The study of spectator’s violence and aggression in stadiums

Seyed Mohammad Hossein Razavi1, Seyed Hossein Alavi2* and Esmaeil Zabihi3

1- Faculty of  Department of physical education and sport sciences, university of mazandaran
2- Faculty of  Department of Physical Education and Sport Sciences, Technical and Vocational College, Mahmoud Abad, Technical and Vocational University, Iran
3- Department of Physical Education and Sport Sciences, Garmsar Branch, Islamic Azad University, Garnsar, Iran

Corresponding author: Seyed Hossein Alavi

ABSTRACT: The purpose of the study is investigating the spectator’s violence and aggression in stadiums and ways to reduce the social dilemma. Physical and verbal violence in stadiums especially at football games has become a routine in our society. Stadiums are a place to empty energy positively and desirable. While it is going to become a place for empty social and psychological complex in the form of physical and verbal violence. The importance and sensitivity variables of outcome of a game in terms of obtaining scores and positioning favorite team in championship standing, violet and aggressive behavior of players during the game and the quality of referees mainly affects the incidence of verbal aggression in football fans. Educational activities on behalf of the family, education, media and press can lead to reducing the aggression process in sports fields and stadiums. Recreational services in stadiums and providing facilities in these locations, identifying specific individuals, back grounds of fights and vandalism from the polices, and possibly to prevent these people from entering the stadiums and sports hall, raising technical information, referees psychology and management can have a significant impact on reducing the aggressive behavior of spectators.

Keywords: Violence, aggression, spectators and athletes.

INTRODUCTION

Erich from (1982) believes that all actions that cause harm to a person, object or animal or happen with such an intention are called aggression. Aronson (1990) calls violence and aggression as an action with the purpose of damage, harm and suffering. According to baron (1994), aggression is an act that includes physical and psychological harms, it has intentional aspect, it is not accidental, contains only human and it is not intended to harm the objects. Berkowitz (1986) also define aggression’s intentional harm to others. He adds that the damage may be physical or psychological. Violence is usually distinguished based on the severity of the aggression. It is an action that intentionally causes harm to another person. The data of Tabrizi (2000) study shows that much of the spectators engage in verbal aggression and some are committing violence. The average violence and aggression in sports among the spectators that throw object into the ground is more than two and a half times rather the spectators that do not react and just enough to upset. Dunning et al referring to the hypothetical fiction of violence and aggression divisions believe that it’s different modes are reflection of thought and feeling and any form of violence is never found in it’s our form.

Controlling the stadiums atmosphere by the security forces and good relationship with the leaders of the teams is externally important. Unfortunately it was not well done in Isfahan and it’s leaded to the blindness of a soldier. Meanwhile in Tehran, security forces control the situation carefully. It is hoped that Tehran is a model for cities. The study of violent behavior of football fans in Iran while having some apparent similarities of structure have fundamental
differences with other counters. Fortunately, football fans' behavior has not changed to social problems. It is only within the gym environment. Games January 1994 and 2000 are examples of violence in Iran's football. In 1981, the games between pass and Persepolis had significant physical damage (Safabakhsh, 2000). According to the results and findings of safabakhsh (2000) study about fans of both populisms such as other social behaviors if the product of learning and experience and football spectators learn how to destruct publish utilities in stadiums or learn it in mass of spectators and imitate it without thinking. Based on the theory of social contagion, when a congregation is motivated, emotional and affective reactions spreads from one person to another. Fans of the popular clubs in Tehran make destructive and aggressive behavior after winning their favorite club and during participating in fans celebrations in order to empty their inner excitement. There is a significant correlation between mass fans celebration and emptying inner excitement. And football spectators make aggressive and destructive behavior during the victory of their favorite club and participating in fans celebration. Another example of violence took place in the AFX Asian cup games in 2003 between Iran North Korea, that throwing firecrackers injured one of the Korean players.

