

Analytical Study of Objectives of Parents of Girl Wrestlers towards Participation of Their Daughters in Wrestling from Pune City

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ABSTRACT

This research delves into the motivations and objectives of parents regarding their daughters' participation in wrestling, focusing specifically on the context of Pune City. Employing a questionnaire-based approach, opinions of parents of girl wrestlers were gathered to discern their priorities and attitudes towards the sport. The findings reveal a multifaceted spectrum of motivations, with an overarching emphasis on physical fitness, self-defence skills, discipline, self-confidence, and their daughters' intrinsic interest in wrestling. Moreover, parents recognize the potential for educational opportunities and the constructive utilization of their daughters' energy through wrestling. While factors such as family tradition and social prestige play a lesser role, they still exert influence for certain parents. Overall, the study underscores the supportive attitudes of parents towards their daughters' involvement in wrestling, shedding light on the diverse and nuanced reasons behind girls' participation in the sport. These insights contribute to a deeper understanding of the dynamics driving parental support and engagement in girls' wrestling in urban contexts like Pune City.

Keywords : Wrestling, motivations, questionnaire, attitudes, sport, supportive

Introduction

In the dynamic landscape of sports, the inclusion of women in traditionally male-dominated arenas is progressively reshaping societal perspectives. One such domain witnessing a transformative shift is the sport of wrestling, where the participation of girls is gaining momentum. This research embarks on an analytical exploration of

the mindset of parents in Pune City, a bustling metropolis in India, towards their daughters' involvement in wrestling. Understanding the parental mindset is crucial as it plays a pivotal role in shaping the aspirations and opportunities available to young female athletes.

The cultural and socio-economic fabric of Pune City, characterized by its rich history and diverse demographics, serves as an intriguing backdrop for this study. Wrestling, traditionally perceived as a masculine pursuit, is experiencing a paradigm shift with an increasing number of girls expressing interest and participating in the sport. Consequently, this research seeks to unravel the intricate layers of parental attitudes, motivations, and concerns that influence their decision-making process concerning their daughters' engagement in wrestling. The study addresses the intersection of gender dynamics, parental aspirations, and societal expectations, exploring how these factors converge to shape the mindset of parents. As Pune City represents a microcosm of contemporary India, understanding the perspectives of parents from diverse socio-economic backgrounds is imperative. It is anticipated that the findings will not only shed light on the factors influencing parental decisions but also provide valuable insights into the broader implications for the future of women's sports in this evolving landscape.

By employing a comprehensive questionnaire with carefully crafted questions accommodating the educational and societal contexts of underprivileged parents, this research aims to capture nuanced insights. The ultimate goal is to contribute to the discourse on gender equity in sports and inform policies and interventions that foster an inclusive environment for aspiring girl wrestlers, ensuring their holistic development is nurtured and supported by their families and communities. (Melis Malkoc, Fatih Demirkan, & Mehmet Kutlu, 2020.)

Contextualizing the Research Problem:

The decision for a girl to engage in a physically demanding sport like wrestling is often layered with societal expectations, cultural perceptions, and economic considerations. Pune, being a city with a blend of modernity and traditional values, provides a unique backdrop for examining the mindset of parents in diverse socio-economic strata. This research seeks to explore the factors that contribute to or hinder the involvement of girls in wrestling, acknowledging the potential impact on their overall development.

Scope of the Study :

The scope of this research is limited to parents of girl wrestlers in Pune, acknowledging the diverse socio-economic and cultural milieu within the city. The findings, however,

may offer valuable insights applicable to similar contexts elsewhere, contributing to the broader discourse on gender, sports, and parental attitudes.

Significance of the Study:

This research holds significance on multiple fronts. Firstly, it sheds light on the evolving landscape of gender roles in sports within the cultural context of Pune. Understanding the factors influencing parental decisions not only contributes to academic discourse but also aids in the development of targeted interventions to foster inclusivity and support for female athletes.

Secondly, given the socio-economic disparities prevalent in Pune, the study aims to amplify the voices of parents from underprivileged backgrounds. Their unique challenges and perspectives will be instrumental in creating comprehensive strategies for promoting sports engagement among girls, breaking barriers rooted in financial constraints and societal expectations.

Main purpose of this investigation was to assess the awareness levels of parents regarding girls' participation in wrestling in Pune, understand the motivations that drive parents to allow their daughters participate in wrestling, identify the challenges and concerns parents are associated with their daughters engaging in wrestling, examine the impact of socioeconomic factors on parental attitudes towards girls' participation in wrestling, and explore.

Methodology:

In order to collect data, researcher used a mixed-methods approach, including surveys and interviews. A standardised questionnaire was distributed to parents to ensure inclusivity by accommodating different educational backgrounds. Researcher followed all the protocols and developed a questionnaire to achieve the purpose of this research study.

