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## A STUDY ON SPORTS PARTICIPATION IN FEMALE STUDENTS OF HYDERABAD KARNATAKA

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**Abstract:-**The purpose of the present study was to find out the socio-cultural deterrents to sports participation, by female students of Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga district. To achieve the objectives of the study, 200 female students were randomly selected from Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga district. Sohi and Ikhioya's(1990) Questionnaire was administered for the collection of data. The five Socio-Cultural dimensions i.e. parental influence, the influence of the peers, the influence of religion, the influence of some values and the influence of expected sex-role orientation. The data were analyzed by applying chi-square test. It has been concluded that generally parents encourage boys in comparison to girls, sports participation is influenced by peers, religion has no effect on sport participation, the values do impact female participation in sports in a negative manner and the sex related role orientation could act as a deterrent to female participation in sports.

**Keywords:**socio-cultural deterrents , women in sports , socialization.

### INTRODUCTION:

In the past, participation by women in sports was unthinkable. There is evidence in sports History that, in Olympics, women were not even allowed to witness the sports, what to speak of participation. With the gradual change of socialization, women started getting into sports participation field was widened.

Gender equity is still difficult to achieve because of fundamentalist religious belief. Still, there are some sections of society where women there are diversification of religion, caste and creed. The women-sports participation in India is very low in comparison to its total population and male participation. Particularly Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga district is one state which is considered as backward district for women participation. However no substantial efforts have been made so far to find reasons why women are not coming forward openly in sports world some of the Physical Educationist and researchers have made efforts in their own way to find out some of the causes.

A number of researchers have investigated many hindrances that discourage women to participation in sports. Sage (1980), in his study found that fathers encourage their sons more than daughters to take part in sports. Mother, on the other hand, supported their sons and showed less response to their daughters, Sohi(1981) found that, in terms of traditional caste system, most are from higher castes, in terms of emerging social class system, most are from middle class, mobility is evident religion can influence sports participation and there is evidence of a social hierarchy of sports that follows the hierarchy of social class or caste stratification. Sohi and Ikhioya(1990) found the socio-cultural deterrents having positive or negative influence in sports participation by Nigerian women. The influence of parents, peers religious values and expected sex role were observed by them as socio-cultural deterrents to female's sports participation. Sinha(1993) said that many of our religious and social practices have steeped women in a morass of backwardness, illiteracy and ignorance Sandhu(1994) observed that women are significantly underrepresented in management bodies of sports. She stressed the need of equity and quality of women to achieve higher level of sports participation. Nisha(1995) concluded in her study that there have been significant positive attitude on the part of parents in the sports participation by females but on the other hand sports was considered as

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significantly unfeminine and participation by girls was considered as deviation from the general female behavior. However religion in India did not interfere in any case in the sports participation by the girls. She also observed that sex role orientation did not play significant role in the free participation of females, as the girls were not allowed to move freely out of four walls.

In view of these results of different studies, it was felt important to conduct this study in Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga district because the area is socio-culturally different and has relatively low female participation in sport

### OBJECTIVS

- 1.To see the influence of parental and peers values on female participation in sports.
- 2.To find out the influence of religion.
- 3.To determine the influence of social values related to womanhood and sex role orientation on female sports participation.

### METHODOLOGY

The study has used a questionnaire standardized by and Ikhioya (1990) it was administered on 200 female students randomly drawn from Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga District. The questionnaire covered five socio-Cultural dimensions I.e. parental influence, the influence of peers, the influence of religion, the influence of some values in sports participation and the influence of expected sex role orientation. The data were analyzed by applying chi-square test. The results have been presented in five tables.

**Table -1: Parental influence in the sports participation as perceived by 200 female students of Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga District.**

| Sr. No | Parental Influence   | Students Perception |            |       |         |
|--------|--|---------------------|------------|-------|---------|
|        |  | Yes                 | Cannot say | No    | X2      |
| 1      | My Parent regard sports as conductive to the physical well being of females. | 64%                 | 16%        | 20%   | 42.56** |
| 2      | Parent in general encourages females' participation in sports.               | 40%                 | 22.5%      | 37.5% | 5.36    |
| 3      | Parents in general encourage males participation in sports more than female  | 66%                 | 14%        | 20%   | 48.56** |

\*\*Significant at 0.01% level as  $P > 16.812$

### Parental Influence

It is revealed from table 1 that about two third (64%) female students perceived that their parents regard sports conductive to physical well being. Females against only 20% student who felt that their parents do not consider it conductive to physical well being of females. Only about 40% students felt that parents encourage females for participation in sports. Whereas 37.5% consider parents were perceived to encourage males' participation (66%) more than females (20%). Further 51% girls were not engaged by their parents for participation in sports which is significant value as observed the obtained  $\chi^2(29.40)$ . On the other hand 40.5% reported that they were encouraged.

