

## **Effect of Molesting Behavior of Male Athletes on Participation and Motivation of Female Athletes at Public Sector Universities of Sindh Province**

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### **Abstract**

The main objectives of study was to determine effect of molesting behavior of male athletes in the perspective of participation of the female athletes and effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on the motivation of female athletes at public universities in Sindh province. The study was descriptive cross sectional. The Purposive sampling method was employed for the collection of the data. Female athletes who competed at intercollegiate, intervarsity, provincial and national level of public universities of Sindh province were subject of this study. The self-developed questionnaire was administrated for data collection. There were 85 female athletes from twenty public universities who participated in present study. The findings revealed that there is negative significant effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on motivation and participation of female athletes at public universities of Sindh. The result revealed declining of level of motivation, impairment of performance, restriction or withdrawal from participation or pursuing sports career and confinement to home due to feeling of insecurity due to exposed rate of sexual molesting behavior of male athletes.

**Keywords:** Molestation, Effect, Athlete, Motivation, Participation

### **Introduction**

The challenges for female athletes are similar to the challenges for working women in other male-dominated industries. It is very common phenomena that in male-dominated setting, men are designated coaching and administrative positions at all levels of sport. Keeping in view a male-dominated phenomenon, Kazi (2017) claims that Pakistan is considered one of the countries where 70% female encounter physical or sexual violence and 93% women are those who are violated or harassed in public places in their lives.

Fasting et al. (2000) reveals that previous studies recommend that female athletes are repeatedly harassed or molested by male athletes or authority effect negatively the motivation and participation of female athletes. Specifically, participants feel underrated by sport personnel whereas male athletes sexualize female athlete's bodies. Still, these sex-based practices are more evident in sport settings. As Sexism is probable as part of sport culture. Predominantly, such offensive attitudes in contradiction of female denote a deeper intricacy about the power in sport. Irrespective of severity and occurrence of sexual misconducts, these behaviors are witnessed as inapt and illicit.

### **Objectives of the Study**

1. To examine the effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on the motivation of female athletes.
2. To investigate the effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on the participation of female athletes.

### **Hypotheses of the Study**

- H<sub>A.1</sub> There is significant negative effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on the participation of female athletes.
- H<sub>A.2</sub> There is significant negative effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on the participation of female athletes.

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### Literature Review

Schwartz (2015) believes that male athlete socialization and behaviors provides important variables that causes promotion with subtleties of sexual misconducts such as molestation harassment and assault. McCray (2015) Young et.al (2016) revealed that Specifically Male athletes are at high risk for committing sexual misconducts. According to McCray (2015) Male athletes continue obligating sexual misconducts against women and their involvement is witnessed high in the prevalence in college and university campuses.

Wilson (2016) revealed that in 2013 there was a female athlete student was raped by football players whose institution saved them of any wrongdoing. Alleged five football players suspected of sexual misconduct during an academic year. Van Milligan (2015) declared that recently The University of Tennessee published four years of data about sexual activities and that report reveals the statistics of sexual incidences has arisen 80 percent from 2013 to 2014. Moreover Doyle (2013) revealed the fact that in 2010, another case was reported in which footballers of University of Notre Dame were found in sexual incidence which resulted the victim's suicide and offender was not charged in case of Notre Dame. Robbins (2012) and McCray (2015) detailed that Several football players who were affiliated with Montana university were too inspected and charged with sexual misconducts, molestation and raping in 2012.

Additionally O'Neil, (2010) McCray (2015) discussed in their studies that in 2010, a Missouri football player was detained for involvement in sexual act. Another cases which were reported In September 2010. A basketball player of cake forest was arrested for sexual act as well as football player of Florida was arrested. In October 2010, another player of Baylor basketball was 19 under arrest for sexual act.

Beasley (2011) and McCray (2015) further highlighted rape charges on male athletes to their studies. In 2010, December, a baseball player of Florida International University was accused whereas In February 2011, a basketball player of University of Washington was charged with rape. Hope (2013) McCray (2015) specified that in 2012, two hockey players of Boston University were accused of sexual misconducts. In following year another case of rape was reported in which three football players of Ohio State were alleged in a rape case. A University of New Mexico student allegedly sexually assaulted by two football players.

Wilson (2016) detailed that Many athletes who are accused of sexual assaults, molestation and sexual harassment. They were made leave their institution. Nearly all of the student-athletes suspected of sexual assault as one in five students was accused of sexually assaulting.44 percent were either male athletes or fraternity members . One out of ten cases involved gang rape by two or more Perpetrators among them 40 percent were athletes' .such incidences determine subculture within athletic teams which encourages agitated masculinity, sexual aggressive behavior and alcohol intake excessively. The said sociocultural aspects reassure student-athletes to engage in sexual violence.

