



SPORTS MORALITY COMPARATIVE STUDY AMONG DIFFERENT TYPES OF SPORTSMAN

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ABSTRACT

“Morality” The motives, intentions, and actions of an individual as they are directed toward others and how these are judged by the greater society.” Our morals are a simple set of rules and guidelines that help us make decisions throughout our lives, both big and small. These rules and guidelines are what set us apart from others and our actions that are the result of our morals are what make us unique from everyone else. Today sport has become inseparable phenomenon of our social life. Sports have long played an important role in society. By exploring the evolving link between sporting behavior and the prevailing ethics of the time this comprehensive and wide-ranging study illuminates our understanding of the wider social significance of sport. Morality in sports may vary according to the nature of game. The objective of the study was to compare the morality among different types of sports i.e. sportsmen belonging to individual, combative and team games. It was hypothesized that there would be no significant difference among the Sportsmen to team, individual and combative sports in relation to morality. The survey was offered to 60 sportsmen from variety of sports (20- Individual, 20- Team & 20- Combative Sports) with the age ranging from 16-27 selected through purposive sampling from different colleges of Bundelkhand University, Jhansi (UP) by the Sports Morality Test (SMT) developed by Dawn Slephae and David Layed Shield. Data were evaluated by applying Analysis of Variance and the level of significance of F-ratio was set at 0.05 levels. Data from acceptable returned SMT were entered into an SPSS data base 17 version and the analysis of the data revealed that the morality of team, individual and combative sportsmen do not differ significantly. These may be attributed to the fact that invariably of their sports group all the players’ perceived ethical behavior to be within expectation and prescription of rules to more or less same level. Moreover, the sportsman spirit in players compels them to play the game without providing any injury to the others players.



KEY WORD: Morality, Comparative Study, Sports Morality Test (SMT), Different Types of Sportsman.

INTRODUCTION :

“Morality: The motives, intentions, and actions of an individual as they are directed toward others and how these are judged by the greater society.” Our morals are a simple set of rules and guidelines that help us make decisions throughout our lives, both big and small. These rules and guidelines are what set us apart from others and our actions that are the result of our morals are what make us unique from everyone else. Throughout history it has been these moral actions, which have helped us judge others around us and

judge ourselves. It is from these moral actions which help in determining who is moral and who is immoral. Today sport has become inseparable phenomenon of our social life. It has made its own place at the apex of human civilization because of its trial, competitive event and even improving nature. The acquisition of new knowledge for betterment of performance of human being in relation to physical, motor and psychological qualities are in process of saturation. To strive for skill better is a million dollar question to the experts in sports. Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India said about **“PLAY THE GAME IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF GAME”** which reflects the moral values in games/sports. By nature human beings are competitive and ambitious for the excellence in all athletic performances. Not only every man but every nation wants to show its supremacy by challenging the other nation. Thus these challenges stimulate, inspire and motivate all the nations to sweat and strive to run faster, jump higher, throw further in present competitive sports world. This can only be possible through scientific, systematic and planned sports training as well as planning them into appropriate games and sports by finding out their potentialities”. Every game has got certain moral values and which have strictly to be followed by everyone including spectators. Spectators are also to come prepared keeping in mind the nature of game. These rules and codes are based on certain principles behind them but are being ignored increasingly day by day. Therefore, looking at the codes, rules and principle of the games investigation regarding the morality is required. Today the effectiveness of rule and regulation of games are being constantly supervised and analyzed by the highest authority in the core sports. There are numerous and consistent effort on the part of concern authority to change or modify the rules and regulations of games to make it more recreational, competitive and minimize scope of violence, manipulation, malpractice etc. So more and more stringent rules are coming into play to root out corruption, discourage doping and exploitation rules thought negative tactics. These can be possible if the morality teaching regarding the right and wrong can be taught to the individual under the point of sports ethics. Morality in sports may vary according to the nature of game. The codes of conduct, the liberty of hitting each are different in sports. Every sports do emphasizes fair play and ethical conduct during playing through its specific rules. So unlike other sports individual game like judo does specifically inculcates character and moral development through its own unique ways. So bad practices when become the part of profession also become the part of moral values. Morality largely depends upon the individual's thinking prices and way of living and how an individual frames one's moral values for living. Morality has become one of the major part in sports psychology which should be given due consideration in games because it deals not only with feeling of sympathy but also for the respect of official, sportsmanship and moreover for respect of rules and regulation.