This resulted in suspension and fine football (Safabakhsh, 2000). Four theories on violence and aggression in the stadiums are expressed: structuralism (Fathi, 1984), behaviorism (Moorhouse, 1991), anthropology (Williams, 2000), Lister which is attributed to Norbert Elias (Redhead, 1991). The structuralism theorists of sport violence and aggression, Taylor (1991) pointed that alongside the more commercially football in England and separating it from traditional communities, a group of fans who felt they have been left to their own clubs, they took advantage from violence as a symbolic attempt to regain control of the club according to these theorists football hooliganism and many abnormal and disintegration of the traditional working class after world war II. So we can conclude that aggression in stadiums especially in England from the perspective of Clark and Taylor (1991) is due to the entrance of too much money and material in football scene. This can be seen in many European countries, especially England. And working group knows the process as neglecting their own right and more government attention to capital and capitalism. The issue is being discussed here is that aggressive behavior takes place only by the working class and the upper class in England do not show aggressive behaviors. Thus, there are factors other than structuralism in causing this behavior. Armstrong and Harris (1991), anthropological theorists of violence and aggression believe that the main objective of ardent fans and supporter of football teams is symbolic humiliation of the rival teams. The anthropological perspective of Harris and Armstrong emphasis on identifying different species of hooliganism the two researchers allow a clear demarcation between the real and symbolic violence. The real violence is an action that means physical injury to another person or persons – while symbolic violence includes threatening to enter physical harm. The researchers believe that the main purpose of hooliganism is not real violence. Although these individuals have the potential of violence but only there is a low level of violence among disadvantaged groups in society. Anthropologists, "Donning and Morhanvood (1991) believe that the weaknesses of the theory is small sample size to generalize to the population, lack of interaction between the two teams, lack of attention to social and cultural differences. According to Donning (1991), evidence suggests that most of the football aggressive is a part of lower social classes. They have been exposed to domestic and street violence and they suffered from social and economic deprivation. One of the theories of Leicester school (Rahmati, 2001) is rough social relations, facing the wrong subculture and not move with the flow of river. And it is moving toward civilization and industrialization. Thus, in this case the aggression is not special for workers, it is also for privileged society. Investigations safabakhsh (2000) conducted into the causes of aggression shows that stress in the family environment, in appropriate behavior of parents, communicate with friends and relatives with a history of crime, importance and sensitivity of the score, players gesture and act of violence and aggressive during the play, referees quality have a great effect on the amount of violence and aggression of the fans. Economic, social, cultural and political reasons involve in rising trend of violence in Iran's football (Saroukhani, 1991).

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This is a descriptive research presented by articles and literature about violence and aggression in sport and different psychological theorists have gathered data, we investigate the causes and solutions to this problem.
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Investigating the strategy

Factors such as marital status, drug use, the number of spectators, history of competition between two teams, quality leisure, family breakdown and inappropriate environment of stadiums can be the cause of aggression in individuals, and also the importance and sensitivity of outcome of a game in terms of obtaining scores and positioning favorite team in championship standings, violent and aggressive behavior of players during the game and the quality of referees mainly affects the incidence of verbal aggression in football fans (Fathi, 1984). If in stadiums instead of imitating the behavior incompatible with Islamic values and culture, mostly from west and euro up bad behavior and also we follow the noble and pure Islamic culture and avoid blind imitation, we certainly prevent bad behavior and aggression in stadium. Does Islamic religion all abusive, slanderous words, damage to property and public and impudent facies and damage to humans. Imam Ali believes that the virtue is useful for all human sufferings and tribulations indeed, as if we ward off the negative aspect of virtue and know it as if Ali knows, we must admit it is one of the pillars of human life. Whether in personal or social life it is important (Hojatti, 1986).

