

ABSTRACT

Gender in Sports has been a topic virtually ignored by most scholars. Most of earlier researches have been done to see the discrimination in sports only from the female perspective or their pathetic condition in sports and the whole notion of gender is neglected. Gender in sports has been a relatively undeveloped area of research. So the present study broadly looked at how the whole notion of gender identity is constructed which leads to discriminate sports participation. The main research question of this study is to investigate the gender discrimination in sports field. More specifically, the present study try to find out the constraint perceived by university students in their sports participation and explore the factor responsible for gender discrimination in sports

The present study is guided by Social Identity theory and Social Dominance theory. Several other theories are also employed to develop the aforesaid theories and construct a suitable theoretical framework for present research. A survey targeting youths is conducted in 12 UGC recognized universities in Haryana in which 11 are State Universities and 1 is Central University. Total sample size of present study is 432 university students of these universities (which includes 18 male and 18 female from each of the sampled university except one because one university is only for women's so all 32 respondents are female from this university). After a pilot study was done, 432 questionnaires were administered to the targeted respondents aged between 16-30 years & above, using combination of purposive and random sampling techniques. The data is analysed with the help of SPSS and Excel program.

The study found a significant and positive relationship between financial dependency and sports participation. The study found that the respondents who are economically sound or financially independent are more actively participating in organized sports activities. The study found that married respondents are less likely to allow to participate or supported to join or to further pursue

the physical activities. The study found positive and significant relationship between family motivation and sports participation. The study found that the respondents who are supported or motivated by their respective families are more likely to participate in organized sports activities in comparison to others. The study also found eye opening facts that reflect the grim reality of gender discrimination in sports. The study found the discrimination in the availability of healthy diet, accessibility of playing equipments on time as well as the quality of the available equipment, accessibility and quality of medical facilities, coaching facility, coaching time and quality, team selection etc.