The objective of the study was to compare the morality among different types of sports i.e. sportsmen belonging to individual, combative and team games. It was hypothesized that there would not be any significant difference among the Sportsmen belonging to combative sports, individual spots and team games in relation to morality.

METHODOLOGY

Participants

Sixty sportsmen (20- Individual, 20- Team & 20- Combative) of different colleges of Bundelkhand University, Jhansi (UP).

Were selected as the participants for the study. The average age of the subjects was 20 years ranging from 16 to 27 years. These subjects were divided into three groups i.e. team sports, individual sports & combative sports and team games depending on their activity.

Table-1
Selection of Study Participants

INDIVIDUAL			COMBATIVE		TEAM		
Badminton	Athletics	Swimming	Wrestling	Judo	Football	Volleyball	Hockey
09	06	05	10	10	09	06	05

Material

Sports Morality Test (SMT) questionnaire based on the line of Methodology and criteria suggested by Dawn Slepheae and David Layed Shield was selected for this study. It was selected because no other standardized and valid Sports morality test was available.

Scoring of Sports Morality Test (SMT)

The sports morality test was consisted of total 28 items divided in two-part. The Part “A” consisted of 20 items with four points of answers.

Positive statements no. 1,2,45,6,7,89,10,11,13,15,18,19,and 20 were Scored as:-

Not at all true	1
Partly true	2
Moderately true	3
Exactly true	4

Negative statements no. 3,13,14,16 and 17 were scored reversibly.

Not at all true	4
Partly true	3
Moderately true	2
Exactly true	1

The part “B” consisted of 8 items, which are, keyed “Yes” and “No”. For each answer, which was marked “Yes”, two points were awarded and for “No” 0 (zero) was given. So the maximum score maybe 96 and minimum score maybe be 20. Scores obtained by each subject on each statement was added up which represented one’s total score on morality.

Procedure

Data for this investigation were collected, starting with seeking permission from the authorities concerned (Principles and Coaches) to involve student athletes in their Stadium, clubs and schools in the study. To ensure maximum cooperation from the subjects, the research scholar had a meeting with the selected players where the subjects were oriented and explained regarding the purpose and procedure of the questionnaire. The sports Morality test (SMT) was administered to each athlete after the competition (District, State & Regional Levels).The direction were read by the research scholar at a dictation speed to make the subjects understand about what they are exactly required to do. After making sure that the subjects had clearly understand the procedure to fill up the questionnaire, they were asked to record the answers for all questions.

RESULTS

Data from acceptable returned questionnaires were entered into an SPSS database. Analysis of Variance was used to compare the Sports morality among the Sportsmen belonging to Individual, Combative and Team players, the level of significance of F-ratio was set at 0.05 levels.

Table -2
Mean, Standard Deviation of Morality belonging to Teams, Individual and Combative Sports

GROUP	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION
Individual	70.15	4.18
Combative	69.3	3.14
Team	69.45	4.03

Table -3
ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE OF MORALITY BELONGING TO TEAMS, INDIVIDUAL AND COMBATIVE GAMES

Source of variation	d.f	SS	MSS	f-ratio
Between the group	2	8.24	4.12	0.283
Within group	57	829.7	14.55	

***Significant at 0.05 level of significance**
Tab F (.05), N-2=3.17

FINDINGS

It is evident from the Table 3 that since the computed value of F (0.283) among individual, combative and team player in relation to morality was less than the tabulated value (3.17). Therefore null hypothesis among the individual and combative and team players was accepted at 0.05 level.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The analysis of the data revealed that the morality of individual, combative and team players do not differ significantly. These may be attributed to the fact that invariably of their sports group all the players perceived ethical behavior to be within expectation and prescription of rules to more or less same level. Moreover, the sportsman spirit in players compels them to play the game without providing any injury to the others players.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

1. The study may indicate the level of morality in sportsmen belonging to combative, individual and team games.
2. It will provide both the coaches and players to acquire a deep insight into their own interactive process.
3. Results may also help the coaches, players and psychologists to provide correct guidelines to the players.
4. The coaches will inculcate the moral values in the players by telling them not to be blindfolded by aggression and anxiety.
5. The study will help Sportsmen to maintain their cool before, after and during the play and not to harm the opponent unnecessarily

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