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Empathy Personality and Hostility Among Sportsmen

Abhay N. Buchha

Amravati Sharirk Shikshan Mahavidhlaya , Amravati, India

Abstract

According to Eysenck (1982) family close relationships occur between personality and sporting activity. These relationship must be qualified by the level of activity reached by the competitor, the particular type of sport indulges in and even by particular parameters within a given game. According to Silva aggression in sport represents a negative socialization process. In this study one hundred sportsmen were randomly selected from S.G.B. Amravati university inter-collegiate tournaments. The result of the present investigation suggest that Individual and Team sportsmen differ on the personality dimensions of Neuroticism and Indirect Hostility. No differences emerge between the two groups on any of the dimensions of empathy.

Key words: Personality, Hostility, Team, Individual and Sportsmen.

INTRODUCTION:

Empathy is a constellation of many constructs, some of which relate to cognitive perspective-taking while others seem to be concerned with ability to respond effectively to emotional communications. Meaningful interactions among people require that they be willing to construe each other's point of view. Perspective taking ability allows the individual to anticipate the reactions and behaviour of others, thereby facilitating smoother interpersonal relationships. Slepicka (1983) have emphasized the role of social interaction in sports activity. According to them social interaction in sports influence purposefully the progress of interaction among members and the sport activity itself. Friendly interpersonal relations have a positive influence on the performance of the individual. In contrast unfriendly interpersonal relations do not create good per-requisites for performance. According to Cratty, it is necessary to good team performance that players act and interact in socially helpful ways.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY:

Subjects:

One hundred sportsmen were randomly selected from S.G.B. Amravati University Inter-collegiate tournaments. Sixty two sportsmen were athletes who participated in individual games like Boxing, Athletics, Weightlifting, Gymnastics etc. while thirty eight sportsmen were self-esteem who participated in team games like Volleyball, Handball and Football.

TEST USED:

I.The Interpersonal Reactivity Index.

It assesses four dimensions of empathy.

- (1)Perspective Taking (2)Empathic Concern
(3) Fantasy Scale (4) Personal Distress.

II.Eysenck Personality Questionnaire.

This questionnaire consists of four scales.

- (1)Psychoticism (2)Extraversion. (3) Lie Scale. (4) Neuroticism

III.Buss-Durbeq Hostility-Guilt Inventory.

This inventory consists of Eight scales.

- (1)Assault .(2)Indirect Hostility (3)Irritability.
(4) Negativism. (5)Resentment. (6) Suspicion
(7) Verbal Hostility. (8) Guilt.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

The raw scores were statistically analyzed to yield Means, Standard Deviations, t-ratio and Correlations among all the measured variables.

Table-I :Comparison of Individual and Team Sportsmen on all the variables

	Variables	Individuals		Team		t-ratio
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
1	Fantasy scale	11.63	4.26	11.26	3.25	0.46
2	Empathic Concern	12.55	3.99	12.37	4.74	0.2
3	Personal Distress	11.42	2.9	11.74	2.99	-0.53
4	Perspective Taking	12.34	3.85	12.66	3.51	-0.42
5	Psychoticism	10.61	4	10.97	2.96	-0.48
6	Extraversion	14	3.36	13.92	3.74	0.11
7	Neuroticism	10.68	3.79	12.42	4.12	-2.16
8	Lie	9.76	3.39	9.84	3.67	-0.12
9	Assault	4.6	1.44	4.86	1.68	-0.86
10	Indirect Hostility	4	1.97	4.82	1.43	-2.21*
11	Irritability	5.23	2.04	5.45	1.94	-0.54
12	Negativism	2.85	1.28	2.42	1.15	1.71
13	Resentment	4.05	1.37	3.76	1.51	0.97
14	Suspicion	5.85	1.52	5.32	1.71	1.64
15	Verbal Hostility	6.74	1.81	6.39	1.7	0.95
16	Guilt	5.55	1.7	5.26	1.46	0.86
17	Total Hostility	33.61	6.5	33.16	6.47	0.34

The above Table gives the Means and SD for sportsmen participating in team and individual games and the t-test of difference between them on the four dimensions of empathy viz. Fantasy Scale, Empathy Concern, Personal Distress and Perspective Taking, the Eysenckian personality dimensions of Psychoticism, Extroversion, Neuroticism and Lie viz. No significant differences emerged between Individual and Team Sportsmen on all the dimensions of empathy. However, inspection of the means suggests that team sportsmen are higher on Personal Distress and Perspective Taking while Individual Sportsmen are higher on Fantasy scale and Empathic Concern.

CONCLUSION:

The results of the present investigation suggest that Individual and Team sportsmen differ on the personality dimensions of Neurotic-ism and Indirect Hostility. No differences emerge between the two groups on any of the dimensions of empathy. Different sports require different amount of cooperation between members. Some athletic games are highly individualistic while others require the close cooperation of other. Individual and team games provide different social situations. Individual sports provide self-competitive situations and one has to attain the goal through self.

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