

Should women be allowed to play against men with special reference to sports?

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ABSTRACT:

The question of whether women should be allowed to play sports against men is a complex issue. Traditionally men and women have played sports separately because physical differences. However, many people now believed that women should be having the opportunity to compete against men. This ongoing discussion opens up broader conversation about equity, representation and the evolving role of women in competitive sports, encouraging as rethinking traditional norms and striving for more inclusive and equitable sporting landscape, whether women should be allowed to play against men in competitive sports as sparked intense debate in recent years. Supporters argue that skill and talent should be the most important factors now genders.

INTRODUCTION:

This project is to know about the gender equality where women can also play the major roles against men. Nowadays, women's were also working in all fields as a teacher, employee, sports person, athlete, etc.... The society should give equal opportunities for the women to all to show their talents. Allowing women are play against men not only promotes fairness bus also enriches the competitive experience and shows the diverse range of women's skills and perspectives. Some people think its good idea because it includes everyone recognizes talent. Other thinks it's unfair because men and women have physical abilities.

This discussion is changing the way people think about women in sports. This approaches the individuals and ensures the women to show off their abilities and hard work.

METHODOLOGY:

1. Research design: Descriptive research.
2. Sample design: Convenience sampling.
3. Sample size: 204 respondents.
4. Period of study: 3 months.
5. Data collection:

Primary data - Structured questionnaire.

Secondary data- Journals and websites.

Tools to analysis- Percentage, Chi-square test, ANOVA

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

*Will women Athletes Ever Be Able to Compete with Men? Written by Heather Gray -Fact checked by Dana K. Cassell-Updated on March 16, 2022, According to research published in 2020: "In open-water long-distance swimming events of the 'Triple Crown of open Water Swimming' with the 'Catalina Channel was about 0.06 km/h faster than men in men.'" "Two main variables may explain why women can swim faster than men in open-water swimming events: 1) the long distance of around 30 km, 2) and water colder than 20 C.," researches concluded Ultra-cycling is another sport in which the longer the race, the better women do versus men.

*Branding in Women's women sports Author: Isabel Mills Established 1998 The purpose of this study was to explore the gaps in the branding literature as it pertains to women's sports. The purpose of this review was to provide a summary of sport management research conducted on branding in women's sports.

*A socio-ecological approach to understanding the experiences of women and girls playing male-dominated sports Author: Meghan Casey, Rochelle Rime & Hans Westerbeek: This study aimed to understand the experience of women and girls playing male-dominated sports through a gendered lens on the socio-ecological model. The study highlights that gendered factors shaped women's and girl's experiences at all levels. Club leadership valued women and girl's inclusion but resources were privileged.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To identify women should be allowed to play against males in sports
2. This study analysis the growth in women's participation in recent years in sports.
3. This study analysis the potential consequence of women competing against men in sports.

Analysis:**Table: 1 Democratic profile:**

Gender	No. of. Responses	Percentage
Female	173	84.8
Male	31	15.2
Total	204	100.0
Age	No. of. Responses	Percentage
Below 18	100	49.0
19-29	79	38.7
30-50	16	7.8
Above 50	9	4.4
Total	204	100.0
Monthly Income	No. of. Responses	Percentage
Below 20000	123	60.3
21000-30000	44	21.6
31000-45000	10	4.9
Above 45000	27	13.2
Total	204	100.0
Class of courses	No. of. Responses	Percentage
Student	76	37.3
UG	86	42.2
PG	16	7.8
Employee	19	9.3
Professional	7	3.4
Total	204	100.0

- From the above table, it is inferred out of 204 respondents 84.8%of people belong to female and 15% of people belong to male.
- From the above table, it is inferred out of 204 respondents 49% of people belong to the age group of Below 18, 38.7% of people belong to the age group of 19-29, 7.8% of people belong to the age group of 30-50, 4% of people belong to the age group of above 26.

- From the above table, it is inferred out of 204 respondents 60% of respondents family members are earnings below 20000, 21.6% of respondents family members are earnings 21000-30000, 13% of respondents family members are earnings 31000-45000, 5% of respondents family members are earnings above 45000.
- From the above the table it is inferred out of 204 respondents 42% of students studying UG, 37% of studying students, 9% of people employees, 7% of students studying PG, 3% of people professionals.

Table:2 The main argument in favor of women playing against men in sports.

Main arguments	No. of. responses	Percentage
Physical strength and speed	110	53.9
Equality and inclusivity	72	35.3
Financial benefits	18	8.8
Media attention	4	2.0
Total	204	100.0

From the above table it is inferred out of 204 respondents 54% of respondents said that physical strength and speed is main argument, 35.3% of respondents of said that equality and inclusivity, 8.8% of respondents said financial benefits, 2% of respondents only said that media attention is the argument of women play against men in sports.

Table:3 Sport has been at the forefront of the debate about women competing against men.

Sports	No. of. responses	Percentage
Football	83	40.7
Basketball	52	25.5
Tennis	58	28.4
Golf	11	5.4
Total	204	100.0

From the above table, it is inferred out of 204 respondents 40.7% of people said that football, 28.4% of people said that tennis, 25.5% of people said that basketball, 5.4% of people said that golf.

Table:4 Potential disadvantage for women competing against men in sports.

Disadvantages	No. of. responses	Percentage
Lack of experience	60	29.4
Limited resources	95	46.6
Physical resources	49	24.0
Total	204	100.0

From the above table, it is inferred out of 204 respondents 46.6% of people said that limited resources, 29.4% of people said that lack of experience, 24.0% of people said that physical resources.

Table: 5 Potential benefits of women competing against men in sports.

