

# THE CHILDREN PERCEPTION ABOUT SPORT AND THE EDUCATED PARENTS IMPACT ON THEIR PARTICIPATION IN SPORT

**Artan Bushati**

University of Shkodra, Faculty of Education Science, Albania  
E-mail: artan\_bushati@yahoo.com

## **Abstract**

Previous research has shown that parental influence is critical for children in establishing health norms and in learning to make health- and sport related decisions (Petchers, Hirsch & Bloch, 1987). The aim of this study is to examine parents' and children perception about sport and to investigate how parents' education level impacts children's participation in sport. A four question questionnaire was used for this purpose 600 subjects, 300 childrens of the age 9-14 years old that were engaged in football answered three questions of the questionnaire and 300 fathers of the age 30-58 years old with different education level, answered only the fourth question. Children results show that 51% want to became good players (13% fun; 5% fun/health; 4.6% fun/education; 5.3% fun/good player; 10.6% fun/health/education; 4.6% education; 4.6% health). Parents results (low education level) show that they encourage their children's to participate in sport. Also parent's (high-school education) results show that 53% encourage their children's to engage in sport (64.2% good player 14% education; 3.5% education/good player; 7.1% fun; 3.4% fun/good player; 7.1% health). Also parents (university level) results reveal that they encourage their children's to engage in sport (25.2%, a good player 14.2% fun; 19.7% education; 7.6% education/health/good player; 15.3% for health; 3.3% for fun/good player; 7.6% fun/education/health/good player; 5.4% for fun/health). Most of the parents with low and high-school education level encourage their children to engage in sport and to become good players because they see sport as a future tool for they economical increase. In the other side university education level parents encourage their children to engage in sport mostly for education fun and health because maybe they see their child education future in another direction.

*Key words: children perceptions, parent influence, sport decisions, health education, participation in sport.*