After analysing the responses given by parents; a structured interview was created and carried out into practice to complement the parent responses after analysis of questionnaire. These extensive conversations provided deeper insights into the experiences, emotions, and goals of the parents.

In this study, 88 parents participated and gave their opinion about the Objectives behind the Participation of their daughter in Wrestling.

Table No. 1: Frequency Analysis of the Opinion of Female Wrestler's Parent about the Objectives behind Her Participation in Wrestling

SN	Objectives	Frequency of Respondents
1	Fitness	22
2	Self Defence Skill Development	16
3	Developing Discipline	11
4	Liking	12
5	Building Self Confidence	12
6	Creating educational opportunity	5
7	Following family tradition	3
8	Utilisation of her energy	4
9	Social Prestige	3
10	Other	8
	Total	96

Researchers have taken opinion of parents by asking a question 'What is your purpose behind getting your daughter participate in wrestling practice as well as competitions? The frequency analysis is done as follows.

Based on the numerical values about the opinion of parents of the girl wrestlers, it can be analysed their priorities and objectives behind their daughter's participation in wrestling:

As there are 22 parents out of 96, who gave their opinion as Fitness; indicates a strong emphasis on the physical health and well-being aspect of wrestling. Parents likely see wrestling as a means for their daughter to stay fit and active.

There were 16 parents who selected option as Self Defence Skill Development. The parents recognize the importance of their daughter acquiring self-defence skills through wrestling. This suggests a desire to empower her with the ability to protect herself.

Wrestling requires discipline and dedication. Parents value this sport as a means to instill discipline in their daughter's life, 11 parents have an objective of developing discipline through wrestling which may lead to teaching her the importance of commitment and hard work.

It is seen that 12 parents gave importance to the liking of their daughter about sports and hence have selected wrestling. This suggests that the daughter enjoys wrestling or has expressed an interest in it. Parents may view their support as essential to nurturing her passion for the sport.

Out of 88 parents 12 have objective of building Self Confidence in their daughter through practicing and playing sports like wrestling. Wrestling can boost self-confidence by setting and achieving goals, overcoming challenges, and competing. Parents likely see wrestling as a tool to help their daughter develop a strong sense of self-assurance.

Just five out of 88 parents think that wrestling may create Educational Opportunity for their daughter. While not the highest priority, parents still recognize wrestling as potentially providing educational opportunities, such as scholarships or academic support.

Only three and have selected wrestling for their daughter following their family tradition. These parents may value family tradition and see wrestling as a way for their daughter to continue or honour that tradition.

Four parents wanted their daughter to utilization of her energy properly and therefore they have selected wrestling. This sport can be an outlet for physical energy, helping the daughter channel her energy constructively.

Eight parents had different category and were quite broad and could encompass various other factors that are important to the parents but not explicitly listed.

Overall, the analysis indicates that the parents of the girl wrestlers prioritize aspects such as physical fitness, self-defence skills, discipline, self-confidence, and their daughter's enjoyment of the sport. They also recognize the potential educational and social benefits that wrestling can offer.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Based on the research survey, it's evident that parents of girl wrestlers prioritize physical health, self-defence skills, discipline, personal interest, and confidence-building aspects of wrestling.

Conclusions:

Overall, the data suggests that parents of girl wrestlers prioritize physical fitness, selfdefence skills, discipline, self-confidence, and their daughters' personal interest

in the sport. They also recognize the potential for educational opportunities and the positive utilization of their daughters' energy. While factors such as family tradition and social prestige are less emphasized, they still play a role for some parents. This analysis underscores the multifaceted motivations behind girls' participation in wrestling and highlights the supportive attitudes of parents towards their daughters' involvement in the sport.

Recommendations:

To support and encourage their daughters in wrestling, it's recommended to:

- One as parents must provide ample opportunities for physical fitness training and skill development within a safe and supportive environment.
- Girls can be offered resources and support for learning self-defence techniques and strategies.
- People working in the field shall emphasize the importance of discipline, dedication, and commitment in wrestling and how these qualities translate to other areas of life.
- Positive and encouraging atmosphere that allows the girl to express her liking for the sport and pursue it with enthusiasm can be fostered.
- Platforms may be created for building self-confidence through setting and achieving goals, recognizing achievements, and overcoming challenges in wrestling.
- As per the opinion of parents it was found that education may not be the primary focus, it's essential to ensure that academic responsibilities are not neglected and to provide support for balancing academics with sports.
- This research shows that society shall respect the individual interests and motivations of the girl, rather than solely focusing on family tradition or social prestige.
- It is also recommended to encourage the girl to use wrestling as a constructive outlet for her energy and to explore her potential in the sport.

By aligning support and resources with the priorities identified by parents, the girl can experience a fulfilling and rewarding journey in wrestling while gaining valuable skills and experiences that contribute to her overall development and well-being.

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