

The barriers to promote female athletes in Khuzestan Premier League

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Abstract: The main objective of this research was to identify the barriers to promote female athletes in Khuzestan Premier League. Given the lack of proper tools to investigate the barriers, a questionnaire was first designed and its validity was evaluated in three stages. In the first step, after literature review, semi-structured interviews were conducted with female athletes and a primary questionnaire with 62 items was prepared. After review by the research team, the overlapping items were removed and finally 54 items were identified. In the second step, exploratory factor analysis was used to reduce the number of items and to identify more relevant items. Removing 8 items, 46 items remained and classified in 9 main factors. In the third step, the validity of the structure and test was evaluated by partial least squares method. Confirmatory factor analysis was conducted to verify the validity. The results showed that the 8-factor model fits better than the other models. Accordingly, 8 main factors with 43 questions were identified as barriers to the promotion of female athletes in Khuzestan province to the top sports ranks including gender and culture, costs and career, community impact, gender inequality in sports organizations, corruption in sports organizations, management factors, technical factors and gender attitudes.

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Introduction

Women as half of society and as the pivot family plays an increasingly influential role in all aspects of society. In this regard, Islam has a special focus on women. This means that reserved a special place for women in the family, which is emphasized by their activities in all social fields, while maintaining the dynamic of Islamic affairs. Undoubtedly, physical education and sports as an effective educational tool that ensures the physical and mental health of women and mothers and health of future generations is emphasized and confirmed. In many societies, women face with problems such as not having access to educational opportunities equal to men (Guy, 2011), unequal employment opportunities, poverty and income inequality (McKay, 2011) stress and multiple role of family and conflicts in the roles that physical education and sport can be added to it (Acosta, Karpnr, 2010). Women's sport and need to its development discuss the management in women's sport, our countries as muslim country also should promote sport among the women offer an active model of Muslim women's sports in the world. The status of women's sports and women's participation in sports reflects the political and social situation in the country. So policies regarding to women's sports have a global reflection for Islamic Republic of iran.

This time, though obstacles were different but the former height (Rahman, 1385. After the Islamic Revolution because of the importance of religious issues, the environment of women and men's sport were isolated. And the women's sports and its coaching and its supervision to be entrusted to women. And the less experienced crisis caused by the lack of women in management and records management as well as lack of skilled manpower and facilities and most importantly as a coach (Allahyari, 1390). The points which is siad are only the part of problems that women are facing with them. As we see, scholars, educators still consider sport as a source for men's roles, So corrosive that competitive mental image of sport is not coordinate with social model which is drawn for the women. The family commitments burden on women, As well as cultural or religious norms in many societies, women should stay at home and And believe that exercise will remove them from their tenuity and make them strong and muscular (O'Brien, 2008). In today's society, however, claim equality of the sexes in social and human rights are not acceptable to an overwhelming, but there is a great distance between intellectual acceptance and its implementation in practice. Social pressures on women in some parts of the country is greater, including khuzestan province that has

traditional context. A set of attitudes, insights and everything which is known as normal or abnormal limit women to act according their social environment abilities and cultural beliefs. The women of Khuzestan province in spite of all the limitations and social problems, are talented and active in sports. It must be said that in 6000 female athletes in clubs across the province are engaged in sports activities. Futsal is the first field in province. After success of Khuzestan's women in the Premier League and could win races in the country, six of them participated in national team and this time with the national team were champions of Asia. It should be noted that because of the veil of Iranian decent athletes, Television of Malaysia doesn't show the games. Already in 2008, women's soccer Olympic qualifying countries were excluded for the same reason (Gulf News). Factors such as lack of responsibility towards women's sport in the province, Failure to allocate special places for women's activity, Financial constraints, lack of female coaches and international specialists in the province Empty promises and hollow Federation, Lack of talent identification camps in the province, Disorganization and counting importance of women's sports and even air pollution are barriers to the advancement of women in sport (Women Sport Development Department of Khuzestan Province, 1394). As in the case of sports equipment 31 sports venues have been constructed for females, but it's not in the hands of them. And women can use only 4-3 hours per day and it is better for women to take the management of this place (Naseri Moghadam, 1394). However, despite the potentials of sports, High motivation, support of Khuzestan's families of female athletes The status of women's sports in the province is not acceptable level of sport and we see that national team athletes Khuzestan have a slight presence in the country, The situation of medals is very weak and requires essential planning. Due to the poor condition of the medal in province and climb to the top ranks of national teams The researcher plans to answer the question that which are the major obstacles to the promotion of female athletes are the Premier League in the province?

