

# Introduction to the Equal opportunity – sex and gender, age, race, religion

## *Teaching Notes*

The main aim of the presentation is to acquaint students with the concept of Equal opportunity in a sport, with a gender issue but also influence of religion, age or race.

### **SLIDE4**

The purpose of this slide is to get student thinking about dividing sport according gender. Student should wonder about : what is good or bad on this kind of „segregation“, or where are the limits of womanhood. Are there any sport what should be not divided according gender?

#### *Key Support Reading:*

Edwards, L., Davis, P., & Forbes, A. (2015). Challenging sex segregation:A philosophical evaluation of the football association’s rules on mixed football.

### **SLIDE 5**

This slide covers the specific problem of female athletics. We will talk about a real hot topic that "rocked" the world of top athletics. The issue of athletes such as Dutee Chand and Caster Semenya is well known. The task of this part of the lesson is to clarify the issue of gene and hormonal effects on the performance of athletes. We will ask questions to find out whether it is appropriate to sanction athletes who have better performance than their competitors, not thanks illegal doping but through their own genes.

#### *Main questions:*

Do the “better” genes for performances provides are more chances for sport? How does it influence equality?

How does talent identification influence equality in sport?

#### *Key Support Reading:*

Camporesi, S., & Maugeri, P. (2010). *Caster Semenya: sport, categories and the creative role of ethics*.  
Krech, M. (2016). To Be a Woman in the World of Sport Global Regulation of the Gender Binary in Elite Athletics.

### **SLIDE 6**

As the studies show, the judging performance rating is influenced not only by the athlete's performance, but also by the athlete's appearance. This problem has a long history and it is mainly due to the stereotypical view of the athlete. People subconsciously all the time evaluate others, based on, for example, skin colour, thanks to this phenomenon referee loses objectivity. Can we avoid or at least minimalist these problems?

*Key Support Reading:*

Beilock, S. L., & McConnell, A. R. (2004). *Stereotype Threat and Sport: Can Athletic Performance Be Threatened?* *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*, 26(4), 597–609. doi:10.1123/jsep.26.4.597

Essays, UK. (November 2018). Effect Of Commercialization On Sporting Events Media Essay. Retrieved from <https://www.ukessays.com/essays/media/effect-of-commercialization-on-sporting-events-media-essay.php?vref=1>

To What Extent Is the Commercialization of Sport a Positive Trend?. (2017, May28). Retrieved October 2, 2019, from <https://https://phdessay.com/extent-commercialization-sport-positive-trend/>.

**SLIDE 8**

Religion is a huge topic so we will mention only basic problem related to the sport. Religion could be helpful for sportsmen well-being, but also can bring some problems. Nowadays it's mostly connected with muslims religions and the dress code. Are the problems (as wearing or no wearing for example hijab based only on our cultural preferences, or can it be dangerous for the other athletes or even for himself?

Can superstition have an influence on athletes performance. Good example is Rafael Nadal and his numerous rituals. (See <https://ftw.usatoday.com/2014/06/rafael-nadal-ritual-tic-pick-water-bottles>)

This part of the lesson is also the subject of discussion about what kind of role team rituals have in collective sports.

*Key Support Reading:*

Dubuisson, Daniel (2007). "Exporting the Local: Recent Perspectives on 'Religion' as a Cultural Category".

<https://thinkprogress.org/this-is-discrimination-top-athletes-demand-an-immediate-end-to-hijab-ban-in-basketball-fb6d89bb156c/>

Agergaard, S. (2015). *Religious culture as a barrier? A counter-narrative of Danish Muslim girls' participation in sports. Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health*, 8(2), 213–224. doi:10.1080/2159676x.2015.1121914

Maranise, A. M. J. (2013). Superstition & Religious Ritual: An Examination of Their Effects and Utilization in Sport. *The Sport Psychologist*, 27(1), 83–91. doi:10.1123/tsp.27.1.83

N. Jona1 & F. T. Okou.(2013). Sport and Religion. *Asian Journal of management sciences and education*. Vol.2. No.1.

Jirásek, I. (2018). Christian instrumentality of sport as a possible source of goodness for atheists. *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy*, 12(1), 30-49. doi: 10.1080/17511321.2017.1307266

**SLIDE 10**

The first point is focused on the issue of falsification of birth dates. It now appears that the youngest gymnast and this cause was a united China during the Beijing Olympics.

The second point is to think about the problems of leaving an athlete from top sport and putting him / her back into working life outside of the camera lights.

Key Support Reading:

M. M. Yanga. (2013). Guilty without trial: state-sponsored cheating and the 2008 Beijing Olympic women's gymnastics competition.

S. Cosh, S. Crabb & A. LeCouteur (2012). Elite athletes and retirement: Identity, choice, and agency. Australian Journal of Psychology. doi.org/10.1111/j.1742-9536.2012.00060.

### **SLIDE 11**

Sports club activities are not only seen as contributing to children's daily physical activity, they are also valued for their contribution to children's socialization through democratic participation in local civic society, social integration and network (social capital) building.

Family background influences the rate of children's participation in organized sports.

*Key Support Reading:*

Nielsen, G., Grønfeldt, V., Toftegaard-Støckel, J., & Andersen, L. B. (2012). Predisposed to participate? The influence of family socio-economic background on children's sports participation and daily amount of physical activity.

### **SLIDE 13**

On this slide we are focusing on problematic view sports and athletes role model, because next to politics, education, family and so on also media strongly influence the picture of racial stereotypes. The media create dominant interpretations of reality that appeal to a desired or anticipated audience. (Van Sterkenburg, J., Knoppers, A., & De Leeuw, S. 2010). The purpose of the slide is to get to know the students about the problem of media which are also influenced by prejudice.

*Key Support Reading:*

Van Sterkenburg, J., Knoppers, A., & De Leeuw, S. (2010). Race, ethnicity, and content analysis of the sports media: a critical reflection.

### **SLIDE 14**

This Slide is to lead students to reflect on where in the next few years top sport will be driven by the evolving sciences, especially genetic engineering. What will be the future of doping?

*Key Support Reading:*

Jirásek, I. (2013). Cyborgization of sport: the question of human naturalness.