

Investigation of Causes of Expression of Aggressive Behavior in Table Tennis super League Championship

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ABSTRACT

Everybody goes through some ups – and – downs and changes during his/her life. People's reactions to these changes are different, and their reactions can easily be recognized.

However many people deal with such changes and situations aggressively, without any second – thinking. This kind of behavior has a direct relationship with people's sense of failure and their inability to have a better reckoning and response.

In fact, their failure in achieving their goals leads to some defensive attitude and results in their nervous break – down. Therefore in such critical situation some draws on their defensive mechanism, such as aggressive response to get rid of this unpleasant situation.

The purpose of this research is to find out the reasons and effective factors of showing aggressive reactions in ping –pong super league championship. I am trying to show the coaches and players the suitable response in hard situations and how to recognize and stop their aggressive behavior a definite factor that weakens the quality of the game and stands a bad model for the young.

In this research, I chose a group of 30 tennis players, who were playing for 1385 ping – pong championship, and a group of 40 viewers.

A questionnaire about aggressive factors who distributed among them. The most important results that obtained from show the way the referee judges, the raise of competition level and of the game sensibility, and that players and the viewer's behavior affect the aggressive behavior of each other.

On the other hand, the presence of the player's family and media reporters has a good deal of impact on their behavior, that is they make the aggressive behavior grow less.

KEYWORDS: Aggressive Behavior, Table Tennis, super League Championship

INTRODUCTION

Study of human life shows that voluntary movement cannot be separate from human body and soul. There must be some kind of harmony among body organs and external objects so that human can defend himself or take step in moral values way. Undoubtedly, a healthy body influences on human soul. The Great Quran sees human a combination of soul and body and views body organs in harmony with each other.

Human life has had ups and downs during history. Human responds to these ups and downs. These responses are not the same in everyone. Sometimes, abnormal and unacceptable behaviors are expressed (8).

Philosophers, scientists and sages have emphasized on the unity of body and soul and believe that their link is inseparable. Chesterfield says: I learned by experience that relationship between mind and body is something more than a link and the link is usually out of knowledge. When one of these two suffers agony, the other also feels empathy. (1)

One of the unacceptable behaviors which many people express without thinking about it is aggressive behavior. War is a type of aggressive behavior. This phenomenon has direct relationship with individuals' intellectual inability or frustration. (9)

In fact, aggressive behavior is a childish and sometimes harmful and dangerous which brings new problems instead of solving problems. Although disagreement is a normal psychological response, it is more intense in some individuals which results in aggressive behavior. Human in many cases cannot achieve his/her expectations due to mental, physical, social and cultural limitations. This inability results in defensive posture and upsetting one's psychological balance and human uses defensive mechanisms like aggression in order get free of worries and problems. (2)

Aggressive behaviors not only influence on an individual's performance and behavior, but also it influences adversely on team players performance and morale in team contests and in severe cases, it results in playing quality decreases and defeat. Social sciences experts argue that sport is a reflection of society in its totality, therefore it is said that sport is a small world of a larger society.

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Unfortunately, aggressive behavior has been repeated by players many times and it is now an important issue in championships. Therefore, society must care about satisfying physical and spiritual health of teenagers and youths so that this class experiences less mental and physical pressures.

The present research aims to investigate the reasons and factors influencing on the expression of such behaviors in super league ping pong championship players and provide solutions for coaches and players in order to help prevent such behaviors and increase championship matches quality. (3)

Statement of the problem:

Investigation of sport behaviors reveals that some participants and especially players show abnormal behaviors like aggression and these results in psychological damage to opponent, the individual himself and it also reduces match quality. Cant believes that the necessary condition for ethics is presence of god.

Pier Docuberton, the founder of new Olympics games believes that religious belief is the root of ethics. He states in the book titled "along with sportsmen of all nations": we wanted to revive a 2500-years-old entity and match sport with religion which was based by our ancestors.

In 1902, Pier Docubertoncondemned lack of ethics in full of fanfare plays and stated that only fair and unbiased atmosphere can be followed by sport success. Factors like money, violence, cheating, politics, nationalism and doping will undermine sport institutional role gradually. (4)

In the present research, we try to study factors influencing on expression of aggressive behaviors in table tennis super league championship and provide some solutions in order to reduce such behaviors.

The motivation for selection of this topic is finding an answer to the question "whether aggression can be present in a sport like table tennis despite aggressive behaviors are expected to be limited to only some sports?"

The next motivation for conducting this research is that few studies have been conducted in this field in Iranian sport and it is a novel study. We expect to answer the following questions in this research:

- 1.whether factors like teams defeat and competition sensitivity influence on the expression of aggressive behaviors?
2. whetherthe rank of a team in ranking table influences and being host influence on expression of aggressive behaviors?
3. whetherthe level of physical health, and low skill of players influence on the expression of aggressive behaviors?
4. whether the behavior of opponent teams, presence of mass media and presence of family influence on the expression of aggressive behaviors?

