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Parental motives for enrolling their children to select gymnastics training program

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Abstract

The purpose of the study was to investigate the Parental motive for enrolling their children in gymnastics training program. Fifty one parents of children attending the gymnastics training programs served as subjects for this study. Sincere efforts were made to collect the data from the parents. A questionnaire was prepared which includes the psychological aspects of parental motives i.e. Fitness, Skill/Mastery, Fun/Excitement, Affiliation, Team, recognition. The questionnaire was arranged in a logical order and each statement was worded clearly to enable the subject to understand and answer those statement without much difficulty. The study has revealed that the parents of children in gymnastics for betterment and upliftment of the game. The results of the study shows that parents of the children involving in gymnastics program shows high motives towards their children, thus hypothesis is thus accepted.

Keywords: Questionnaire, Motives, Gymnastics

Introduction

Parents play an important role in their children's enjoyment, success and continuation of sports participation. Parents play the largest role in the development of their child. Children learns from their parents, who serve as their main role models. Children also learn values, attitude and how to behave from their parents. Parents are the most important behavioral model, especially during the early years in a child's life. Parents have been shown to be powerful influences on their children's physical activity patterns (Stucky-Ropp & DiLorenzo, 1993) [1]. The role of parents in their children's physical activity occurs via direct and indirect support (Dempsey, Kimiecik, & Horn, 1993) [4]. Direct support of children's physical activity includes registering children for organized sport programs and paying the participation fees (Atsalakis & Sleaf, 1996). Indirect support of children's physical activity includes transportation of children to places where they can be active (Hoefer, McKenzie, Sallis, Marshall, & Conway, 2001). Parents who demonstrate a positive attitude toward registering children for sport programs and who perceive registration procedures to be easily accomplished are more apt to enroll their children for organized physical activities (Atsalakis & Sleaf, 1996). Parents often assume the role of motivator, facilitator, even coach in the life of the young athlete. In these roles parents can provide financial, emotional, and physical support. They can also apply pressure to the young athlete in the interest of excellence and success.

Delimitation

1. The study was delimited to the parents of the boys and girls gymnasts involving in a gymnastics training in Indore (Madhya Pradesh) center.
2. The study was further delimited to the investigation through self prepared questionnaire of motives.

Limitation

1. Questionnaire technique has its limitation; the information given by the subjects on the questionnaire were acted as a limitation for the study.

Hypothesis

It was hypothesized that parents of gymnast will have strong motives for sending their children in gymnastics training program.

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Procedure

Parents of 51 gymnasts regularly attending the gymnastics training program were served as respondents for the purpose of the study and Questionnaire method were employed to collect the relevant data regarding the parental motives for enrolling their children’s in gymnastics. During the practice session parents who bring their wards to the center approached personally by the researcher and remaining questionnaire were sent to the residences of the children

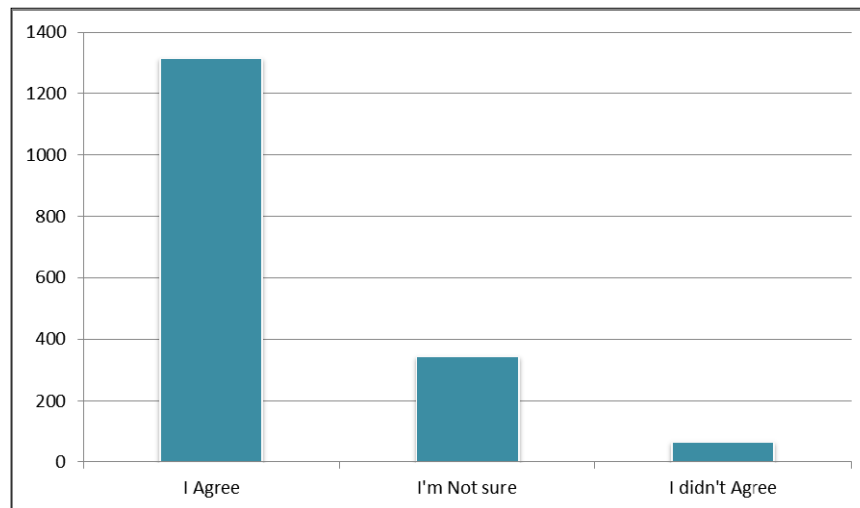
whose parents did not pay frequent visit to gymnastics center. Purpose of the study and necessary instruction were explained to the parents in detail as well assured them that the responses given by them would be kept strictly confidential and utilized for the research purpose only. The percentage of the responses was calculated after obtaining from the questionnaire.

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Parental motives questionnaire responses tables

S. No.	Questions	I Agree	I'm Not Sure	I Didn't Agree
1.	I want my children to practice Gymnastics because it is “mother of all sports”	48%	2%	1%
2.	I want my children to practice Gymnastics, in order to be active	48%	3%	0
3.	I want my children to learn new skills from Gymnastics	46%	5%	0
4.	I want my children to get better on their life by practicing Gymnastics	44%	6%	1%
5.	I want my children to be totally fit from Gymnastic	46%	5%	0
6.	I want my children to be healthy by practicing Gymnastics	47%	4%	0
7.	I want my children to make and have friend by joining the Gymnastics program	39%	11%	1%
8.	I want my children to learn Gymnastics for excitement	45%	5%	1%
9.	I want them to learn Gymnastics, to stand out from other kids	46%	4%	1%
10.	I involved them in Gymnastics to win competitions	45%	3%	3%
11.	I Involved them in Gymnastics to win scholarships	31%	10%	10%
12.	Involving them in Gymnastics makes them special	49%	1%	1%
13.	I want them to have fun by practicing Gymnastics	38%	4%	9%
14.	I want them to participate for motor development	48%	4%	0
15.	I want them to be a part of better Gymnastics team	51%	0%	0
16.	Gymnastics make them look good	50%	1%	0
17.	Gymnastics make them very energetic	48%	3%	0
18.	Gymnastics make them learn to get along with others	47%	4%	0
19.	Gymnastics make them learn about self control	48%	3%	0
20.	Gymnastics make them to feel good	46%	4%	1%
21.	I want to see my children as a great Gymnast	46%	4%	1%
22.	Gymnastics make them to gain their confidence level	48%	3%	0
23.	I let them join the Gymnastics program as they likes the coach	36%	8%	7%
24.	I want them to please their friends who wants them to practice Gymnastics	28%	17%	6%
25.	I want them to prepare to earn money for sports in the future through Gymnastics	25%	12%	14%
26.	I want my children to reduce risk of disease	45%	4%	2%
27.	I want my children to help control their weight	42%	6%	3%
28.	I want to help them to move their anger through Gymnastics	41%	6%	4%
29.	I want my children to get flexibility from Gymnastics	47%	4%	0
30.	I let them join the program as they like Gymnastics	49%	2	0

Table 2: Graphical Re-presentation of overall responses



The results of the study shows that parents of the children involving in Gymnastics training program show high motives towards their children, thus hypothesis is accepted. There is a prevalence of parental motives for inspiring their

children in Gymnastics since the responses have shown significant results in all aspect i.e. Fitness, Skill/Mastery, Fun/Excitement, Affiliation, Team recognition. The result of the study can serve as a motivational force to the

players to minimize the problems in parent and child situation.

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