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The Effect of Spectators' Verbal and physical Violence on Referees' Judgments in football

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to study the effect of spectators verbal and physical violence on referees in football. 300 referees were voluntarily selected and filled out the questionnaires on verbal and physical violence. The results demonstrated that being close to the grandstand is the most important factor in violence on referees judgments. It is said by strengthening of two teams spectators solidarity, raising awareness and knowledge of spectators about football, much support of culture activities can be used to reduce the incidence of audience aggression.

Key word: verbal violence, Physical, referees, judgments, Spectators

INTRODUCTION

Sports and activities have dedicated time and energy and have an important place in society. Basically, if sport competitions occur in normal situation rules for athletes and spectators, it will be easy to control violent behaviors. Sociologists and experts from the perspective of employing ethical and fair in sport as well as roots and prevent abnormal behavior in order to maintain its essential and excellence in sport is community. Generally, to reach picks of honor in sport: it is necessary to use other sciences such as psychology, sociology economics, and culture is, therefore, one of the following branches in exercise science is sport psychology that can affect and improve their behavior in all dimensions such as, social, behavioral and physical.

Violence is of the most important topics in sport psychology that includes all verbal statements as a verbal rude and offensive which used by players, coaches and football spectators intention

orally against referee or opponents, that the most cases could observed in football sport by spectators regarding to referee [1]. Wang (2007), Su Jian-ju (2010), Tepel (1987), Taylor (1987), Shields (2007) showed that some behaviors have been taken place in football events against sport referees, especially in verbal form [2, 3, 4, 5, 6]. Basically, to prevent and control violence in sport, first it should be diagnosed what pattern should be given to spectators and secondly, the roots of violence should be searched in different centers. Referees form the third pillar of sporting after coaches and players. Essentially, a good judge facilitates the sporting event, since the result of the competition will depend on the players skills and tactics. However, a weak judgment reduces the value of a competition and decreases enjoyment of players, coaches and spectators at the game. Generally, football consists of some important elements, such as athletes, coaches, spectators, and referees which have an important role in this event. It can be noted to Lorenz RG theory about the effect of external factors on aggressive behavior. Some studies and surveys have been done about aggression and violent behaviors in sports fields, but it still requires more attention to this issue.

Referees make up the third pillar of sport competitions after the coaches and players. One of the most difficult tasks is that they are responsible for the sport. A good judgment facilitates the sporting event since the race will depend on the players skills and tactics While a poor judgment of competition reduces the value and enjoyment of players, coaches and spectators at the games and caused aggression. Football consists of important factors such as, spectators, coaches, athletes and referees and the latter plays an important role. In this context, it can point to Lorenz's theory on aggression behavior that the author refers to external factors involved in aggression.

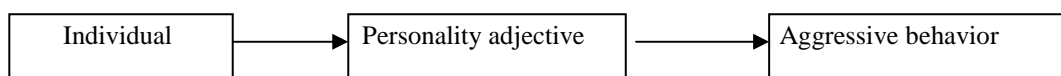


Figure 1. Theory of instincts - Lorenz

Now, this research is looking for the issue that how violent behaviors of spectators effect on football judgments.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Participators

300 Referees were selected randomly from North, South, East and West of Pars Province.

Measurement tools

A researcher-made was used to measure audience physical aggression, consists of two parts demographic characteristics (education, occupation) and physical aggression questions. Physical aggression scale includes 16 questions depending on criteria Likert 5 value. The Questionnaire involved two demographic (Occupation, Education), and included 17 question packages. To determine the validity of questionnaire, 14 experts in this field confirmed its validity, and its reliability based on Cronbach's alpha coefficient was calculated 85 percent.

Statistics method

Three statistical methods were used to determine the effect of verbal violence on referees. Descriptive statistics to calculate average percentage and standard deviation, and non parametric

Chi Square and Krosokal and for showing variables effects directly and indirectly on attracting Spectators, structural equations model. Data were analyzed by SPSS with version 16.