In general the girls felt that parental views were more favorable to males than females' participation in sports. Interestingly, a good number of females did not have a clear cut view about these issues.

**Table-2: the influence of the peers in the sports participation as perceived by 200 females' students of Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga District.**

| Sr. No | Peer Influence  | Students Perception |            |     |         |
|--------|---|---------------------|------------|-----|---------|
|        |   | Yes                 | Cannot say | No  | X2      |
| 1      | I had friends who participation in sports   | 60%                 | 8%         | 32% | 40.64** |
| 2      | My friends prefer my taking part in other activities than sports.                                       | 30%                 | 20%        | 50% | 13.99** |
| 3      | My Friends do not regard my taking part in sports as deviating from their leisure involvement patterns. | 41.5%               | 20.5%      | 38% | 7.58    |

\*\*Significant at 0.01% level as  $p > 13.277$

**Peers influence:**

Table two shows perceived peers influence in sports participation by female students. The majority of girls (60.0%) had friends who participated in sports whose x2 value (40.64%) was highly significant. Again the majority (50.0%) felt that their friends did not prefer that we should take part in activities other than sports. Further, the majority (41.5%) females felt that their participation in sports was not considered as deviation from group leisure activities by their friends. However, 38.0% felt it was considered a deviation.

All these issues show influence of peers in sports participation by females.

**Table-3: The influence of Religion in sports participation as perceived by 200 female students of Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga District.**

| Sr. No | Influence Religion  | Students Perception |            |       |         |
|--------|---|---------------------|------------|-------|---------|
|        |   | Yes                 | Cannot say | No    | X2      |
| 1      | Exposing certain parts of body while playing is against religious practices.                | 25.5%               | 15.5%      | 59%   | 31.14** |
| 2      | My religion regards sports participation as a possible exposure leading to immoral behavior | 24.5%               | 16%        | 59.5% | 31.88** |
| 3      | The religion association do not provide for sports participation directly or indirectly.    | 19.5%               | 15%        | 65.5% | 46.86** |
| 4      | Generally speaking my religion is not appreciative of women participation in sports         | 20.5%               | 14%        | 65.5% | 46.23** |

\*\*Significant at 0.01% level as  $P > 16.812$

**Influence of religion**

The data in table in table-3 shows that the religion does not affect the participation in sports about 60% females consider that it is neither against religion nor immoral if certain body parts are exposed while participation in sports. Again, about two third (65.5%) girls felt that religious associations provide for sports participation and that religion is appreciative of women participation in sports. The obtained x2 value in case of four statements were found significant in favor of above stated belief. Overall, the religion has not been perceived by females as acting a deterrent to sports participation by females.

**Table-4: The influence of some value in the sports participation as perceived by 200 female students of Hyderabad Karnataka Gulbarga District.**

| Sr. No | Influence of Values  | Students Perception |            |       |         |
|--------|--|---------------------|------------|-------|---------|
|        |  | Yes                 | Cannot say | No    | X2      |
| 1      | Sports participation is generally considered unfeminine  | 37.5%               | 11.5%      | 51%   | 24.17** |
| 2      | Sports participation is generally considered deviance from the general female behavior                             | 45%                 | 9.5%       | 45.5% | 25.19** |
| 3      | Sports participation goes against the commonly held idea of an ideal women as being gentle, passive and submissive | 44.5%               | 3.5%       | 52%   | 40.88** |
| 4      | To be focus of attention of public on the sport field is not women like  | 24%                 | 19.5%      | 56.5% | 24.44** |

\*\* Significant at 0.01% level as  $P > 16.812$   
Perceived influence of values

It is seen from table-4 that though the majority of girls (51.0%) did not consider sports participation as unfeminine, a large number (37.5%) consider it. Unfeminine. Again participation in sports was considered as deviance from the general female behavior by 45% females and almost the same number (45.5%) do not consider it as deviance. Further, the majority (52.0%) females did not consider sports participation against the community held idea of ideal women as being gentle, passive and submissive. The issue of being the focus of attention of public on the sports field is not women-like has not been agreed to, by 56.5% females, though 24% felt it otherwise. The obtained x2 value were highly significant in favor of these beliefs.

Though the majority of females in area of all these values felt that sports participation does not go against the image of womanhood or being feminine; a large number of them felt otherwise, thereby showing the important influence of these values on sports participation by females.

## CONCLUSION

The following major conclusion can be drawn from results described above:

1. The females felt that parents in general encourage males more than females for participation in sports.
2. The influence of peers is an important aspect of participation in sports by females.
3. The Religion was not considered as a deterrent to female's participation in sports.
4. The value that participation in sports by females is against the image of an ideal women, is unfeminine etc was held by only about half of the females. It means, these values do impact female's participation in sports in a negative manner.
5. The sex-related role orientations were along traditional lines and could act as a deterrent to female participation in sports.

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