



## A study of socialization of university level player through inter-university sports participation

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### Abstract

A study was conducted on players of Inter-University participation regarding improvement of values and aspects socialization. For the study, total 50 players who had participated at Inter-University sports competition were taken as subjects. Data was collected with help of Questionnaire served to the subject; the collected data was calculated & analyzed. The result of the study shows that participation in sports competition develops the aspects of socialization among the players.

**Keywords:** socialization, sports, players

### Introduction

Inter university sports competitions are good platform of socialization for their bona fide students who participates in different inter-university sports competition. The A.I.U provides opportunities to the students of university to compete in different sports competitions, as AIU sports wing looks after the university sports. The students of university who prepare them self and participates in sport competitions gets an opportunity to meet several other competitors of different region. The AIU has divided all the universities in four zones namely north zone, south zone, east zone, & west zone. First of all, all the players has to be get selected in their respective university sports team, After getting the selection in universities team they get chance to represent their university in inter-zone sports competition. These are the platforms where players shows their talent of sports and wins the medals for their university, generally in a zone there are around 50 universities which participates among each other. These are the platform where player of one university meets & interacts with the player of other universities which provides them the opportunity to know the culture, religion, tradition & languages etc of fellow players. So in other words it can be said that it is one of the right place where players are socializes with each other in comparison to other students of universities.

Motor activities are an important source of socialization, communication and social integration being an ideal setting in forming young people and their further development (Sopa & Pomohaci, 2014). Social learning theory has shown that socialization is done best in sport activities (Sopa, 2014). According to specialists, practicing physical activities or sports influences youth personality and create a positive effects on the body and the mind. So to understand the importance of motor activities, or sports in general, in the process of socialization between students, we believe that we should start from the definition of socialization in sports.

Epuran (1998) <sup>[4, 12]</sup> defines socialization in sport as socialization has two meanings, which we can call them individual and group. The first is defined as (quoting

Vlăsceanu) The psychosocial process of transmission acquiring the attitudes, values, perceptions and patterns of behavior specific to a group or a community so that it could form the adaptation and social integration of a person. The second meaning concerns (quoting Vlăsceanu) expanding the number of individual agents controlling or directly participate in the development of a system, subsystem or sector. The athlete, as human being is characterized as being bio-psycho-social being unable to achieve its full manifest outside his socio-cultural determinants, determinants that can be optimized in a well-balanced society. In its turn performance is also determined by socio-cultural factors which helps the individual components skills and attitudes manifest maximized in terms of scientific training.

Communication in sport is very complex because of the many factors that intervene in the form of messages through verbal, motor and attitudes through body language. Adding communication with the masses (the audience), as with any show, athletes communication with their teammates and other factors, which are all reasons to develop a model (preferably more complex and more explicit) communication in sport. We refer in particular to communication between coaches and athletes, athletes between components of the group and between athletes and spectators, media, supporters etc (Sopa & Pomohaci, 2016).

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When we refer to socialization through motor activities we focus our attention on the effects of participation in these sports activities to other spheres of life. In fact these two

aspects are intertwined; socialization is an ongoing dynamic process.

There is a long tradition of research on sports and socialization. The roots of this research are grounded in theories that explain the role of play in child development, in Progressive era notions that team sports constituted an environment in which valuable lessons could be learned, and in popular twentieth century assumptions that playing sports was an inherently character building experience.

Research on socialization and sport has also been done in psychology and anthropology, as well as sociology. Psychological studies have focused on the socialization effects of sport participation on personality characteristics, moral development, and achievement motivation, sense of competence, self esteem, and body image. Anthropological studies have focused on the role of play, games, and sports in the formation of value orientations in particular cultural contexts, especially those in pre industrial societies. Sociological studies, published mostly by scholars in North America, have focused on three main topics: (1) socialization into sport, dealing with the initiation and continuation of sport participation; (2) socialization out of sport, dealing with termination and changes in sport participation; and (3) socialization through sport, dealing with participation and multiple facets of social development.

Through the mid 1980s most sociological research on socialization and sport was grounded in structural functionalism or forms of Marx ism, neo Marxism, and conflict theory. This research was based on the assumption that socialization was a process of role learning through which people internalized values and orientations enabling them to participate in established social systems. It was also based on the assumption that sport was a social institution organized in connection with the social system of which it was a part.

- Sports are organized in vastly different ways across programs, teams, and situations offering many different

socialization experiences, both positive and negative, to participants.

- People who choose to play sports are selected to participate by coaches, and those who remain on teams generally differ from others in terms of their characteristics and relationships.
- The meanings that people give to their sport experiences vary by context in connection with gender, race/ethnicity, social class, age, and (dis)ability, and they change through the life course as people redefine themselves and their connections with others.
- Socialization occurs through the social interaction that accompanies sport participation, and patterns of social interaction in sports are influenced by many factors, including those external to sport environments. Socialization through sport is tied to issues of identity and identity development.