RESULTS

Table 1. Tested frequency sample group on basis of Education status

Education	Frequency	Frequency percent ago	Frequency percent ago	Denseness Frequency
School Student	9	4.5	4.5	4.5
Diploma	82	40.6	40.6	0.5
Associate of Science	45	22.3	22.3	67.3
Bachelor	66	32.7	32.7	17.7
Total	202	100	100	100

As it is shown in Table 1, % 41 of referees had diploma certificate.

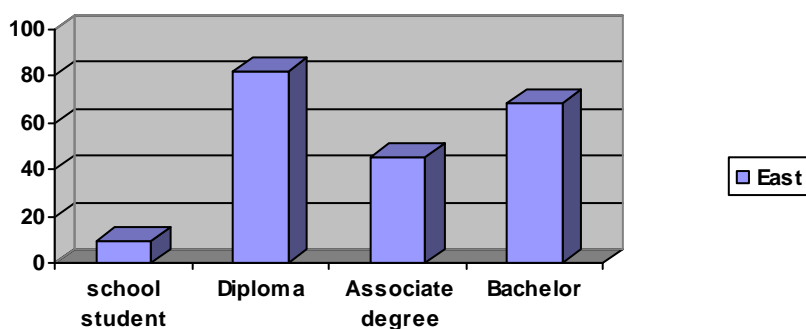


Figure 1. Distribution of subjects based on the study sample Education

Table 2. Distribution of subjects based on a sample job

Occupation	Frequency	Frequency percent ago	Frequency percent ago	Denseness Frequency
Unemployed	32	15.8	15.8	15.8
Self-Government	97	48.0	48.0	63.9
Government	53	26.2	26.2	90.1
Retired	20	9.9	9.9	2.2
Total	100	100	100	202

As it is shown in Table 2, most of subjects are self-employed

Table 3. Result of Kruskal-Wallis (the subjects jobs)

Statistical Indexes	Variables	No	average	mean	middle	X2	Degree different	Sig
Violence former spectators	Unemployment	32	53.0625	51.5	12.9414	6.946	3	0.074
	Self-Government	69	55.4271	54.5	14.4446			
	Government	54	65.1667	57.5	11.9381			
	Retired	20	62.12	62	10.0592			

* shows meaning full level

As it can be seen in Table 3, there is a significant difference ($p = .074$, $X^2 = 6.946$ among four groups according to their jobs and the effects of aggression football referees, so it can be concluded that % 99 of subjects considered their job to judges of aggression on the football fans do not.

Table 4. Results of aggression impact of audience to referees judgment

Statistical Indexes attitude	X2	Degree different	Desired frequency	Frequency observed	Percent of the observed	Sig
Effect all	2050.19	3	1500.5	316	5.27	0.01*
Effect			1500.5	999	16.64	
No effect			1500.5	2328	38.79	
No effect all			1500.5	2359	39.3	

* meaningful level

Table 4 shows the result of aggression impact of audience to referees judgment ($P = 0.01$, $\chi^2 = 2050.19$).

Structural findings model

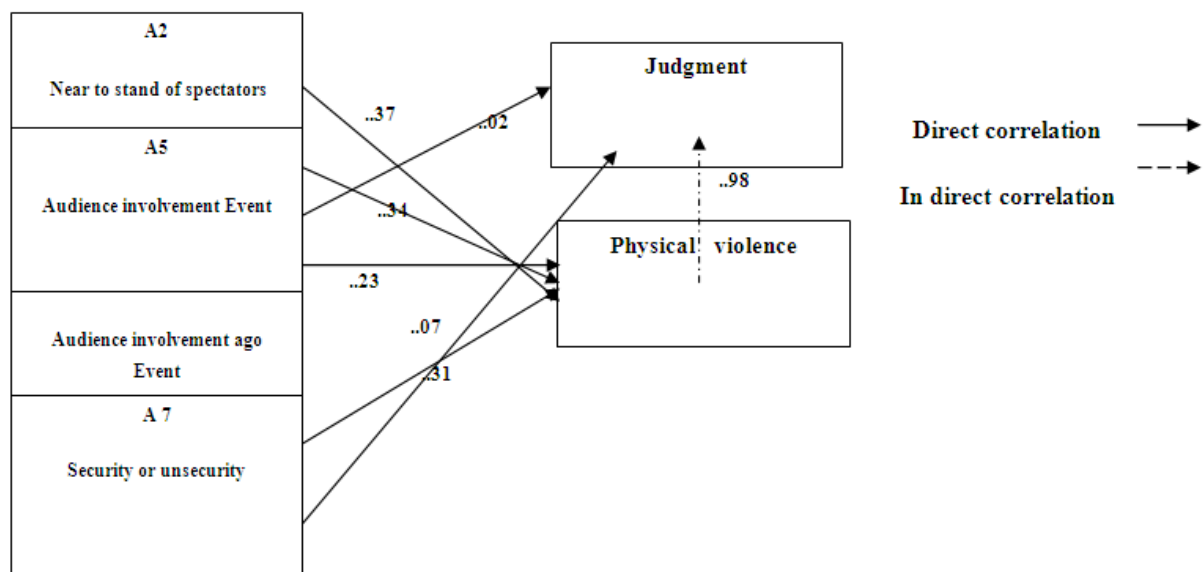
**Figure 1. Structural model of spectators direct and indirect correlation**