Furthermore, many studies have been conducted in this field and some of the are referred to in the following sentences:

Volkamer (1971) conducted a research in Germany Football league and concluded that : loser teams commit more faults than winning teams. (16)

Falkner (1974) conducted a research in the form of interview with two hockeyteams members in American league. Results showed that players believe that when they respond to aggression attract others' attention and their teammates trust and respect. Their responses showed that they believe in aggression as a way of success. (15)

In 1970, Falkner proposed that aggression has negative influence on individual and team performance. (12)

Widmayer and Berch (1974) presented a curve for individual's aggression and success and stated that top university players were either severely aggressive or they did not show aggression at al. however, players who were not very top had a متعادل level of aggression.

Furthermore, they stated that the most aggression was observed in top players in defense line and the least level of aggression belonged to forward players. Successful defense line players were more aggressive than unsuccessful defense line playersand successful forwards had less aggression than unsuccessful forwards. (15)

Alberech (1979) showed that European handball teams had committed more faults in matches they won than losing teams. (20)

Widmayer and Berch (1979) showed that teams had more wins in hockey national league had more aggression. (13) Gil (1986) found a significant relationship between success in ice hockey and aggression. (15) Bucker et al (1990) found that aggression increases when teams lose, especially when the match is of great importance and sensitivity. (18)

Gaier (1990) investigated aggressive behaviors of winning and losing teams and concluded that there is not any important difference between these two groups. (17) Young (1993) referred to increase in unallowable aggressive behaviors and stated that over the recent years, there has been significant relationship between professionalism in sport and players' wage increase and aggression increase. (2) Leise (1991) and Cox (2002) referred to relationship between some factors like crowd aggression, point difference, defeat, opponent's aggression and weather temperature and aggression in sport competitions and found no significant relationship between team rank in table and success. (18, 19)

Research questions:

1. Whether weak referees' judgments result in table tennis spectators' expression of aggressive behaviors?
2. Whether weak referees' judgments result in table tennis players' expression of aggressive behaviors?
3. Whether host team's spectators' overcrowding results in opponent team players' expression of aggressive behaviors?
4. Whether host team's spectators' overcrowding results in opponent team spectators' expression of aggressive behaviors?
5. Whether increase in competition level and sensitivity of the match can result in expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis players?
6. Whether increase in competition level and sensitivity of the match can result in expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis spectators?
7. Whether opponent teams' players' behavior can result in stimulation and expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis players?
8. Whether opponent teams' players' behavior can result in stimulation and expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis spectators?
9. Whether the presence of players' family can result in reduction in aggressive behaviors of players?
10. Whether the presence of mass media (press, television, ...) can result in reduction in the expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis players?
11. Whether the presence of mass media (press, television, ...) can result in reduction in the expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis spectators?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Hence the researcher tries to investigate factors influencing on the expression of aggressive behavior in table tennis sport, field descriptive methodology and questionnaire was used as data collecting tool.

Participants included all table tennis male players who played in super league championship in 2006 and spectators included all individuals who were present in stadium and watched the match. 30 people of super league sportsmen and 40 people of spectators were selected as sample members.

Data collecting tool was a questionnaire under the name of investigation of factors influencing on aggressive behaviors. The questionnaire had questions about way of judging, sportsmen physical آمادگی, sportsmen defeat and frustration, competition sensitivity, team or individual's rank in ranking table, spectators' overcrowding, family presence, mass media presence, factors affecting on aggressive behaviors among sportsmen and spectators.

In order to conduct a descriptive analysis of data, descriptive statistics was used (frequency, percentage and cumulative percentage). Friedman test was also used to identify the most important factors influencing on the expression of aggressive behaviors and rank the factors.

Answers to the questions of research:

First question:

Whether weak referees' judgments result in table tennis spectators' expression of aggressive behaviors?

Friedman test was used to answer the above question. Table 1 shows the results of the mentioned test on the way of referees' judgments and its influence on expression of spectators' aggression.

Table 1. results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	-	-	-	-
Weak influence of variable (3)	4	10	10	10
Great influence of variable (5)	36	90	90	100

Results of the above table show that 90% of spectators believe that referees' way of judgment can have great influence on spectators' aggression. This variable is placed in the first rank in ranking table with a point equal to 8.26.

Second question:

Whether weak referees' judgments result in table tennis players' expression of aggressive behaviors?

Table 2.results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	-	-	-	-
Weak influence of variable (3)	8	26.7	26.7	26.7
Great influence of variable (5)	22	73.3	73.3	100

Results show that 73.3% of the players also believe that referees' way of judgment can have great influence on expression of aggressive behavior.

Third question:

Whether host team's spectators' overcrowding results in opponent team players' expression of aggressive behaviors?

Table 3.Results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	3	7.5	7.5	-
Weak influence of variable (3)	21	52.5	52.5	60
Great influence of variable (5)	16	40	40	100

Results show that most spectators (52.5%) believe that overcrowding can have small influence on their expression of aggressive behaviors.

