

A Study on Important Aspect of Sport Sociology

Sathish B. P.*

Director, Physical Education, Government First Grade College Bangarutirupathi-563116

Abstract – Sport is a major component in daily life today. Sport plays a huge role in our everyday life. Sport has become more commercialized and globalize over the past years for an example the world cup has lots of sport company sponsors and supporters. Sport is played as an enjoyable part of peoples leisure time and also people play sports to become fit and healthy. There are many sports to choose from such as soccer, baseball, ice hockey and boxing etc. This gives people a variety of choices to choose from, allowing people to have fun and keep fit. This makes sport a tool for promotion human health. Many researchers have resulted that “common” health issues and diseases for an example obesity, mental illness, diabetes, cancers can be prevented by experiencing a good mount of physical activities. In developing countries sport provide opportunities for health education such as the class “Sport Science”. Sport has many important roles in social change in many places of the world in many aspects.

Key Words – Sociology, Sport, Sociological Theory, Social Functions of Sport

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INTRODUCTION

Sport Sociology is a significant sub-campus of sociology that considers athletics, gaming and culture in general as a social phenomenon. Sport Sociology The sporting world is regarded in sports sociology as a microcosm of culture and recursive relations. The games are influenced by a wider society & culture and affect the wider society & culture. Women, who were historically banned from serious sport, still attended an organised sport, but had to take major steps to be taken seriously or to participate seriously. At the end of the 19th century, the first examinations started either as psychologists tried to explore the nature of competitive play and sports behaviour, and as anthropologists researched games as part of human culture. Race, wealth, economy, social standing, fame, role modelling and symbolism in sport have always been the topic of debate. For several, Jessie Uwens remains a strong symbol for overwhelming success at the Summer Olympics 1936 during the Nazi era. Not only were the supporters of an unwanted law defeated, but poor people all over the world had the idea that they could accomplish success as individuals.

Other main fields of sport and culture, basketball women and girls, went to national universities and sports franchises from elementary and secondary school physical education. The nationally renowned men's basketball team did not win the national prize in Sacramento, California while the women's team succeeded. However, the women's franchise

continues to advocate for the public financially. There was a long & divisive fight for women's sports scholarships. Women are now a frequent and recognised part of society as serious forces in community sports, as well as in scholarships provided by athletics.

There is considerable concern about existing problems of role modelling. This debate includes the role of the social model, versus the practicality of becoming a worker without the pressure of being a social model for all that is excellent in life. Athletes beginning to play a sport at a very early age need to be more studied by sociologists on the social and emotional development.

Golf clubs are the main concern for class, gender, racism and ethnic issues, considering that a lot of business opportunities and transactions happen through golfing. Economic and social repertoire has arisen in the marital and personal challenges of one golfer in history, who travel all sectors of society and the golf-related businesses and use his image to support advertisement and his image to attract golfers. It is worth investigating, alone, to enforce moral clauses in sport contracts.

Sport's economy competes with the economies of those countries as a whole. The socioeconomic factors extend to the globalisation, with the globalisation of basketball & baseball into Europe

and China and the adoption of football as a major U.S. pastime for instance.

Violence has often been discussed in major sports and in group sports in terms of violence or the pulse of culture in its entirety. Whether hooliganny in European soccer or fistfights that occur at the US basketball games, crime, nationalism, cultural problems and social values are often expressed in incidents that occur during sporting events at a Little League tournament or debate over an ethnic mascot. Social scientists are prepared for a well-trained and objective analysis of these problems.

Sociologists have outstanding know-how & insights about many social variables in group & team sports. One factor which Dave Zirin addresses is the ability of a sport sociologist to challenge companies that create public information replicated in the media but which is not objective or even real. "The role of a sports sociologist is to become a professional disgraceful of agreed realities," quotes Ben Carrington, a sports sociologist.

