

Summary

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Aggressive Attitudes of Professional Athletes - the Criminological Assessment

The aim of the doctoral dissertation is to present the broad theme of the impact of sport on limiting aggression among professional athletes. It may be accomplished by releasing aggression in an appropriate way, which is perceived as an anti-criminogenic activity.

Competitive sports training requires devotion not only according to regular physical activity, but also due to a stable psyche, stress resistance and the ability to overcome failure properly. Competitive sport may be treated as a way of life. It could become a profession and hence a source of income.

The research conducted for the purpose of the doctoral dissertation is innovative. The issues relating to the theme have not been embraced by the researchers to such a great extent. They concern the relationship between sport and professional athletes' aggressive attitudes, taking into consideration the impact of aggression as a criminogenic factor.

The main hypothesis states that competitive sport has a positive influence on limiting aggression in professional athletes. It results in minimising the occurrence of a criminogenic factor, which is aggressive behaviour.

The second hypothesis implies that the appropriate way of releasing aggression through regular involvement in competitive sport constitutes an anti-criminogenic factor.

The results of scientific research may contribute to the possibility of building an aid scheme for competitive athletes. It especially involves those at risk of the impact of permanent stressful situations underlying the aggressive behaviour. The scientific findings may also

eliminate aggressive attitudes during sports competition, which could pose a criminogenic factor.

The research conducted is also of particular importance especially for people who are engaged in promoting physical culture in their professional work as well as in their educational activity. They may accomplish it by deepening their knowledge in the field of channelling professional athletes' aggression in a proper way. It could trigger the achievement of better results as well as the reduction of criminogenic factors, which promote the emergence of crime offences.

The literature review, which takes into account the theoretical considerations as well as recent studies in the area of aggression in professional athletes, gave an opportunity to prepare and implement the research project.

The aim of the research is to acquire knowledge concerning the determinants of using sport to eliminate criminogenic phenomenon. The research takes into account the group of competitive athletes, which has been subjected to the dependence of the use of aggression during the sports competition as a factor eliminating criminogenic phenomenon and between their internal and external resources.

Recognition and interpretation of such a wide range of aspects affecting the process of using sport in order to eliminate criminogenic phenomenon allowed the development of a model project. The project concerns the influence on limiting aggression among professional athletes by releasing it in a proper way, which is anti-criminogenic activity.

The doctoral dissertation is divided into six chapters and sub-chapters. The first one is devoted to the values and functioning of sport in the Republic of Poland. The issues concerning indication and definition of sport values, legal basis of sport functioning in the Republic of Poland are described in the individual sub-chapters. At the end of the chapter the organisational structure of sport in Poland is presented.

In the second chapter the phenomenon of aggression in scientific terms is described. The individual chapters present the issues, which allow the systematisation of the problem of aggression as a phenomenon taking an interdisciplinary approach. The definitions, on which the subject matter of the doctoral dissertation focuses, are explained at the beginning. The origins as well as the classification of aggressive behaviour are presented using psychological,

psychiatric and sociological publications. Furthermore, the problem of mass media aggression is also demonstrated. Special attention is paid to describing aggressive behaviour as a criminogenic factor.

The third chapter focuses on presenting professional athletes' aggressive attitudes. In the individual sub-chapters the aggression found in sport and its environment is discussed. Moreover, the factors affecting the emergence of competitive athletes' aggressive behaviour are indicated. The phenomenon of aggression approval in sport and as a result the correlation between the professional athletes and the supporters as a criminogenic factor are discussed.

In the fourth chapter the research results which were presented could provide help in solving the problem of aggression among professional athletes.

In the fifth chapter the impact of sport on building aggression-preventing behaviour is shown. The position of sport in social life is also discussed. The main responsibilities of Polish Sports Associations, their role in reducing the negative phenomenon in sport such as corruption or doping and also their contribution to promote the principle of fair play are explained. The following sub-chapters introduce government programmes supporting the idea of popularising and developing sport. The provisions allowing aggression in sport are also indicated. The process of modelling assertive behaviour through sport in order to reduce aggression is described. The last sub-chapter depicts the essence of sport as a set of values opposing the phenomenon of aggression.

The sixth chapter explores the subject of making use of aggression as a way to achieve better professional athletes' performance. What is also taken into consideration is the influence of sport on aggression reduction and limiting the occurrence of aggression among competitive athletes as a factor preventing the emergence of criminogenic phenomenon.

At the end of the doctoral dissertation the conclusions drawn on the basis of the analysis of source materials are presented. The particular emphasis is put on the research results, which contributed to establish postulates and an indication aiming at reducing aggression among professional athletes, which may constitute a criminogenic factor.