**Procedure**

**Selection of subjects:** The subjects of this study were the students/players who represented their university sports team at all India or zonal inter university tournaments. Bona fide players of Allahabad University, Allahabad, were taken as subject for this study.

**Collection of data:** Data was collected by administering self made questionnaire which was constructed with the help of experts from the field of sociology, physical education & psychology. The questionnaire comprised of 10 questions. Which were answered by the subjects, from the options given:-

- (a). Not at all (b) To some extent (c) To a great extent.

**Analyses of data and result of the study**

The results are presented in the tabular form and in pie diagram further discussion of finding was made intensity wise, which is as follows.

**Table 1**

S. No.	Statements	Response					
		Not at all	%	To some extent	%	To a great extent	%
1.	During sports competition, I develop new friends	00	0%	01	10%	09	90%
2.	I feel motivated and mobilized when I participates at competitions/sports activities	00	0%	02	20%	08	80%
3.	Sports competition/activities helps for developing socialization	00	0%	03	30%	07	70%
4.	Participating in sports competition improves my physical & mental status	00	0%	02	20%	08	80%
5.	Participation in sports competition provide me opportunity to know new people	00	0%	02	20%	08	80%
6.	Helps to know the culture of fellow players	00	0%	03	30%	07	30%
7.	Helps to understand language in a better way	00	0%	04	40%	06	60%
8.	Develops Psychological balance attitude	00	0%	03	30%	07	70%
9.	Sports & games helps in developing social integration	00	0%	03	30%	07	70%
10.	sports participation develops cooperation among fellow players	00	0%	02	20%	08	80%

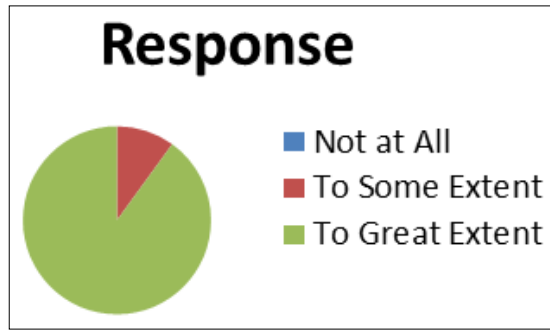


Fig. 1.1

The diagram 1.1 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “During sports competition, I develop new friends” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 10% were in favor of To some extent & 90% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

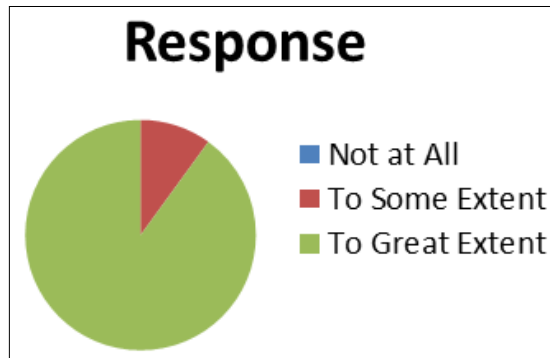


Fig. 1.2

The diagram 1.2 which is presented above reveals that the response of the subjects regarding question “During sports competition, I develop new friends” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 10% were in favor of To some extent & 90% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

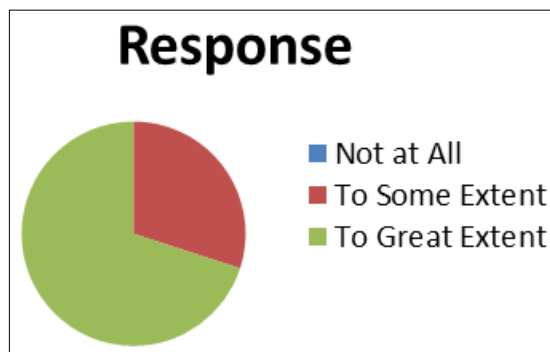


Fig. 1.3

The diagram 1.3 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Sports competition/activities helps for developing socialization” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 30% were in favor of To some extent & 70% were in favor of To great extent which

shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

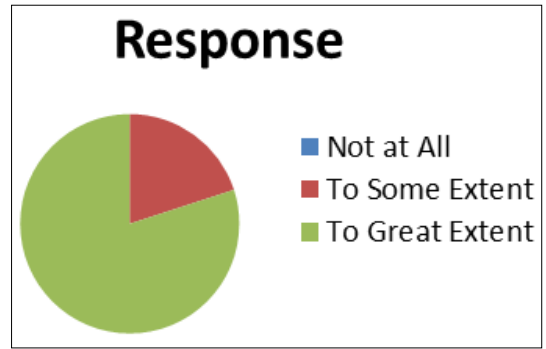


Fig. 1.4

The diagram 1.4 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Participating in sports competition improves my physical & mental status” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 20% were in favor of To some extent & 80% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