The family is the smallest social institution, and most vulnerable social groups against damage. So that most of the problems and injuries will occur first in the family, if the prevention & deal with it is incorrect it will penetrate into the community and in these bad situations, the problems and harms cannot be easily controlled. Given the current condition of the society, increasing problems, injuries and disorders and life changes over the past, if we fail to build family foundation strongly there will be injuries and abnormalities in the family. Today, different kinds of domestic violence, addiction, divorce and emotional separation could endanger the family’s health. Accordingly, in order to strengthen the foundation and health of families from organizations and funding agencies, projects and programs are running. The correct implementation of these programs can help strengthen the foundation of the family and avoiding the increase of social problems in the community. Empowering people, especially people in need and at risk, life skills training projects, creating groups of mental and social health, base of social health, are actions that can be performed by welfare, through life skills training to individuals, facing the problems and various challenges and also how to decide can prevent most of the social problems. These issues should be at the helm in all centers (Aronson, 1990). Domestic violence and violent behaviors of parents with children, creating an unsafe environment at home causes the teenagers and adults model their parents and more violent behavior from family to the community. The after math of violent behavior of parents with children will be the parental transmission of aggressive behavior outside the home. Stadium is one of these outside places. Sociologists believe that social damage increases about two percent annually. This situation threatens the family environment (Shokouhi, 1984). Teachers, coaches and education authorities should not discriminate the students and consider individual differences in education, prevent creating stress in people. Physical education teachers should lead students to exercises and sport places. Because, exercise plays an important role in peoples physical and mental health it takes away the young’s mind from thinking about drugs. Lack of attention to items such as motivation, individual differences, initial preparation and background of the students health, creative spirit, development, from teachers and school officials, such as gym teacher leads the students to tend toward wrong ways, such as drug addiction (Shariatmadari, 1995). Violence and aggression in football unlike other European countries is not organized, it happens just before, after and during the game. According to the research published in the second social security studies, emotional behavior, team-oriented, congregation, malice and age have the most effect on violent football fans. Based on the mandatory approach, regular inspections without discrimination, fines and punishment, preventing the entrance of abusing, emphasis on sitting and avoiding undue standing, continuous monitoring on population density in changing the violent behavior have a great effect. It is a strategy that is currently being used to some extent by law enforcement, but the impact is not enough to reduce the level of violence after games. Perhaps this is why the researchers also suggest preventive strategies, a way in which the proper preparation for transportation vehicles, determining the appropriate time of the games, optimal use of media, accepting the hosted ethics, providing the legal incidence of collective excitement in stadiums, encourage and reward, emphasizing cultural values and social norms, for dramatic reduction in violence has been suggested to police force. This purpose obtain by careful planning by the institutions holding competitions, especially the physical education and police force and in collaboration with the popular press, TV and radio are achieved. It is important that the police basically deal with the control and containment and physical education and football association in line with effective management in order
to prevent possible violence in football field. The task of police force which is more than other institutions will be double after the end of the game so that with the covert action, monitoring inspection, taking swats the defendants, preventing the epidemic of harsh conditions. A research suggested by social assistance police has provided the best and most practical solutions for security purposes. But unfortunately after two years of doing the research the policy force has provided mandatory guideline the police force has provided mandatory guidelines. An approach working with special units that have been intensified. Perhaps slower steps have greater impact on the situation and its formation is the reelection of police force behavior. Result show that the increase of the number of spectators in stadiums leads to the increase of verbal aggression in sum the hypothesis of the increase of the number of spectators leads to the increase of violence and aggression does not confirmed. This is when there other factors such as mismanagement, inappropriate planning that create the formation of violence and agree behaviors. Field observations about spectator behavior during the game and assurance of error on the part of the opponent team on the favorite team shows the following points if the error made by the opponent players on your favorite team is determined to be minor and intentional, fans do not show a specific reaction. If the fans recognize the failure of the opposing team intentionally and severely, they do actions such as boo, obscenity, insult and throwing objects to the ground and toward some specific players (Mohseni, 2000).

CONCLUSION

Findings and observations related to the violent actions show that most of these behaviors are verbal violence and common physical violence in other countries influenced by various factors such as social, cultural, economic, political factors in religion, ethnicity, social class, many of them rarely occurs one of the important distinction of social and economic structure of fans in Iran’s sport game with other countries is that fans of big teams especial some institutions and private bodies can be seen in families, neighborhoods, classes and different social groups with a little difference. Disorder and dysfunction in variables and the factors that and dysfunction on variables and the factors that are effective on sociability leads to the increase of population tendency to commit aggressive behavior some of these variables such as control mechanisms behavior monitoring by parents, stress in family environment and having a relationship with guilty relatives are subordinated to the primary socialization process and have an important role in formation of the family unit. Other factors such as having the relation with favorable gym, relation with sport media, social relation and also satisfaction of gym facilities form the action and reaction of the fans. The importance and sensitivity of the result of the game in terms of obtaining scores and positioning favorite team in championship standing, violent and aggressive behavior of players during the game and quality of the referees mainly affects the incidence of verbal aggression in football fans. Generally we conclude that culture and social system have some pitfalls that should consider by researchers in other studies (Mohseni, 2000).

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