

Comparison of Sport Personality and Moral Identity of Wrestlers

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Abstract: The main purpose of this study was comparing moral identity and sport personality of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers. Another purpose of this study was to identify the relationship between sport personality and moral identity of the participants. Comparative and correlative are the two methods of these two purposes. Statistical population consists of adult wrestlers of Tehran sport clubs. 10 sport clubs were selected randomly of which 15 Iranian wrestlers and 15 Afghan wrestlers were routinely engaged in wrestling exercises. Therefore, statistical population of this research consists of 300 wrestlers. For measuring sport personality and moral identity, Smith sport personality questionnaire (2003) and Black moral identity questionnaire (2012), were used. The results of testing research hypotheses showed that there is a significant difference between moral identity and sport personality of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers and their dimensions, moral self and integrity. When the sport personality and its dimensions - motive and adaptability- of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers were compared, it was found that the differences were significant at $P < 0.05$. Iranian wrestlers showed a higher average in these variables. However, there was no significant difference between the extrovert personalities of these two groups of wrestlers. In another words, Iranian and Afghan wrestlers both have the same extrovert personality. The results of multiple correlation showed that the regression coefficient between moral identity and sport personality of Iranian wrestlers is equal to $R^2 = 0.061$. This means that 6.1 percent of produced changes in sport personality of Iranian wrestlers are affected by their moral identity. The amount of regression coefficient between moral identity and sport personality of Afghan wrestlers is equal to $R^2 = 0.042$ which shows that 4.2 percent of produced changes in sport personality of Afghan wrestlers are affected by their moral identity.

Keywords: sport personality, moral identity, extroversion, adaptability

1. Introduction

Personality can be defined as certain patterns of thought, excitement, and behavior, which determine the personal style of person in interacting with his/her social and material environment. In another words, personality is a series of characters, which form a unique person and consist of 3 dimensions: motives, adaptability, extroversion and introversion (4). Motive is a factor, which stimulates a person, makes him to move and leads him to a certain behavior (2).

From the psychological viewpoint, for training one's personality, it is needed for ethical behavior and from the social view; ethical behavior is analyzed according to duty approach. Tsholofelo (2012) believes that moral ethical

deviation in athletics results from a social communications network which is because of social learning, encouragement and persuasion of friends, educators etc. athletics, because of its special stages like, election, competition, courses etc., concludes of a lot of sensitiveness, excitements, stresses and agitations which can cause several behavior disorders. Expectation confliction also can be the other factor in producing problems. Athletic, in internal situation, is faced of different behavior of director, coach, and other players and in external situation, is faced of critics of financial directors, spectators, fans and presses who have opposite expectations(18). Hill et al. (2012) believes that many of behavior problems accrue when athletic wants to show a form of goodness, but he is

asked to have just a good technical performance instead of showing acceptable behavior(9).

According to Maslow (1981), personality has a hierarchy. Satisfaction of needs result in self-esteem and feelings like self-confidence, value, efficiency, and power and can increase the feeling of self-actualization, self-respect, self-belief, leadership and independence(16).

Man inherently likes moral values, and life asks him to do ethical requirements based on social beliefs and norms and keep away from social taboos. Sport, as an effective factor in cultural and ethical creation of society, can play an important role in youth growth, introducing pattern and national honor. Ethical functions of athletic behavior are always thought provoking. However, inclination to success in athletics has been made challenge in this way. Dominance of views like result-orienting, making big contracts, clubs competitions in taking significant technical players, without considering to their ethical values, and considering sport as an industry and commercial tool results that players have kept out of moral values(12).

Psychologists have tried to explain motive via individuals, differences in moral identity and based on Blass Model. Although most of them concentrate more on ethics rather than on identity, ethical performance means that we consider ourselves one who defines his personality and compulsions, in a manly form and not any other form. Some definitions of ethical identity, stress on social communications(8).

Ethics and moral identity are the main factors of performance in a comparative situation. Lack of attention to ethics makes big problems for organizations. Among this, judging people based on their ethics, has significant effect on their job quality and quantity, and finally on their success(4).

Morality involves right and wrong actions. The study of morality has focused on individual's behavior, considering his/her culture. Ethics is a social-cognitive subject and depends on individual's communications. People like to think ethically according to society's norms. Nevertheless, ethics often used as a description word for different standard in separated groups and ethical critics(6).

Theories of moral psychology, which are based on moral identity or personality, are better able to explain motivation. Personalities models focused on individual's differences in moral character, and identify models explain ethical decisions for people through the importance of morality. Moral characteristics of every situation depend to whether any moral judgments have been occurring or not (5). It also depends on individual's desire that interprets those events in an ethical form. In fact, moral identity has two dimensions: ethical cohesion and self-ethics. Ethical cohesion is individual's will to harmonize his thought and his performance, and to what extent it is important to him that other people perform according to ethical rules. Self-ethics stresses on the importance of ethics in people. Moral identity explains that what the personality of an individual is. When people consider themselves as ethical persons, the probability that they interpret situations ethically and perform based on that, is more (15).