Figure3. Structural model indicating direct correlation spectators insult

Judgment	.037 A2+0.34A5+0.23A6+0.31A7+0.18				
P	0.033	0.039	0.038	0.033	0.18
T	11.11	8.88	6.13	9.42	9.92

The result of Figure 3 shows a correlation of 37% between physical aggression of spectators and nearness of stand, 34% between spectators physical struggle during the match, 23% between spectators physical struggle between two games, 31% between spectators physical struggle and security of stadium, but indirect correlation between verbal violence spectators with means of nearness of spectators stands, spectators struggle during the match, spectators struggle between two games and security of stadium on physical aggression of spectators equal %90. ·

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In all countries, football and ethical responsibilities should be twin and companion, ethical discussion should be a model for sport organizations, because it has been considered as an effective phenomenon in our cultural values society, observing violence behavior could have a negative effect in this issue. This research intended to survey the spectators violence effect on referees judgments in football. The results of this research showed that about 41% of subjects were diploma and most of the subjects were self –employed.

Also statistical results of Chi square and Kroschke–Wallis showed subjects with different jobs have reacted differently against referees judgment. Also, attitude toward the subjects, spectators violence effect on referees judgment has different effect. These results are parallel with the results of Dwight (2007), Nicolas (2010), Shields (2007), Ander (2010), Ukper, (2009) [7, 8, 9, 10, 11] but against the results of Pipa (2008), Friman (2004), Folkesson (2002), Antonie (2010) and Schwartz (2007) [12,13,14,15,16].

The result of study showed variable involvement of the audience with referees judgment during the competition was 0.49 and closeness of stands with referees judgment was 0.01 which had a great impact on judgment. These results are parallel with Souchon, (2010), Pettersson (2007) [17, 18] but research result Rasche (2005), and contrast with Rasche (2005) research [19]. Studies have shown that closeness of stands, scuffle of spectators and security of stadium are the more important factors affecting referees judgment, but closeness of stands is the most important one. It is possible to strengthen the solidarity of two teams, spectators, viewers and raise awareness about the football field, and support for culture activities can reduce the incidence of audience aggression. Also it could reinforce attitudes and positive behavioral ideas among spectators and personalities pattern using commercial tracks, broadcasting suitable behavioral images make the spectators facing judgment mistakes on scoreboard and giving prizes quiet and good – term peered spectators. Last practical solution using educational programs for holding psychological workshops for referees facing at the time of violence might cause violence reduced in spectators, that could lead to a healthy atmosphere for spectators in stadium and cause stress reduction and anxiety in referees in judgments in front of thousand fans with different specialists and characteristics. As a practical method in relation to viewers fight and stadium security, we can separate viewers seats of each team in stadium discipline, viewers organizing, identification of intruder viewers, and using of leaders to evacuate and destroy viewers emotion by singing collective songs. Because a healthy mental atmosphere of stadium has been the most important

condition in game quality, peace for judgment and correct judgment that could preserve this national capital that is spectators, for our sport society.

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