Fritner and Rubinson (1993) conducted one research study 925 women randomly were selected as a sample. Responses of respondents varied who experienced one of four crimes. Sexual assault, attempted sexual assault, sexual abuse, molestation and sexual battery. Results showed that 27.1% women experienced sexual incidence mentioned above. Furthermore, several women encountered abuse variedly. They recognized offenders were male athletes who committed 22.6% sexual assaults, 13.7% sexual assault, 13.6% sexual abuse incidences; and 11.09% molestation and sexual battery.

Adams-Curtis and Forbes, (2004) Kimble, Russo, Bergman, and Galindo, (2010) Harway and Steel, (2015) added that Research reports 10% sexual misconducts due to the involvement of multiple offenders whereas there is 40% involvement of male athletes, likely driven by culture, coaches failure and supervisors to punishment for male athletes for displaying inappropriate behavior. Studies, complaints, and case law direct that male athlete are suspicious of sexual misconducts who are treated favorably.

Kosset.al (1993) discovered relationship among community association, athletic participation, and sexual misconducts. 530 male students were assessed comprising of 140 male athletes. 16% participated in football and basketball Verified sexual nonviolence, unwanted sexual advances, uninvited sexual interaction, sexual bullying, and rape. The research predicted sexual aggression among male participants in organized athletics "true. According to Burt, (1980) urges that the prevalence of sexual offence among women was approximately 20%, for three decades. Flack et al.,

(2007) McMahon, (2007) Tjaden and Thoennes (2000) revealed that Comprehensive national studies generated lifetime estimation prevalence of sexual incidences among adult women stretching from 12% to 25%.

**Methodology**

**Research Design**

In order to collect data, quantitative research approach was used to determine the predictable aspects of the study.

**Sample and Sample Size**

The target population of study was encompassed of 85 female athletes of different games such as volleyball, cricket, football, table tennis, badminton, karate, wall climbing, athletics, boxing, throw ball, snow hiking, basketball, taekwondo, hockey and handball at public sector universities of Sindh province, their age ranged from 18 years to above 25 years.

**Research Procedures**

Researcher made contact with the heads of institutions/sports directors/sports instructors/sports assistants to survey female athletes to collect the data. Meetings were settled with them on call/ via emails as per their availability. They were provided consent letter of supervisor with additional copy of letter to get it signed/stamped which was later collected back in order to keep in record as a proof of approval of authority. With the consent of authorities, female athletes were surveyed. Former athletes and beginners female athletes various sports at 20 public sector universities were included in present study. The questionnaire was pilot tested on 25 female athletes of Sindh province who belonged to different sports and varied in experience and level of participation. Questionnaire was validated through face and content validity. Cronbach Alpha reliability coefficients was used for each part which were 0.928 and 0.909 respectively for effect of molesting behavior on motivation and effect of molesting behavior on participation of female athletes. While the value of whole scale was 0.907.

**Instrument**

The 5-point Likert scale was used in research study. The questionnaire consisted three sections, the first part of questionnaire collected demographical information which included the questions about respondent name, level of study, university, age, major sports, level of current participation and number of year of participation whereas Second part was self-developed scale consisted of 13 items depicting effect of molesting behavior of male athlete on motivation of female athletes ranging from very much to never whereas Third section was consisted of 14 items showing effect of molesting behavior on participation of female athletes ranging from very much to never.

**Statistical Analysis**

SPSS 20 was used as a statistical tool and the results were analyzed through regression, coefficient, frequencies, percentages, mean and standard deviation.

**Results**

**Table 1. Demographical distribution of the respondents**

<i>Variables</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>
Age	18-21 Years	64
	22-25 Years	21
Level of Study	Undergraduate	69
	Graduate	03
	Post graduate	13
University	General	64
	Medical	9
	Engineering	9
	Business Administration	3
	Badminton	29
	Table Tennis	12
	Football	2
	Cricket	13
	Athletics	4
	Boxing	2

	Throw Ball	8
	Snow Hiking	3
	Wall Climbing	3
	Basketball	4
Participation	Taekwondo	1
In various	Hockey	2
Sports	Handball	2
	Inter-department	12
Participation level	Intervarsity	50
	Provincial	8
	National	15
Experience	1-3 years	37
	4-6 years	23
	7 and above	25

Table 1 shows female athletes with diverse background. The sample was distributed on the basis of age, level of study, university, their sports and experience. The significant number of female athletes represented each classification of demographical variables mentioned above.