Ethical behavior is not just that one knows what should he do; knowing that what is ethically correct or incorrect doesn't result in performance necessarily. The concept of self-ethics is the strongest motive for ethical behavior; when it is judged that what ethical performance is, people like to do it to conserve their stability (5). This harmonization between thought and performance is that very cohesion. The stronger of this self-ethics, the more he has will to perform base on his rules. There are few researches for proving this hypothesize, but Lombrozo (2009) found that at least some people (those who prefer result-oriented solutions in their studies) try to harmonize their ethical judgments(11). Analyzing participation in individual and group athletic activities on the personality of athletics has been one of challenging subject among behavior and sport expertise. Analyzing personality abilities and weaknesses of athletics is necessary, because coaches just by using this science can plan for reinforcing strong points, fighting against negative points and removing weak points. Therefore it can be said that analyzing personality features related to athletic activities helps decide carefully about selection of talented

athletics and their guidance in choosing desire field in sport.

Since moral identity and sport personality in wrestlers are two main variables in the procedures of activities, this research tries to determine moral identity and sport personality of wrestlers and compare these variables in Afghan and Iranian wrestlers. Therefore, this study answers to these questions: how much Iranian and Afghan wrestlers have moral identity and sport personality. What is the relation between these two variables? Answering to these questions helps coaches in planning and selecting wrestlers.

METHODOLOGY

Method of this research is comparative. Statistical society consists of adult wrestlers of Tehran's clubs. 10 clubs were selected randomly of which 15 Iranian wrestlers and 15 Afghan wrestlers that live in Iran were introduced. Therefore, statistical society of this research consists of 300 individuals, 150 Afghan wrestlers and 150 Iranian wrestlers. It is used from these questionnaires for measuring research variables: Sport personality questionnaire of Smith (2003) for measuring sport personality. This questionnaire consists of 80 questions and 3 dimensions of Motive (32 questions), Adaptability (24 questions), and extroversion and introversion (24 questions). The questionnaire is a 5-graded Likret scale. For measuring moral identity, it is used from moral identity questionnaire of Black (2012), which consists of 25 questions. Questions 1-10 relate to moral self and questions 11-25 show integrity. Scoring scale of this questionnaire is on the base of Likret Scale and in the form of 0 to 4. Cronbach, s Alpha was used for testing reliability of the research. This reliability was 0.84 for Motive dimension, 0.85 for adaptability dimension and 0.81 for extroversion and introversion dimensions. The reliability of the research generally was 0.85 Reliability is equal to 0.80 in the moral self dimension and 0.87 in the integrity dimension. In addition, general reliability is equal to 0.85.

In this research, it was used from description and referential methods for analyzing data. For categorizing and summarizing data, description statistics is used which consists of mean and standard deviation, frequency and percentage. In

addition, for answering to the research questions, t test of independent groups and correlation and regression test were used. In addition, for analyzing the normality of data, Kolmogorov-smirnov test, was used. Since all data were normal, parametric test was used. It should be noted that all statistic operations were done by SPSS software, version 20. Significant level in this research is considered with Alpha 0.5.

FINDING

For analyzing the normality of data, it was used from Kolmogorov-smirnov Test. The amount of counted Z for moral identity is equal to 1.34 and for sport personality is equal to 1.25. In these two variables, the amount of Z in the Alpha level of 0.05 was not significant. It means that the amount of P-value is more than 0.05 and null hypotheses about the normality of data, was rejected. Therefore, it can be said that the scores of two variables have a normal distribution. Therefore it is needed to use parametric t Student and Pierson Correlation and regression test. First hypothesize were tested for analyzing the difference between moral identity of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers. For this, it is used from t test of independence groups.

Table 1 compares the means of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers in moral identity factor and its dimensions, integrity and moral self. The results show that the amount of t in Alpha level of 5% is significant and a null hypothesis is rejected. In another words, there is a significant difference among the moral identity means of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers. Finally, according to the means difference, it can be assessed that the mean of Iranian wrestlers in moral identity factor is more than of Afghan wrestlers.

Table 2 compares the means of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers in sport personality and its dimensions, motive and adaptability. The results show that the amount of t in Alpha level of 5% is significant and null hypothesis is rejected. In another words, there is a significant difference among the sport personality means of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers. Therefore, evidences are enough to accept this hypothesis. Finally, according to the means difference, it can be assessed that the mean of Iranian wrestlers in sport personality factor is more than of Afghan wrestlers.