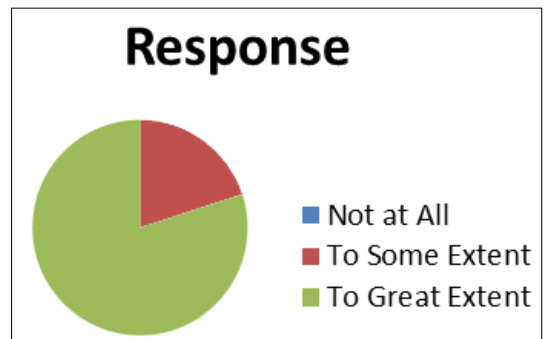


Fig. 1.5

The diagram 1.5 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Participation in sports competition provide me opportunity to know new people” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 20% were in favor of To some extent & 80% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

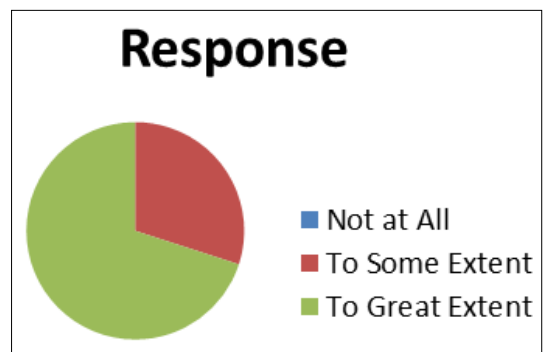


Fig. 1.6

The diagram 1.6 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Helps to know

the culture of fellow players” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 30% were in favor of To some extent & 70% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

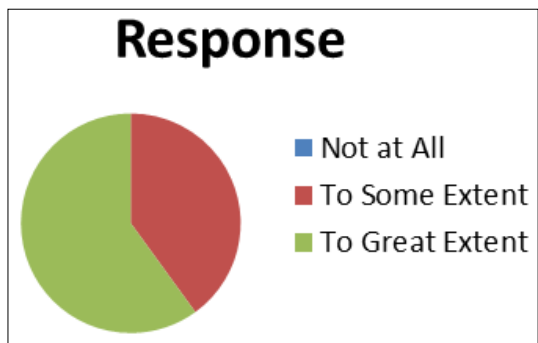


Fig. 1.7

The diagram 1.7 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Helps to understand language in a better way” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 40% were in favor of To some extent & 60% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

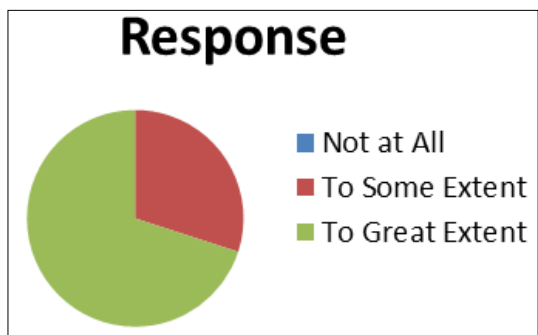


Fig. 1.8

The diagram 1.8 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Develops Psychological balance attitude” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 30% were in favor of To some extent & 70% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

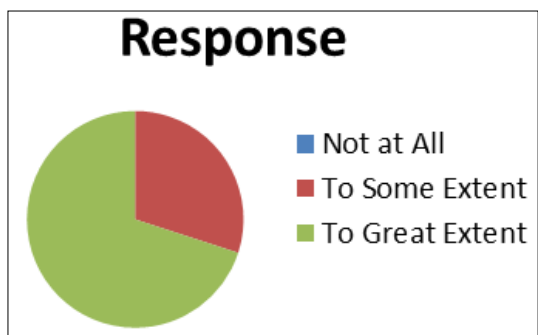


Fig. 1.9

The diagram 1.9 which is presented above shows that the

response of the subjects regarding question “Sports & games helps in developing social integration” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 30% were in favor of To some extent & 70% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

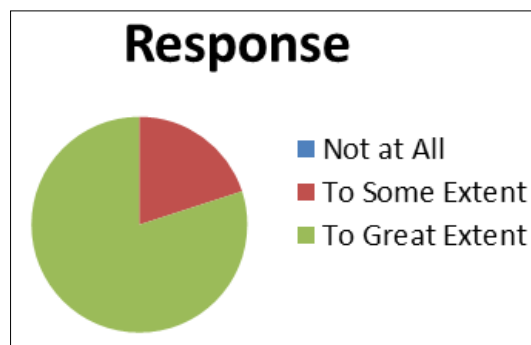


Fig. 10

The diagram 1.9 which is presented above shows that the response of the subjects regarding question “Sports & games helps in developing social integration” is that 0% were in favor of Not at all, 20% were in favor of To some extent & 80% were in favor of To great extent which shows that maximum were in favor of the statement.

**Conclusions & Recommendations**

Analyzing responses of all the statements it is revealed that maximum subjects has answered in favor, therefore it can be stated that participation in sports activities or competitions which are organized by A.I.U For University players helps them in socializing. The University should provide this kind of opportunity on regular basis so that the players get socialized & will also lead them to a socialized and balanced life. The same study may also be conducted on players of school levels & all other players who participated at different levels of sports participations.

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