A study of the Students’ Participation Motive in High School Sports Club

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to explore students’ participation motive in High school sports club in a qualitative research manner.

The research participants included 15 High school students who joined the sports club. The research was performed by means of conducting one-to-one deep interview through semi-structured questionnaires. The interview data was analyzed in combination with field notes and focus group interview data to construct a mental process of the High school students in joining the sports club by utilization of a grounded theory approach.

The semi-structured questionnaire consists of three parts. First part had warm-up questions including the participants’ information. Second part was to understand why the High school students joined the sports club. Third part focused on issues related to the participation in sports club, including the motive for the participation, what made competent sport clubs, and what kind of psychological feeling with the past or future.

The results showed that: there were four high-order topics of the students for joining the sports clubs, namely Self-Demand, Social Support, Interpersonal Interaction and Self-Actualization. The Self-Demand contains four low-order topics; interest, pressure resistance promotion, physical fitness promotion and focus promotion. The Social Support contains three low-order topics; peer influence, family support and teacher support. The Interpersonal Interaction contains the two low-order topics; mutual cooperation and respect. Finally, the Self-Actualization contains the two low-order topics; inspiration of potency and sense of accomplishment.

It was concluded that the High school students joined the sports club due to meeting the self-demand, being influenced by the social support, suffering from the interpersonal interaction with good learning students, and inspiring the possibility of self-actualization. Further research should explore the different sports club student’s motivation.

**Key words:** motivation, qualitative research