

**PERCIEVED IMPACT OF VIOLENCE IN SPORTS ON THE ACADEMIC
ACHIVEMENT OF THE STUDENTS OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KOGI
STATE**

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Abstract

This study examines the perceived impacts of violence in sports on the academic achievement of the students of the secondary schools in Kogi State, Nigeria. Two research questions and two sub hypotheses were formulated and tested in the study. A sample size of 200 respondents were selected through a simple random sampling technique. The instrument used for the study was a self-developed and validated questionnaire with reliability coefficient of 0.79. The inferential statistics of Chi-square (X^2) was used to test all hypotheses at 0.05 alpha level of significance. The research findings of the study revealed that violence in sports have negative influence on the academic achievement of the students in the secondary schools in Kogi-state. The study recommended that students should be encouraged to actively participate in extra-mural and inter-scheduled sports programme devoid of rancor as well to shape their behavior during and after the sports competitions, It is further recommended that any organized sports programmes should be monitored as well officiated according to the established rules and regulations in order to reduce sports violence and hooliganism among the secondary schools students in Kogi State.

Key Words: Competitions, Violence, Sports, Secondary, Schools.

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Introduction

Sports which is one of the most common and effective social institutions of today modern society is a popular entertainment tool that is at the center of society and which is highly valued and drives the masses.

Nowadays, when the definition of sports is done, it can be mentioned that the sports removes or alleviates more aggression and anger explosions. On the other hand, the number and severity of aggressive behavior increased in many sports events. It's an obvious excessive use of physical force that causes violence, damage or destruction. As a result of a combination of many factors that interact in a very complex way. Reyhon, S. (2016) asserted that sports is associated with all units of society, is within social life, and the characteristics of society are reflected in sports. The individual interacting with the community is a part of the society he lives in and is affected by the events around him. All negative factors that an individual may encounter in this relationship pattern can lead to undesirable behaviors. (Seker; R, 2011). The word violence, vandalism and hooliganism have most been used inter-changed to express unruly behaviour expressed by students athletes, players, coaches, officials are supporters of a team in school sports programme. (Ladani; 2002), According to Belousov L.S. (2016) describe violence as physical force used by a person directly or indirectly through a weapon to hurt object eg. Territory or property. This definition attempts to outline the nature of violence, it after which is usually characterized by damages and destruction of resources which is human or materials while Amuche ,(2010) sees a violence a person who deliberately destroys or damages for no good reason and Ayayi,(2011) further defined violence is a mousy person who causes trouble by fighting. In line with the above statement, Venkates warlu,(2014) concluded that violence referred to as structures behaviour by youth or irresponsible people. It can also be regarded as display of aggression on an opponents or his

supporters. Violence or hooliganism is not part of sports and rules are made to enhance friendly interactions but the enemies of peace have injected acts of violence sometimes outright war and people have started to ponder in the causes of the unethical behaviour whatever one may say about as a social event is supposed to be a socializing process for the gathering of people of good will who come together to take part in sports for the benefits of mankind mentally, physically, socially, and emotionally.

Causes of Violence in School Sports Competitions

Bacley, R (2006) opined that several reasons have been adduced as to why some scheduled schools sports competitions results competitions. Top among these reasons include, poor officiating on the part of the referees, inadequate security at the venue of the competitions, nonchalant attitude of fans/supporters from both teams, Negative roles of mass media, in ordinate ambitions to win at all cost syndrome, superstitions beliefs and the use of performance enhancing drugs.

Weidner, J, Kilb, R. (Eds). (2010) in his work concluded that many sports organized competition especially among the secondary schools were organized without adequate security at the venue, the organizers assumed that the competition will be hitch free but in several occasions such competitions end up unconcluded due to violence. Gencay, S, Karakucuk, S. (2006) explained further that the mass media are commercial oriented and their objectives include to inform, make profit and win the admiration of the people and consumers of sports from the spectators include those who read about sports in the newspapers and watch competitions on the television. This implies that the mass media get news reports to people very fast and widely. The implication of this singular privilege of the mass media is that their role can either enhance healthy competitions or generate violence because their reports was to influence their consumers, some sports

journalists, analyst and commentators are often incisive and influence many fans, supports into violence behaviour. (Comeron, M. 2002).

