

The Factors Affecting Parents' Leadership Involvement towards Children' Sports Participation

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This study mainly contributes to the body of knowledge in the field of sport management by identifying the factors affecting to the Parents' Leadership Involvement towards their Children' Sports Participation which is considered one of the driven factor in the continuity of sport. As literature shows, Parents play a crucial role in the development of their children's lifestyle and health behaviour. A considerable amount of researches suggests that parents play an important role in youth sports. However, we are often unaware of what motivations drive the parents' involvement in terms of leadership in the family. This study, it was particularly examined the role of parents' involvement in the children sports, with reference to continuity participants. A semi inductive approach was taken to accomplish the objectives with the sample of 300 children by selecting sports in Colombo District in Sri Lanka judgmentally. Conceptualization of the questionnaire items was done by qualitatively with the experiences of the pilot study. Exploratory Factor Analysis method was used as an analytical tool to extract the factors of Parental Involvement in Children Sports Participation. Finally, this study found out five latent factors of the PL in Children Sports Participation in Sri Lanka. They are 01. Spend time together with their child at the competition venue. 02. Parent's satisfaction with their children's performance. 03. Parental pressure. 04. Parental self-motivation. 05. Children's perceived satisfaction with parental influence was found. The cumulative variance explained by the factors derived was 75.25%. Each factor is reliable ($\alpha=0.71$ & $KMO = 0.573$) to use for further study in this particular as an empirical survey tool. In the case of policymaking regarding sport continuity of school-age children, these findings can be used to articulate the applicable policies.

Keywords: Parental influence, Children sport, Continuity participation, Parental leadership, Sports participation.