Third hypothesis was tested for analyzing correlation between sport personality and moral identity of Iranian wrestlers. For testing this hypothesis, it is used from single-variable regression test. At first, the correlation among

variables was tried and then by using regression test, dependent variable was predicted according independent variable.

Table 1: the results of t Test of independent groups in moral identity and its dimensions

Variable	Groups	Mean	Standard deviation	Freedom degree	t	sig
Moral identity	Iranian	91.35	6.39	298	9.22	0.001
	Afghan	84.14	7.13			
integrity	Iranian	47.68	4.14	298	8.89	0.001
	Afghan	42.50	5.81			
Moral self	Iranian	40.29	2.90	298	8.07	0.001
	Afghan	37.59	2.88			

Table 2: the results of t test of independent groups in sport personality and its dimensions

Variable	Groups	number	mean	Standard deviation	Freedom degree	t	sig
Sport personality	Iranian	150	271.1	19.56	298	8.79	0.001
	Afghan	150	149.32	23.32			
Motive	Iranian	150	91.61	13.51	298	7.03	0.001
	Afghan	150	81.72	10.67			
adaptability	Iranian	150	89.57	7.01	298	12.61	0.001
	Afghan	150	77.04	9.94			

Table 3: the results of correlation between moral identity and sport personality of Iranian wrestlers

		Sport personality	Moral identity
Pierson Correlation	Sport personality	1	0.247
	Moral identity	0.247	1
Significant level	Sport personality	0	0.001
	Moral identity	0.001	0

The results of table 3 show that there is a significant relation between sport personality and moral identity of Iranian wrestlers. The amount of r, equal to $r=0.247$ in Alpha level of 0.05% is significant. The direction of this relation is direct and positive. It means that the more is the moral identity of wrestlers, the more is the sport personality of them.

The results of table 4 shows that regression coefficient between moral identity and sport personality of wrestlers is equal to $R^2=0.061$, it means that 6.1% of changes in sport personality of wrestlers affected by their moral identity.

Table 5 of Variance analysis confirms the results of regression coefficient and its results show that

F (9.63) is significant in Alpha level of 5% and null hypothesis is rejected.

The results of table 6 show that moral identity has a significant and predictable effect on the sport personality of Iranian wrestlers. In addition, According to Beta, it can be said that one unit increase in moral identity, causes 0.247% increasing in sport personality of Iranian wrestlers.

Hypothesis 4 analyses the relationship between sport personality and moral identity of Afghan wrestlers. For testing these hypotheses, it is used from single-variable regression test. It means that at first variables correlation were counted and then regression test was counted to predict dependence variable based on independence variable.

Table 4: Regression coefficient

model	Correlation coefficient	Determination coefficient	Adjustment coefficient	Deviation of assessment error
1	0.247	0.061	0.055	19.01

Table 5: the results of variance analysis

Model	Sum of squares	grading	Mean of squares	F	Significant levels
Regression	3481.29	1	3481.29	9.63	0.002
Remainder	53525.4	148	361.65		
sum	57006/6	149			

Table 6: the results of regression line equation

Regression model	Non-standard B		Standard B	t	Significant level
	B	Standard error	B		
Y-intercept	202.0	22.32	0.247	9.05	0.000
Moral identity	0.756	0.244		3.10	0.002

Dependence variable: sport personality

Beta table shows that final regression results. According to this table, it can be drawn the linear regression equation:

Sport personality=202.0 +0.756 (moral identity)

Table 7: the results of relationship between moral identity and sport personality of Afghan wrestlers

		Sport personality	Moral identity
Pierson Correlation	Sport personality	1	0.204
	Moral identity	0.204	1
Significant level	Sport personality	0	0.006
	Moral identity	0.006	0
number	Sport personality	150	150
	Moral identity	150	150

The results of table 7 show that there is a significant relation between sport personality and moral identity of Afghan wrestlers. The amount of r, equal to $r=0.204$ in Alpha level of 0.05% is significant. The direction of this relation is direct and positive. It means that the more is the moral identity of wrestlers, the more is the sport personality of them.

The results of table 8 show that regression coefficient between moral identity and sport personality of wrestlers is equal to $R^2=0.042$, it means that 4.2% of changes in sport personality of Afghan wrestlers affected by their moral identity.

Table 9 of Variance analysis confirms the results of regression coefficient and its results show that F (6.41) is significant in Alpha level of 5% and null hypothesis is rejected.

The results of Table 10 show that moral identity has a significant and predictable effect on the

sport personality of Afghan wrestlers. In addition, According to Beta, it can be said that one unit increase in moral identity, causes 0.204% increasing in sport personality of Afghan wrestlers.

In comparing extroversion and introversion dimensions of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers, it was found that there is no significant difference between these two groups. Most of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers have an extrovert personality.

