of sport participation.

7. Implications

Purpose of this research was to compare attitudes of family towards participation of their son and daughter in sport; in Nekemte city, Ethiopia. In the light of the findings of the study, the following recommendations were forwarded: - in developing countries like Ethiopia participation of female in sport is very low due to different factors. According to the finding of the study family have negative attitudes towards females compared to male in case of sport participation. This indicate that, family negative attitudes barriers participation of females in sport. Therefore, it is better, while families view

female as male during they are participating in sport. In generally, it is better,while family motivate their female in order to participate in sport by introducing the benefits of sport.

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BY: Tarekegn Girma, Wollega University, Ethiopia