



Teaching Awareness of Ethical Governance in Sport

Equal opportunity – sex and gender, choice of athletes

Overview:

The topic focuses on category of equality and underlines precondition there is no absolute equality between people, because they are not the same, but relative equality of chances and opportunities. Controversies of sex and gender, and some ideologies denies differences between people based on their biological and bodily anchoring (sex, age, race) are brought. The liberal and communitarian approach towards equality is explained in sports context, topics of choice of athletes for teams and talent identification connected with various genetic predispositions are handled.

Aim:

The aim of this topic is increase student understanding of ethical valuation of different opportunities based on sex, gender, genetics predisposition, or socio-economic background. Equality from different philosophical and ethical stand points will be understood. The issues connected with possible increasing of equal opportunities through categorization people into various sport group according to their biological and social preconditions will be brought. The talent identification connected with selection to teams and its effects on athletes will be recognised.

Objectives:

By the end of the lecture, seminar and independent study tasks, students will be able to:

- ❖ Understand an ideal of equal opportunity for everybody and its practical realization by categorization people into groups based on their similar skills and performance levels.
- ❖ Critically think about gender theories refute sex-related differences as small, artefactual, and inconsistent and differentiate between sex as biological anchoring and gender as social constructed category.
- ❖ See problem of sexual and gender differences in sport as a problem with no univocal meaning, because of social leaving of men – women polarity and preference of fuzzy delimitation without boundaries (queer, transgender and a non-binary gender).
- ❖ Recognise the ethical aspects of talent identification and athletes selection.
- ❖ Be aware of early specialization and its ethical effects in sport.



- ❖ Understand the various ethical and philosophical standpoints toward equality.
- ❖ Know complicated process of evaluation based on various levels of differences and similarities, naturalness and artificiality, including “normality”, majority and minority, and their understanding as a potential ethical dilemma including sport environment.

Case Study Compendium:

- ❖ Caster Semenya CAS Overview
- ❖ Dutee Chand CAS Overview

Things to Do / Independent Study Tasks

- How does talent identification influence equality in sport?
- Consider what is it to be a woman? How does this affect the notion of equality in sport?
 - Do women with hyper-androgenism have an *unfair* advantage against other women?
 - Do women who were born male and have gone through male puberty have an *unfair* advantage against other women?
- Do the “better” genes for performances provides are more chances in sport? How does it influence equality?

Resource Handout - Readings and recommended URLs

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