Table 8: Regression coefficient

model	Correlation coefficient	Determining coefficient	Adjustment coefficient	Deviation of assessment error
1	0.204	0.042	0.35	22.75

Table 9: the results of variance analysis

Model	Sum of squares	grading	Mean of squares	F	Significant levels
Regression	3319.19	1	3319.19	6.41	0.012
Remainder	76599.4	148	517.564		
sum	79918.6	149			

Table 10: the results of regression line equation

Regression model	Non-standard B		Standard B	t	Significant level
	B	Standard error	B		
Y-intercept	193.63	22.06		8.77	0.000
Moral identity	0.662	0.261	0.204	2.53	0.012

Dependence variable: sport personality

Beta table show that final regression results. According to this table, it can be drawn the linear regression equation:

Sport personality=193.63 +0.662 (moral identity)

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The results showed that there is a significant difference between personality characteristics of Iranian and Afghan wrestlers. Iranian wrestlers are better in personality characteristics than Afghan wrestlers are. Abdoli (1994), in a study, compared the personality characteristics of Basketball, volleyball, football and wrestling players. He did not find any significant difference between these characteristics(1). Sepasi et al. (2012) find that there was not differences between sport personality characteristics of male athletes and non-athletes(16). Mirmansouri (1995) investigated analyzing personality characteristics of man athletes in individual and group sports and concluded that there are not differences among these sports(12).

According to the regression coefficient, it was assessed that about 4.2% of changes in sport personality of Afghan wrestlers are affected by their moral identity. Finally, the results of regression stated that moral identity has a significant and predictable effect on sport personality. In addition, one unit increasing in

moral identity causes 0.204 % increasing in sport personality of Afghan wrestlers.

Most of contemporary moral researchers believe that sport plays an important role in individual and social growth, and sport in every society, reflects the culture of that society. However, sport not only affects the society, but also it is affected by it. Therefore, it is subject compasses easily cultural, social, economic, and political issues. Among these, what have been extremely neglected are cultural and ethical issues of sport. It can be said that in an athletic event, big or small, what makes it beautiful and valuable, is showing moral values. Values like respect to rules, to rivals, to referees and fans, having generosity, patient, not having violence and aggression, not using undesirable words and not using drugs (doping).

According to the findings, it is better that correct, logical behavior of directors and coaches with athletes, is their selection criteria, and it is used from athletic psychologists to reinforce ethical behavior in athletes considering their individual differences. In addition, the process of taking players for selective and national team should be fair. It should be tried to

introduce good results of ethical behavior of athletes in order to see more ethical values in athletics area. Since moral identity means how people define their personality, and when people consider themselves ethical persons, it is more probability to interpret situation ethically and perform according to that (15). Psychologists have tried to explain motive based on people's differences in moral identity. It is needed that all athletic organizations perform harmonious in observing rules, update them and insist on punishing lawbreakers in athletic areas and courses and stress on teaching ethical criteria and their precise observance.

The findings of Sanit et al. (1999), Backman et al. (2001), and Stuart et al. (2003) are concurrent with the results of this study.

In sport it is suggested to: commitment to correct behavioral principles, fair plays whether in practices or in critical condition of courses, observing of law even when he is sent out of the field, not violating rules and respecting them, respecting to individuals and rivals, preserving dignity in game, respecting to social customs, norms and values which are stated in all books and researches like: Gill et al., Kourt, Morgan, and Naderian (7, 10, 13, 14). According to the research results, some suggestions can be offered as mention on following.

Considering positive and direct relation between sport personality and moral identity of wrestlers, it is suggested that for developing ethical behavior, wrestlers should be familiar with adaptability, motive and sport personality areas and reinforce moral identity in them with holding specialized conferences. Athletes should be familiarized with ethical behaviors, coaches should identify weak and strong points of athletes and try to remove these weak points and plan to reinforce strong points. It should be used from psychologist along with athletic teams to simplify the process of success and development of wrestlers, behavior by their advices before and after exercises. It is suggested to coaches to remove the problems of sport personality of wrestlers and provide require plans for leading athletes, give more attention to objective issues and real and cognitive performance.

Coaches are the most effective human sources in sport who can try to stress and observe ethical criteria and fair play principles. They can

develop these principles constantly in exercises, and courses and its precise observance. Ethical chart, in scientific and practical form, have been provided separately for all athletic field and all human sources like athletes, coaches, referees, directors, spectators and fans. For precise observing of this chart, following ethical principles have been suggested.

Teaching ethical principles in sport and controlling behavior disorders among athletes should place among the main plans of coaches for developing moral identity principles.

Statistic society limitation to wrestlers and clubs of Tehran makes it difficult to generalize the results to all athletes and all sport fields and all towns. Lacking any relevant literature was another limitation of the present research.

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