Sport is played as an enjoyable part of peoples leisure time and also people play sports to become fit and healthy. There are many sports to choose from such as soccer, baseball, ice hockey and boxing etc. This gives people a variety of choices to choose from, allowing people to have fun and keep fit. This makes sport a tool for promotion human health. Many researchers have resulted that "common" health issues and diseases for an example obesity, mental illness, diabetes, cancers could prohibited by experiencing a good mount of physical activities. In developing countries sport provide opportunities for health education such as the class "Sport Science". We all know that spread of AIDS is very big and is a major problem which is likely resulted because of the lack of proper health education. Many sport organizations form a youth and what they do is develop skill and play sport together to bring fitness levels up. Sport also allows people to develop close relationship very quickly which makes it easier for them to talk about serious issues such as how to prevent AIDS. In this case, sports help people's opportunity of physical fitness and health education which brings the level of health awareness up. Another way of of impact of sport is that people work as professional players, and some people work in areas which are related to sports. In many ways, sports has a variety of important roles to play in social change besides the positive & well-known influences of sports on people and culture. In many ways. For instance, peace building, social integration, living standards promotion & maintenance of health. The UK's "Homeless World Cup" is a well-known organization that changes the living conditions of homeless people through football. They started the program World cup for homeless people in the year of 2003 with approximately 5 national teams. During the year 2007, the number of participating countries grew from 5 to 48 from all over the world, such as France, USA, Norway, Cameron

and China. The members of each team have been selected through trial in each country. There has been an estimation of 25000 homeless people have access to training or trials. The statistics show that the activity has brought great changes to their life. According the research after the world cup of 2006, 92 percent have a new motivation, 89 percent have improved social relations, 35 percent have been secured regular employment, 44 percent have improved their own housing situations and 39 percent chose to pursue education. This program, playing soccer gives them motivations and opportunities to improve their life and living conditions. Sports do have positive impacts in society today. What people need to realize and consider is how to utilize sports and for whom in what problems or situations we are trying to make changes to. In doing so, It may be possible to foster a better society through the power of sports and expand the impact of sports and people and society.

HISTORY

Sociology of sport is a subdiscipline of sociology that focuses on sport as a social phenomenon, alternatively known as sports sociology. It is a field of research devoted to different socio-cultural systems, trends and sporting organisations. Sports could be viewed from several viewpoints. Therefore, some binary distinctions, such as: professional versus amateur, mass versus high level, active vs. passive / spectator, men versus women (as an antithesis of organised or institutionalised activity), are quite frequently underlined. Sports are often studied as disputed activities, that is as activities in the centre of different people / groups of interest (related sports with gender, mass media or public policies), following feminist or other reflective and tradition-broking paradigms.

The history of sports sociology (but not the term itself) dates back to the end of the 19th century when first social and psychological studies were conducted in relation to group effects of competition and speed building. In addition to cultural anthropology and its emphasis on game play in humans, Johan Huizinga's Homo Ludens & Thorstein Veblen 's Theory of the Leisure Class were among the first attempts at a more general approach to sport. As an organised and valid area of research, sport sociology received considerable attention in 1970. In 1978 it was founded to research the field of the North American Association for Sociology Sports. The Sociology of Sport Magazine, his research facility was built in 1984. Today most sports sociologists identify with at least one of four fundamental theories, namely structural functionalism, conflict theory, the critical theory & symbolic interactionism, which describe sports' relation & society. One of the goals of sports sociology is to look at different sporting communities as cultures themselves or as microcosms of the whole of society. A sociologist who considers social

phenomena, such as the relationships amongst players of different ability levels, trainers & players, and players of different races, may be interested in. When analysing social phenomena resulting from a team's social structure, power relations between various players or between the coach & players may be of great interest. The link between sports & rest of society is another important topic in this area. For example, sport fans often obsess their favourite teams. In this field of sociology, the connection between sport, the media & rest of society is also interested. The primary means of contact between the two classes in many instances is the news media. Although it is a philtre, teams, players & events deeply affect popular culture & other social movements.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

The social environment includes behaviours, interactions & social organisation patterns among people. Sociological theory tends to focus more on interaction and organisation than activity as such, but interactions are interpersonal conduct, & social structures are essentially focused on individual interactions. Sociology is a set of theories, assertions & propositions of the existence, form or substance of social action that are structured in the form of an argument or interpretation. Sociological theory is described as a collection of interconnected ideas that make it possible to systematize social world knowledge. This awareness is then utilized to describe the social world & forecast the social world's future.