Fourth question:

Whether host team's spectators' overcrowding results in opponent team players' expression of aggressive behaviors?

Table 4.Results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	8	26.7	26.7	26.7
Weak influence of variable (3)	15	50	50	76.7
Great influence of variable (5)	7	23.3	23.3	100

Results show that most players (50) believe that spectators' overcrowding has small influence on the expression of aggressive behaviors.

Fifth question:

Whether increase in competition level and sensitivity of the match can result in expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis players?

Table 5.results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	1	3.3	3.3	3.3
Weak influence of variable (3)	5	16.7	16.7	20
Great influence of variable (5)	24	80	80	100

Results show that 80% of the players believe that increase in competition and sensitivity level can result in more expression of aggressive behavior.

Sixth question:

Whether increase in competition level and sensitivity of the match can result in expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis spectators?

Table 6.Results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	-	-	-	-
Weak influence of variable (3)	7	17.5	17.5	17.5
Great influence of variable (5)	33	82.5	82.5	100

Results show that 82.5% of spectators believe that opponent team's players behavior has great influence on expression of aggressive behavior.

Seventh question:

Whether opponent teams' players' behavior can result in stimulation and expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis players?

Table 7.results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	1	3.3	3.3	3.3
Weak influence of variable (3)	7	23.3	23.3	26.7
Great influence of variable (5)	22	73.3	73.3	100

Results show that players also believe that opponent team's players' behavior also has great influence on their expression of aggressive behavior.

Eighth question:

Whether opponent teams' players' behavior can result in stimulation and expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis spectators?

Table 8.results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	1	3.3	3.3	3.3
Weak influence of variable (3)	12	40	40	43.3
Great influence of variable (5)	1	56.7	56.7	100

Results show that 56.7% of the players believe that the presence of players' families can result in reduction in their expression of aggressive behavior.

Ninth question:

Whether the presence of players' family can result in reduction in aggressive behaviors of players?

Table 9.results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	5	12/5	12/5	12/5
Weak influence of variable (3)	17	42/5	42/5	55
Great influence of variable (5)	18	45	45	100

Results show that 45% of spectators believe that the presence of mass media (press, TV, ...) results in reduction in expression of aggressive behavior.

Tenth question:

Whether the presence of mass media (press, television, ...) can result in reduction in the expression of aggressive behaviors of table tennis players?

Table 10.results of Friedman test

Rank	frequency	percentage	Percentage rank	Cumulative frequency
Lack of influence of variable (1)	1	3.3	3.3	3.3
Weak influence of variable (3)	7	23.4	23.4	26.7
Great influence of variable (5)	22	73.3	73.3	100

Results show that players also believe that the presence of mass media (press, TV, ...) can result in reduction of players' expression of aggressive behavior.

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

Results of the present research will be compared with other researchers' results in order to identify weak points and strengths.

Results of the first question analysis showed that way of judgment are effective in expression of aggressive behavior. This conclusion matches the results of Rashad Kialashaki (2000). He conducted a research titled "causes of expression of aggression in sport fields" and investigated the way of judgment influence on expression of aggressive behavior.

The second question analysis results showed that spectators overcrowding has small influence on expression of aggressive behavior. These results are slightly different from Vass (1972) and Cokly (1981) studies. They found that overcrowding has great influence on expression of aggressive behavior.

Results of the third question analysis showed that increase in competition and sensitivity level has great influence on expression of aggressive behavior. This result matches the results of Sharif research. He showed that competition sensitivity results in expression of aggressive behavior in boys who had taken part in summer camping.

Laplas also believes that matches sensitivity and level has influence on expression of aggressive behavior.

Results of the fourth question of the research showed that players and spectators' behaviors influence on expression of aggressive behavior. This conclusion matches the results of Rashad Kialashaki (2000), Bandura (1973) and Harel (1980) that showed that players and spectators' behaviors result in expression of aggressive behavior.

Results of the fifth question analysis showed that family presence has influence on expression of aggressive behavior. This matches the results of Tider and Rampie (1972) who found that family presence is effective in reduction of aggression.

Results of the sixth question analysis showed that the presence of mass media has influence on reduction of expression of aggressive behavior. This conclusion matches the results of Lanser (1966), Newman and Jones Card (1968).

Result showed that way of judgment, team defeat, competition sensitivity, overcrowding, learning through parents, being host, young age of spectators, influence positively on expression of aggressive behavior and presence of mass media, order and discipline, presence of family have influence on reduction of expression of aggressive behavior. It can be said that aggression is a socio-psychological state and its control depends on various factors. Furthermore, it must be mentioned that analyses show that aggression is aadventitious phenomenon like other social phenomena and environment and individuals can play important roles in this phenomenon. In other words, we can claim that the nature of different sports might be the reason why some sports have specific aggression characteristics.

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