Ladani, (2012) in his work opined that some people beliefs that skill alone may not be enough to win officially organized sports competitions as such enormously believed that on athletes or a team has to consult a traditional doctor or a juju priest to prepare victory charms in order to win. This has often leads to suspicions among the rival competitors and their fans for example, in a football match the cap or any article which goalkeeper keeps by the side of his goal post can be suspected to be a charm or any attempts by opponents to remove such article will be resisted and can lead to violence and disruptions of the competition.

Ladani, (2012) further explained that there are several other intimidating displays by teams which opponents misconstrue as charms for example a team might decide to sprinkle chalk into the air before they enter the pitch or refuse to exchange pleasantries with opponents before the match begins. A part form its entertainment value, achievement in sports these days. Has much materials rewards attached to it. It is now a regular practice that outstanding athletes or teams who come to top in the competitions either at the state, national or Olympic level stand the chance of being rewarded such rewards may be financially owning shares in government owned companies, gifts of houses and award of national honours. The urge to benefit from such awards seem to be a major drive for some sports participants and to achieve their inordinate ambition they vouch to win at all cost and this lead to violence and destruction of the property (Harvey; 2012).

Some of the sports athletes believed that in order to achieve optimally performance in their chosen area of specialization, they indulge in the intake of performance enhancing drugs which have been banned by laws and when the users were tested positive after the completion of the competition

and most especially when the position are withdrawn from such athletes as a result of being tested to be positive of drugs dropping.

Types of Violence in Sport Competitions

Venkateswarlu, K (2013) divides sports violence into four types;

- Brutal body contact violence
- Borderline violence
- Quaso-criminal violence
- Criminal violence.

Brutal body contact violence;

Brutal body contact violence is taken for granted when one participates, one automatically accepts inevitability of contact, Probability of minor body injury, Possibility of serious injury and Practices may strain formal rules of sports but do not necessarily violate them.

Border Line Violence

These are assaults which, though prohibited by the formal rules of a sport, occur routinely and are more or less accepted by players and fans. They are essentially the province of referees and umpires; penalties seldom exceed brief suspensions and or a fine; and rationale for virtual immunity from criminal prosecution include; community sub-group rationale, continuing relationship rationale, applying criminal law to sports is judges inappropriate and ineffective.

Quasi-Criminal Violence

The violates not only formal rules of sports, but also informed norms of players conduct usually results or could have resulted in a grave injury; is brought to the attention of top league officials, penalties range from several genes, suspension to life-man-ban court and criminal proceedings, were in the past, how increasingly follow.

Criminal Violence

Violence so serious and obviously outside the boundaries of what can be considered part of the game that is handled from the outside by the law. Permanent, debilitating injury or death are often involved. The study was therefore conducted to assess perceived impact of violence in sports on the academic achievement of the students of the secondary schools in Kogi State, Nigeria.

Research Questions

For the purpose of this study, two (2) research questions was formulated to guide the study;

1. Is there any significance difference between violence in sports and academic achievement of the male students of the secondary schools in Kogi State?
2. Is there any significance difference between violence in sports and academic achievement of the female students of the secondary schools in Kogi State?

Research Hypotheses

For the purpose of the study, the (2) null hypotheses was formulated to guide the study;

1. There is no significance difference between violence in sports and academic achievement of male students of the secondary schools in Kogi State.
2. There is no significance difference between violence in sports and academic achievement of female students of the secondary schools in Kogi State.

Methodology

The information required to assess perceived impact of violence in sports on the academic achievement of the male and female students of the secondary schools in Kogi State, Nigerias was already available without the manipulation of variable. Therefore, Ex-post facto research design was used in this study. The sample for this study consisted of one hundred from population of four hundred (400) in the secondary of Kogi State. Using dip and pick method with replacement. The

Main instrument used was a structured and validated questionnaire to elicit appropriate information from the respondents. The designed questionnaire was presented to the experts in sports management for their input and necessary comments. Their suggestions and corrections were adopted in the final print out of the questionnaire which was personally distributed to the selected subjects in secondary schools for the study, the filled and returned questionnaire were however collected for data analysis. The statistics of frequencies and percentage were used to describe the demographic information of the respondents. The chi-square analysis was used to test the null hypotheses on the opinion of the respondents as the weather variable raised in the study that perceived impact of violence in sports on the academic achievement of the male and female students of the secondary schools in Kogi State, Nigeria. The sub-hypotheses were tested at 0.05 alpha level.

Results and Discussion:-

Table 1: summary table on chi-square analysis on the male students sports violence on the academic achievement in secondary school of Kogi State.