**There is significant negative effect of molesting behaviors of male athletes on motivation of female athletes.**

**Table 2. Regression Model**

Model	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig.
1	.741 <sup>a</sup>	.549	.547	43.192	.000

Predictors: (Constant), Molesting Behaviors of Male Athletes

**Table 3. Coefficients Table**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
	(Constant)	.192	.374		.513	.000
1	Molesting Behaviors of Male Athletes	.666	.145	-.741	5.603	.000

Dependent Variable: Female Athletes' Sports Motivation

The above results showing that there is a negative variation between molesting behavior of male athlete upon female athletes' sports motivation. R<sup>2</sup> define; how much variation occurs in female athletes' sports motivation due to molesting behavior of male athletes. The researcher perceived from the data that 54.9 % change is taking in female athletes' sports motivation due to molesting behavior of male athlete. The data exposed that the molesting behavior of male athlete is negatively affecting the female athletes' sports motivation because the Standardized Coefficients beta value is negative ((β) = -.741). The coefficient table also confirmed from the B-value that one-unit increase in molesting behavior of male athlete then .666 variations will be an increase in the female athletes' sports motivation. At in this stage, the value of t is 5.603 which illustrate the significance of molesting behavior of male athlete upon female athletes' sports motivation because the significant level is also in range (P = .000 < .01) which is less than to the alpha level. The hypothesis is therefore accepted here.

**There is significant negative effect of molesting behavior of male athletes on participation of female athletes.**

**Table 4. Regression Model**

Model	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig.
1	.831 <sup>a</sup>	.690	.687	54.822	.000

Predictors: (Constant), Molesting Behavior of Male Athlete

Table 5. Coefficients Table

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.072	.460		2.328	.000
2 Molesting Behavior of Male Athletes	.319	.178	-.831	7.404	.000

Dependent Variable: Sports Participation of Female Athletes

Regression model and the coefficient table is showing the negative variation between molesting behavior of male athletes on participation of female athletes. R<sup>2</sup> conclude how much variation occurs in sports participation of female athlete due to molesting behavior of male athlete. The researcher perceived from the data that 69 % change is taking in sports participation of female athlete due to molesting behavior of male athlete. The data also revealed that the molesting behavior of male athletes is negatively affecting sports participation of female athlete because the Standardized Coefficients beta value is negative ((β) = -.892). The coefficient table also confirmed from the B-value that one-unit increase in molesting behavior of male athletes then .671 variations will be an increase in the participation of female athletes'. Here the value of *t* is 7.748 which illustrate the significance of molesting behavior of male athletes participation of female athlete because significant level is also in range (P = .000 < .01) which is less than to the alpha level. Thus, the hypothesis is therefore accepted here.

**Discussion**

The findings of present study specified that 60% female athletes appeared with the opinion that there is significant negative effect of molesting behavior athlete on participation of female athletes in sports. Baker and Terpstra (1993) argued that female students as being more inappropriate than their male colleague did not understand subtle forms of harassment. Initially Melnick (1992) drew attention of colleagues to study the connection between athletic participation and sexual misconducts. Male athletes were found involved. Melnick’s (1992) initiative was taken serious. In result the mid-1990s witnessed the expansion of study which revealed the rate of sexual violence against women which most often involving male athletes. Research signified greater ratio of male athlete offense of sexual misconduct similarly to non-athletes, criticism of the field, and preventing rape education programming and its impact with athletes. The existing study validated aforementioned research findings signifying that male and female athletes were extremely similar in their perception of inappropriate and appropriate coaching behaviors. Whereas, Fitzgerald and Shullman (1993) believed that female athletes are far more likely than male athletes’ assessing such behaviors as offensive. The findings revealed that Female athletes graded inappropriate behaviors. The study attempted to provide insights into molestation within the setting of public sector universities. Female respondents added that they encountered with unwanted behavior of male athletes which is based on different notions such as deliberate touch, sexually explicit conversation, talking about their figure and usually they received unacceptable signals .therefore 58 % of female respondents stated that male athletes are engaged in molesting behavior. Respondents further added that they mentioned them as the main perpetrator due to the rate of incidence for molestation in their sports career. Moreover they believed that molesting behavior did not only decline their level of motivation but impaired performance and limited their participation and They withdrew to participate as they struggled with the participation and they usually escaped from sports setting due to molesting behavior of peer athletes. They further added that their level of self-esteem was low when interacting with peer athletes as they encountered with molesting behavior.it confined them to home as they feel more safe and secure at home than outdoor or indoor settings of sports. participant’s responses exposed rate of sexual attitudes of male athletes for a date or sexual relations, sexy comments about their bodies, and the sexual looks indicated direct unpleasant behaviors against them Female participants spoke about their hesitant and withdrawn attitude towards participation in sports as seen or heard other peer female athletes who are no longer participating in sport after being molested by peer male athlete. Which did leave them with no option but quitting their passion it deteriorated their level of motivation and made them unconvinced to resume sports. Fasting et al (2000) reveals that previous studies recommend that female athletes are repeatedly harassed or molested by male athletes or authority effect negatively the

motivation and participation of female athletes. Specifically, participants feel underrated by sport personnel whereas male athletes sexualize female athletes' bodies. Still, these sex-based practices are more evident in sport settings.

### Conclusion

Conclusion of the study is based on the respondents' feedback and finding provided in this study which negative effect of molestation on female athlete motivation and participation the results are only confined to present study. It will not be generalized as it adopted snowball sampling.

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