Potential benefits	No. of responses	Percentage
Increased prize money	43	21.2
Improved media coverage	75	36.9
Enhanced athletic performance	62	30.5
Greater equity and inclusivity	24	11.3
Total	204	100.0

From the above table, it is inferred out of 204 respondents 36.9% of people said that improved media coverage, 30.5% of people said that enhanced athletic performance, 21.2% of people said that increased prize money, 11.3% of people said that greater equity and inclusivity.

Table: 6 should skill and talent outweighs physical differences in sports competitions?

Particulars	No. Of responses	Valid Percent
Yes, absolutely	56	27.5
No, physical attributes are essential	61	29.9
Only for specific sports	59	28.9
Not sure	28	13.7
Total	204	100.0

The survey results on opinions regarding women competing against men in athletics show a diverse range of views. Among the 204 respondents, 29.9% believe that physical attributes are essential, making them opposed to the idea. Conversely, 27.5% fully support women competing against men. Additionally, 28.9% think it should be allowed only for specific sports, indicating a more conditional acceptance. A smaller portion, 13.7%, remain unsure. The distribution of responses suggests a lack of strong consensus, with opinions fairly divided on this issue.

Chi-square Test:**Table: 7**

Ho is accepted. Hence there is a significant association between Primary arguments in favor of women separate men's and women's sports leagues and are there sports where gender doesn't impact performance significantly.

Primary arguments in favor of women separate men's and women's sports leagues and are there sports where gender doesn't impact performance significantly	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.107(a)	9	.427
Likelihood Ratio	9.579	9	.386
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.413	1	.235
N of Valid Cases	204		

a 2 cells (12.5%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.08. Since the asymptotic value is more than 0.05. Hence, H_0 is accepted. Hence there is a significant association between Primary arguments in favor of women separate men's and women's sports leagues and are there sports where gender doesn't impact performance significantly.

Table: 8

H_0 is accepted. Hence there is a significant association between the landmark discrimination in education programs including athletics and forefront of the debate about women competing against men.

He landmark discrimination in educational programs including athletics and forefront of the debate about women competing against men	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.869(a)	9	.361
Likelihood Ratio	9.630	9	.381
Linear-by-Linear Association	.045	1	.832
N of Valid Cases	204		

- 4 cells (25.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 1.62. Since the asymptotic value is more than 0.05. Hence, H_0 is accepted. Hence there is a significant association between the landmark discrimination in education programs including athletics and forefront of the debate about women competing against men.

ONE-WAY ANOVA.

Table: 9

H_0 : There is no significant difference among the mean scores of differences between age and same rules for men and women in sports ensure fairness

H1: There is no significant difference in the mean score difference between age and same rules for men and women in sports ensure fairness

Age and same rules for men and women in sports ensure fairness	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	4.974	3	1.658	1.636	.182
Within Groups	202.713	200	1.014		
Total	207.686	203			

Since table value 0.182 more than 0.05 the H0 is accepted at 5% level of significance. Hence it is concluded that there is no significant difference among the mean score of differences between

Age and same rules for men and women in sports ensure fairness.

Table: 10

H0: There is no significant difference among the mean scores of differences between gender ender and women compete against men, should performance metrics be adjusted.

H1: There is no significant difference in the mean score difference between gender and women compete against men, should performance metrics be adjusted.

Gender and women compete against men, should performance metrics be adjusted.	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.299	1	.299	.327	.568
Within Groups	184.681	202	.914		
Total	184.980	203			

Since table value 0.568 more than 0.05 the H0 is accepted at 5% level of significance. Hence it is concluded that there is no significant difference among the mean score of differences between Gender and women compete against men, should performance metrics be adjusted.

Table: 11

H0: There is no significant difference among the mean scores of differences between age and think mixed-gender sports will help reduce gender

H1: There is no significant difference in the mean score difference between Age and think mixed-gender sports will help reduce gender

Age and think mixed-gender sports will help reduce gender	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	5.229	3	1.743	2.439	.066
Within Groups	142.943	200	.715		
Total	148.172	203			

Since table value 0.066 less than 0.05 the H0 is rejected at 5% level of significance. Hence it is concluded that there is significant difference among the mean score of differences between Age and think mixed-gender sports will help reduce gender

Findings:

- 84.8% of the female respondents have responded for this project.
- 91% of the respondents were at the age of 19-29.
- 91% of the female respondents have responded for this project.
- 94% of the respondents' family earning monthly income below 20000.
- 58% of the respondents were students.
- 62% of the respondents were people critics limited resources is potential disadvantage of women play against men.
- 40% of the respondents were saying physical difference is the primary argument against women playing against men in sports.
- 37% of respondents were said lack of skills is the common concern about women playing in sports.
- 40.7% of the respondents said that football is sport has been at the forefront of the debate about women competing against men.
- 46.6%of the respondents were said limited resources are potential disadvantage for women competing against men in sports.
- 46% of the respondents were improving athletic performance potential consequences of women sports.

Suggestion:

- Allowing women to compete against men in sports where it's feasible can promote gender equality and challenge traditional gender roles in sports.
- In some sports, the inherent physical differences between men and women, such as strength, speed, and size, can create an unfair advantage for men, potentially making mixed-gender competition unfair.
- In sports where skill and technique are more important than physical strength, such as shooting or fencing, mixed-gender competition could be more appropriate.
- In sports like weightlifting or powerlifting, the physical differences between men and women are large, making mixed-gender competition unlikely to be fair.

Conclusion:

In many sports and activities, women already compete alongside or against men, and this inclusion often promotes a more diverse and competitive environment. Ensuring equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, fosters a more inclusive and competitive landscape. The society should give equal opportunities for women to all to show their talents. Some people think it's good idea because it includes everyone recognizes talent. Other thinks it's unfair because men and women have physical abilities. This discussion is changing the way people think about women in sports.

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