How Participation of Able-bodied Females in the Women’s Wheelchair Basketball Teams Fosters Reverse Inclusion

Donnelly (1996), Giddens (1997) and Sage (1987) define a sport as a cultural phenomenon that is often viewed as a product and a reflection of society. Women, members of ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities have been excluded or allowed limited access to sports. Given the similarity in the patterns of exclusion or limited acceptance due to culture, gender, ethnicity, class, or disability affiliation (DePauw, 1997; Karwas and DePauw, 1990), individuals from these groups can be considered as “outside” of a particular culture or society, or marginalized (e.g., Hughes, 1949; Park, 1928). This research examined how participation of Able-bodied Females in Women’s Wheelchair Basketball Teams Fosters Reverse Inclusion. Additional questions explored include: what are the benefits of participation in women’s wheelchair basketball teams that support reverse inclusion and what are the consequences of not encouraging reverse inclusion in women’s wheelchair basketball teams? The majority of the females interviewed that participated in the research described in this literature review stated that they do not look at the differences and disabilities of others. Principally they are looking to have a good competition on the court.

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