The following are the essential features of sociological theory.

1. Sociological theories are abstract generalizations.
2. Sociological theories are logical prepositions.
3. Sociological theories are conceptualisations regarding social phenomena.
4. Sociological theories are empirical generalizations.
5. Sociological theories are factual based.
6. Sociological theories are provisional in nature.
7. Sociological theories are verifiable

IMPORTANCE OF SOCIOLOGY SPORT

Sport can be viewed as a microcosm or small-scale of society at the level of social, recreational and competitive elite. There are also the same social challenges of sport in a wider society. The notions of

values, race, gender, ethnicity, class, sexuality, youth, politics, religion or economics are the social problems which can be seen in society as a whole and also in sport. If we consider the sport as a microcosm of society and/or point out that sport teams represent society, the image of sport is significant, and we therefore need to deal with the social problems that have been exposed in both sport & society like racism, sexism, disparities & homophobia. Sport sociology uses important and contrasting approaches that lead us to explore other ways to understand the role & organisation of sport in our culture and how the issues of sport in society impact people.

STUDYING THE SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT

Studying sport as a social phenomenon leads to questions such as: Why do sports in one culture become very popular, but not in another? Why are sport competitions & sport teams organised from one culture to another in various ways? How does sport relate to other sectors of society, including the family, faith, education, the state, the business and media? Who is the sport sponsor, and why? Sport is an integral part of community, which varies between places and generations. It varies from society to society how sport is identified, organised, and incorporated into social life. This allows one to consider sport as an aspect of the social world created in a specific social setting if you want to understand the sport as a whole. Sociology provides us with the resources we need to see sport as a component of the social environment generated through a specific social framework when addressing major sport problems in society.

Sport has become an integral part of our daily social life and all around us. Mega-events like the Olympic Games, the IRB Rugby World Cup, the Tour de France & FIFA World Cup are global TV shows.

The world's children are brought up with colourful pictures of TV sports and sporting characters. They play sports-based video games and are motivated by parents, teachers, & professional athletes who also take their life as models. Sports are connected to people of all ages through the media. In most cities newspapers dedicate whole pages to sport coverage. Sports broadcasts and TV shows such as SABC Sport, GSP & Super Sport all draw millions of people across the world who share their interests in and engage with sport. On caps, shirts, posters, jackets & other memorabilia, team logos are printed. In exchange, the revenue and success of a certain team or athlete are directly related. People arrange their holidays as well as weekends & other leisure time in the sports. The photos are so popular today that many young people are familiar with the tattoos & body percussions of their favorite sports star rather than the local politicians who follow politics which have a substantial impact on their lives. Finally, it is obvious that sports & sports fans

could have a direct influence on the culture around them. This relationship is therefore very interesting to research & understand how the various parties will affect each other.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF SPORT

Certain sociologists agree that sport can also represent broader elements of the culture that it has developed as it is a result of society. Some claim that sports teach essential concepts, laws & values, like how to learn from failure or foster self-discipline, and how to reward deserving achievement. However, such methods can also cause social problems. There have been those who argue that winning is more important than learning about improving oneself or social collaboration. In many other words, how well a backseat to victory is used to play the game. Sport has five fundamental social roles.

