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Comparative study of altruistic behaviour of sportsperson and non-sportsperson

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Abstract

The broad objectives of the study were to compare the altruistic behaviour of sports-person and non-sports-person. Further, the investigator analyzed possible differences in altruism of Senior v/s Junior and Individual v/s Team players. The study was conducted on a sample of 300 Subjects. The age of sports-person between 18-24 years. Altruism was measured by a test developed by Kool and Sen. It consists of 23 items. The test was administered individually to each subjects. It is concluded that Sports-person are more altruistic than non-sports-person. Similarly, senior players are more altruistic than junior players and the same is true about team players and players participating in individual games.

Keywords: Compare, altruistic, behaviour, sports-person and non-sports-person

Introduction

The problem of altruistic behaviour is of extreme significance in the entire realm of human endeavour, including sports. Altruism, as defined by Macaulay and Berkowitz is "Behaviour carried out to benefit others without anticipation of regards from external sources". Paul asserts that empathic understanding is deemed crucial to the development of individual identity and meaningful personal relationship with others at large. Berkowitz again suggested that a key determinant of altruism may be the moral norm of 'Social responsibility'. Individual sports are those in which the player participates and performs solely on his own, whereas in Team sports the player is involved in coordinated activities of the team mates. Senior players were classified as those who had more than five years playing experience.

It is evident that altruism was considered as dependent variable whereas sportsmen, non-sportsmen, seniors, juniors, as well as players of team and individual games were the independent ones.

Methodology of the Study

The study was conducted on a sample of 300 having 50 Sports-person, 50 non-sports-person, 50 Seniors Players, 50 Juniors Players, 50 individuals Game Players and 50 Team Game players. All the subjects were selected randomly from various teams of Gondwana University Gadchiroli, varying in age between 18-24 years. Altruism was measured by a test developed by Kool and Sen. It consists of 23 items. The test was administered individually to each subjects.

Purpose of the Study

To compare the altruistic behaviour of Sports-person and Non-sports-person.

Results and Discussion

The results obtained are reported in the following table.

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Table 1: The altruistic behaviour of Sports-person and Non-sports-person

Group Compared	K-S Value	Remarks
Sports-person V/s Non-Sports-person	54.76	Significant at .01 level
Senior Players V/s Junior Players	31.36	Significant at .01 level
Individual Players V/s Team Players	14.4	Significant at .01 level

Table 2: Reveals that sportsmen are more altruistic than non-sportsmen

Group Compared	Mean	S.D.
Sports-person V/s Non-Sports-person	16.34	3.81
	10.20	3.22
Senior Players V/s Junior Players	18.98	3.32
	12.92	4.058
Individual Players V/s Team Players	16.34	3.81
	16.82	2.64

The perusal of Table 02 reveals that sportsmen are more altruistic than non-sportsmen. Similarly, senior players are more altruistic than junior players and the same is true about team players and players participating in individual games. These findings could be interpreted in terms of Empathetic Understanding and Social Responsibility. Team players have to depend to a great deal on the cooperation and support from their team mates for effective performance.

These two aspects of behavior are essential component of team work. Similarly, the players who have gathered experience usually instill confidence in their juniors and boost their morale. As compared to team players the players who are alone in the arena have to depend solely on their capability.

From the table 02 we observe that the differences between the averages of team and individual players is comparatively small but the K-S value was found to be significant. The significant differences may be interpreted in terms of dispersion f scores and as we have pointed out earlier the non-parametric test takes into account any type of variation whether in location, distribution or dispersion. Looking to SD we readily find that the extent of variation in altruism of players participating in individual games is much higher than the SD of team players.

Findings and Suggestions

The findings are of immense significance for coaches, who intend to develop team spirit and real understanding between the players regarding their strong points and weaknesses. It is suggested that the component of altruism should be taken into consideration while selecting and training players for participation in national or international events. Realizing that the samples compared were small, it is suggested that the factor of altruism should be extensively studied for enhancing performance of sportsmen in future.

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