VARIABLE	STATISTICAL ANALYSIS							
	N	DF	X ² Cal	X ² tab	OF	L.S.	REMARKS	
Male sports violence on the academic achievement	100	98	4.02	3.00	98	0.05	No significant	

$X^2_{cal} \text{ value} = 4.02 > X^2_{crit} \text{ value} = 3.00 \text{ df} = 98 \text{ P} < 0.05$

The above table revealed that chi-square (X^2) calculated value of 4.02 is greater than the critical value of 3.00 with the degree of freedom of 9.8 established at 0.05 alpha level. This implies that the null hypothesis which states that there is no significance difference between violence in sports on academic achievement of the male students of the secondary schools in Kogi State, Nigeria is hereby rejected

Table II: summary table on chi-square analysis in the female students sports violence on the academic achievement in secondary schools of Kogi State, Nigeria.

VARIABLE	STATISTICAL ANALYSIS							
	N	DF	X ² Cal	X ² tab	OF	L.S.	REMARKS	
Male sports violence on the academic achievement	100	98	3.00	2.50	98	0.05	No significant	

$X^2_{cal} \text{ value} = 3.00 > X^2_{crit} \text{ value} = 2.50 \text{ df} = 98 \text{ P} < 0.05$

The above table revealed that chi-square (X^2) calculated value of 3.00 is greater than the critical value of 2.50 with the degree of freedom f 98 established at 0.05 alpha level. This implies that the null hypothesis which states that there is no significance difference between violence in sports on academic achievement of the female students of the secondary schools in Kogi State is hereby rejected.

Discussion of Findings

The results of the research questions revealed that violence in sports have negative influence on the academic achievement of the male and female students in the secondary schools in Kogi State, Nigeria. Seker, (2011) further ascribe to the following reasons why some scheduled school sport competition result into acts of violence. Top among these reasons include, port officiating on the part of the referees, inadequate scarcity at the venue of the competition, nonchalant attitude of the fan/supporters of both teams and negative roles played by the mass media. Bacley (2012) concluded that inordinate ambitions of the athletes to win at all cost and superstitious belief on the use of enhancing drugs are some of the major causes of sports violence among the students consumption of drugs. Ladani, (2012) expressed that violence is not part of sports and rules are made to enhance friendly interactions but the enemies of peace have injected sets of violence sometimes outright war and people have started to ponder in the causes of the unethical behaviour,

whatever one may say about violence in secondary schools sports, one thing is certain, it is always aimed at destruction since sports as a social event, its supposed to be socializing process for the gathering of people of good will who come together to take part in sports for the benefits of mankind mentally, physically, socially and emotionally. Reyhan,(2016) in his work supported the finding of this study, concluded that many sport organized competition especially among the students athletes of the secondary schools worldwide organized without adequate security at the venue of the competitions, the organizers assumed that the competitions will be hitch-free but in several occasions such competitions end-up unconcluded due to violence. Gencay, S.and Karakucuk, S (2006) supported the finding of this study, violence have negative impact on the mass media are academic achievement of the secondary school students and further document that commercial oriented and their objective include to inform, make profit and win the admiration of the people and consumers of sports from the spectators include those who read about sports in the newspapers and watch competitions on the television.

This implies that the mass media get news reports to people very fast and widely. The implications of this singular privilege of the mass media is that their role can either enhance either healthy competitions or gensate violence because their reports was to influence their consumers, some sports journalists, analyst and commentators are often incisive and influence many fans, supports into violence behavior. The finding of this study revealed that violence in sports have negative impact on the academic achievement of the male and female students in the secondary school in Kogi State, Nigeria.

Conclusion

Based on the findings and also in the view of the limitation of this study the following conclusions are drawn:

1. Violence in sports has negative effect on the male students academic achievement in the secondary schools of Kogi State, Nigeria.
2. Violence in sports has negative effect on the female students academic achievement in the secondary schools of Kogi State, Nigeria

Recommendations

In light of the findings of this study, the following suggestions were made;

- i. In order to avoid violence in sports and to improve the academic achievement of the students, sports activities should be organized in a well monitored ways so as to reduce act of violence in sports.
- ii. Free and fair officiating and competent officials should be engaged in school sports competition in order to curb violence.
- iii. Sports education should stress that ideals of sports should be taught and that sports competitions should not be a matter of life and deaths.
- iv. Coaches should avoid highlighting the attainment of winning at all cost syndrome as such may lead to violence in sports.
- v. Conferences, seminars and workshops should be organized for the students and such related violence variables should be highlighted.

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