1. **The socio-emotional function:** Sport's socio-emotional role functions at the individual level and deals with the individual's socio-physical stability. It relies on its 'well-adapted' psychological & social functioning as a member of society. Instances of this role are visible in two socio-emotional components: stress & conflict management-engagement in sports, known as catharsis, is expected to help free the people from the release of tensions and violence. Sport makes it possible to cultivate intense feelings – including sorrow, excitement, and hatred – in ways that are not seen to threaten the self and others.

Sports helps to minimise social distance between people by creating feelings of community & camaraderie. Examples include the 1995 World Cup Rugby, 1996 World Cup All Africa & 2010, FIFA World Cup. -- Fans from particular clubs come together to become "one," & non-participants create feelings of belonging. In many other words, even though people are observers, they believe they are still part of the squad & have instant relationships with other team supporters.

2. **Socialization function:** Socialization is the mechanism by which people are able to think about the standards of their culture. Their culture (customs, rituals, behaviours, laws, activities, language ...) & their own personalities are absorbed by socialisation. The socialization role enables an individual to embrace the cultural morals and beliefs, social values and personalities. This role highlights attributes such as friendship, communication skills, co-operation & compliance with the rules of the game. Sport encourages identity, friendship and in turn helps to build a social identity. In secondary schools, young people who engage in competitive sports see sport as a way to

meet other young people who have an interest in it. In reality, high quality sports programmes could help to establish and sustain healthier relationships between young people.

Furthermore, sport can help children to socialise & engage in sports in various ways, which may have a positive or negative effect. Sport activity socialises young people in traditional gender roles while girls engage in non-traditional gender roles in a similar way. For women high school athletes who see sports as a means of breaking gender barriers, improving their sense of opportunity and belonging, sports also provide an added social advantage. Young sports could also help children learn to connect with adults like their teachers & parents. The exchange between youth and adults will also benefit from quality sport programmes, that could improve children's experiences. Parents encourage physical learning & social skills for children through the participation of children in sports programmes, which can strengthen the connections between children & their teachers.

3. **Integrative function:** It is an all-round language, forming a shared connection between people who may not have much else in common & who in the past would not have had a reason to communicate. That being said, sport is seen as a platform that encourages a common sense of belonging and involvement and can thus also be an effective tool for people from diverse backgrounds to be integrated. The integrative role focuses on the grouping & recognition of different individuals.
4. **Political function:** Sport is utilized as a tactical weapon in the political function. Sport may be used to unite a nation as an extension of the integrative function. However, sport may also be utilized politically to sanction other nations and to convey a nation's sentiments regarding other countries' actions. The examples of a nation that uses sports to punish & express its feelings about other countries' actions: South Africa has been punished because of apartheid laws, Sports laws uniting a country, Zimbabwe pulled out of the Twenty20 Cricket World Cup in 2009: 1995 IRB Rugby World Cup, 2010 FIFA World Cup.
5. **Social mobility function: Social mobility is an individual's transition from class to class over time.** Social mobility could be up or downwards and intergenerational (e.g., if a child rises above the class of her or her parents) or intergenerational (e.g., when a person switches his / her career classes due to success). The root of upward social mobility is also recognised in sport. Jomo

Sono is a local example of sport as a feature of social mobility.

CONCLUSION

Sports sociology frequently aims to discuss some of the social concerns in athletic society & athletic culture. For example, in amateur & professional athletic circles, equal opportunities between sexes are significant. Girls tend to be competitive less & more restricted than boys during their time at school, and women's sports teams also receive low funding relative to men's teams. In professional sports, the same issue is also found, with women athletes earning less payrolls and less opportunities than men. Authors are also involved in racial, ethnic & physical disability problems. Sport is a social construct, meaning that we play a role in making it what it is today and what it will be in the future. The goal of this chapter was to provide a foundation for the different sociological themes that exist within a specific context and to use this information to make the best choices about planning, organizing, executing or evaluating the management of sport.

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Corresponding Author

Sathish B. P.*

Director, Physical Education, Government First Grade College Bangarutirupathi-563116

sathishbsv@gmail.com

Sathish B. P.*