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Locus of Control between Combat and Non-Combat SportsAthletes of Indian Universities

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ABSTRACT

This study based on the comparison between combat and non-combat sports athletes of Indian Universities with regard to locus of control. Each and every athlete truly participated in AIIU tournament at least single time in the session 2014-15 & 2015-16. The research was conducted on a sample of total two hundred forty (N=240) male athletes, which further splits into two groups i.e. first combat sports athletes group comprises of one hundred & twenty (N1=120) athletes from Fencing (40), Judo (40) and Taekwondo (40) and second group includes one hundred twenty (N2=120) athletes from Softball (40), Netball (40) and Baseball (40).The age of athletes were ranging from 20-23 years. All the subjects were informed nearly the intention and methodology of the study and they agreed to participate in this investigation. The data was collected with the help of Locus of Control Scale developed by J. B. Rotter (1982). The independent samples t-test was applied to assess the differences between combat sports athletes and non-combat sports athletes. The level of significance was set at 0.05. The results discovered that there were no statistically significant differences between combat and non-combat sports athletes in respect with locus of control ($p \geqslant 0.05$).

1. Introduction

The ultimate ambition of a sports psychologist or researcher is to identify that how accurately an exercise, participation in sports and physical activity enhances an individual advancement related to athletic talent. From the starting of the basic evidences of the theory of self-determination (Mladenovic, 2010; Deci & Ryan, 2000) examination has revealed that the provisions of autonomy has a progressive influence on the complete progress of personality and mental health (Ryan & Deci, 2007). Still, investigation has also exposed that the motivational attitude in the sporting event which is based upon the behavior control remains to overcome (Mageau& Vallerand, 2003). It is not self-evident that the association between performance of athlete and psychological skills is almost parallel for diverse classifications of sports, additionally for men and women. For giving support to young players in completion of the elite level, it is crucial to improve intuition into factors that positively affects the progress of a successful sporting livelihood, such as one's psychological characteristics. The athlete deals with collective performance by managing his/her emotions at steady level and reducing the psychological effects of pitiable performance. Locus of control is a demanding psychological characteristic for the field of sport psychology. It designates to the extent to which a single trust that they can easily control tasks and events that possibly affect them. The theory was recognized by Julian B. Rotter (1954), and has subsequently developed as an imperative characteristic of personality investigation. A study was directed by Aguglia& Sapienza (1984) on the female and the male skippers of volleyball, where male players were found statistically significant supplementary internal and skippers were found to be additional internal controlled. Rao and Murthy (1984) concluded that females inclined to be statistically significantly extra external in their locus of control. Here, it is not so far perfect information whether the parallel psychological variables that dispersed elite from sub-elite competitors or non-elite from elite competitors in maturity are most vital for exceptional performance throughout the enlargement of talent development (Morris, 2000).The study of Orlick and Partington (1988) also described that among physical, mental characteristics and technical, the mental enthusiasm delivered the lone statistically significant relation with the final Olympic position (Canadian Olympians). Still, it appears that discrepancies are minor when sub-elite are compared to elite competitors rather than non-elite competitors. To recognize the status of locus of control in equal level of athletes, the study was deals with locus of control between combat and non-combat sports athletes.

2. Materials and methods

Subjects:

A sample of total two hundred forty (N=240) male athletes from Indian universities selected as subjects, which further splits into two groups i.e. first combat sports athletes group comprises of one hundred & twenty (N_1=120) athletes from Fencing (40), Judo (40) and Taekwondo (40) and second group includes one hundred twenty (N_2=120) athletes from Softball (40), Netball (40) and Baseball (40). The age of athletes were ranging from 20-23 years. All the subjects were informed nearly the intention and methodology of the study and they agreed to participate in this investigation. Purposive sampling technique was used to select the subjects.

Methodology:

For the collection of data, questionnaire method was used. The data was collected with the help of Locus of Control Scale developed by J. B. Rotter (1982). This questionnaire contains

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of 29 alternate statements, which had to be answered by each of the subject. Out of the 29 statements, six (1, 8, 14, 19, 24, 27) are filler items and the lasting 23 were scoring items. Before filling up the questionnaire necessary instructions were given and questions were explained to the subjects.

Statistical Analyses:

Data was analyzed using SPSS Version 16.0 (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, version 16.0, SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL, USA). The independent samples t-test was applied to assess the differences between combat sports athletes and non-combat sports athletes. The level of significance was set at 0.05.

3. Results

Table-1. Mean values (±SD), standard error difference of the mean, test statistic t and p-value of Locus of Control between Combat and Non-Combat Sports Athletes.

VARIABLES	Combat Sports Athletes (N^1 = 120)		Non-Combat Sports Athletes (N^2 = 120)		Mean Difference	SEDM	t-value	p-value
	Mean	*SD*	*Mean*	*SD*				
Locus of Control	13.71	2.17	13.42	2.28	0.29	0.29	1.016	0.239

*Significant at 0.05 level

Table 1 evidently presents the mean values (±SD), mean difference, standard error difference of mean, t value and p value of combat sports athletes and non-combat sports athletes with respect to Locus of Control. The combat sports athletes when compared to non-combat sports athletes, have exhibited no statistically significant differences in respect toLocus of Control (p≥0.05).

4. Discussion

The result of the current study revealed that combat sports athletes has exhibited no significant differences with regard to Locus of Control, when compared to non-combat sports athletes. The findings of Dhormare, A. K. (2016) is support the results of current study, as he found that there was no significant difference was found between individual game group and team game group in respect with locus of control. The results of Malekian, A. et al. (2015) is support the results of present study as they concluded that no significant differences were observed on feeling of loneliness and internal locus of control among players of team and individual sports. Singh, A. & Sandeep (2014) have found no significant inter group differences among softball players i.e. Pitchers, Catchers, Short-Stopper and Centre-Out with regard to the variable locus of control. The outcomes of Kazemi, M. et al. (2015) reveled in their study that athlete students were superior to non-athlete students on internal locus of control, is also similar to present study. Study compiles by Singh, A. (2014) also found similar results to current study as he concluded that there was no significant differences were found with regard to locus of control between basketball and volleyball players. The assumption drawn by Chugh, G. D. et al. (2012) is in line with the results of existing study, because they resolved that there was no significant difference among School, College and Club level of cricketers which has tendency to exhibited external locus of control. However, same study was also in contrast as they establish that fast bowler and all-rounder was more internally controlled on account of locus of control than slow-bowler, batsmen and wicketkeeper. Consequence observed by Gierczuk, D. &Rutkowska, K. (2014) is completely contrary to existing investigation. They established that winner wrestlers had more internalized locus of control in sports circumstances in general as well as in athletic success. The outcomes detected by Ara, S. K. &Imamipour, S. (2015) are again in contrast with the results of current study. They determined that the internal locus of control and hardiness of the skilled Taekwondo girls was significantly higher in comparison with semi-skill and novice Taekwondo girls.

5. Conclusions

It is concluded that there was no statistically significant differences were found between combat and non- combat sports athletes with regard to locus of control.

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