Research Methodology

In the present study due to the lack of tools to examine the obstacles, the researchers sought to identify barriers to the promotion of female athletes to develop and validate the province's questionnaire in this regard. This research was conducted in three parts. In the first part after the study of literature semi-structured in-depth interviews with female athletes League was done. During interviews were upgraded their view about barriers and interviews continued until theoretical saturation and finally was stopped after 10 interviews and identified 62 items. Then the set of identified items were reviewed by research team

and In addition to studying the form and content research tool, items that were overlapping removed and finally 54 items remained. Then in the next step exploratory factor analysis was used in order to reduce the number of variables. Exploratory Factor Analysis by grouping together related variables, summarizes the data. This is often used in the early stages of research as part of the manufacturing process tools. Factor analysis is usually required number of subjects in relation to the number of variables that are measured. Basically, the number of men (subjects) should always be more than the number of variables. 54 items identified in the previous step in the form of a questionnaire with the whole five-item Likert (1 = strongly disagree, 5 = strongly agree) were set and After studying the form and content by experts (12 = N) were distributed among female athletes in Rāmhormoz, Mahshahr and Behbahan. From 270 questionnaires are distributed. Finally, 255 complete questionnaires were collected that according to the above explanation seems appropriate sample size. In the second phase, to verify the validity, after determining the size of the population (280 N) and validity, content validity of the questionnaire by experts in sports management (12 = n), using random sampling Inventory questionnaire in the previous step with demographic factors among female athletes in sports leagues Province (in Ahvaz, Abadan, Mahshahr, Rāmhormoz) were distributed. Among female athletes from 220 questionnaires distributed, 202 completed questionnaires were collected.

Results

In exploratory factor analysis for the analysis of 54 raw questionnaire items, the main elements of vertical and analysis with rotation varimax technique was used. KMO index was equal to 0.761 which represents a sampling adequacy. This index can obtain value between 0 and 1, If it is 0.5 or more, the number of data is suitable for factor analysis (Williams, Ansman and Brown, 2010). By exploratory factor analysis and round vertical 9 main cause was identified. Criteria taking into account the time of each factor varies from one study to another study. In this study by removing the items which are less than 5/0, 46 items were achieved and 8 items are removed. These 9 factors in total 154/71% of the variance factors affecting female athletes which is the reasonable amount.

Table 1. Barriers to the development of women's sport in the province

Factor	Percentage
Factor 1	67/11%
Of the total variance	
9. fear of academic failure	57/8/0

10. Fear of the future sports career and retirement.678/0

11. The lack of funding for professional life through sport and the Championship.712/0

12. inability to pay top female athletes in the sport of champions.656/0

25. lack of talent identification programs for women's sport in the province.534/0

26. lack of use of psychologists in the province athletes.587/0

37. lack of training camps for female athletes Province.540/0

38. weaknesses and irregularities in women's sports programs Province.563/0

Factor 2

980/9%

Of the total variance

14. The lack of media coverage of women's sports competitions Broadcasting Khuzestan province. 713/0

15. underrepresentation of women viewers in Sports. 656/0

16. attention towards the success of women's sport in the province. 737/0

17. attention to the sporting success of women's sports officials in Khuzestan province. 760/0

18. State media attention to female athletes Heroes (TV and radio, newspapers, websites. 805/0

19. unwillingness organizations have invested in women's sports teams.747/0

8. Create violence andMen's mood. 581/0

Factor 3

735/8%

Of the total variance

13. negligence physiological weakness and self-handicapping in female athletes. 572/0

36. unfamiliarity with the ability of athletes of other provinces609/0

40. The lack of technical skills in women coaches Province751/0

41. low knowledge of women judges with sport rules.

42. Low monitoring the work of judges of Province.

47. low attention to ethical standards among female coaches ofProvince.

Factor 4

344/8%

Of the total variance

27. The lack of financial supportin sports insurance of athletes.

28. Customer relationships based on levels of corruption and governance of the city and province.

29. Customer relationships based on the level of corruption and the rule of Sport and Youth offices of Khuzestan.

30. Customer relationships based on the level of corruption and the rule of sports federations.

Factor 5

209/7%

Of the total variance

21. giving attention of authorities to numbers of specific sports and neglect the others.

22. The lack of dedicated facilities and equipment appropriate to women's sports.

23. low funding for women's sports league in the province.

Factor 6

977/6%

Of the total variance

2. low tendency of families to let the girls be at camp or sports.

4. w5. Multi-responsibility of women (treating a husband, parenting, house chores)earing hijab and preservation of Islamic affairs.

6. championship sports seen as masculine in culture of Province.

Factor 7

688/6%

Of the total variance

49. Limit the use of full-time coaches for sports teams females.

50. weakness and disorganization in training sessions.

51. not enough and fixed time for exercise.

52. Failure to implement of provincial programs with sports federations Calendar.

53. low monitor on doping tests in sports competition for women.

54. Failure to fulfill the promise of financial and contract.

Factor 8

997/5%

Of the total variance

43. inability to attract foreign female coach.

45. low trust of athletes to professional female insted of men.

46. sexist view to sports.

48. Restrictions on Non-religious relationships and physical contact with male coach.

Factor 9

549/5%

Of the total variance

31. Lack of effective managers woman in the province.

32. In introducing the weakness and negligence staff sports federations, athletes and national teams.

34. Follow the rights of athletes from the Board of Khuzestan Province.

35. transparency of the selection process of athletes in the Federation.

In order to examine the construct validity, confirmatory factor analysis was used. For this purpose, 220 questionnaires were distributed among female athletes leagues province and 202 completed

questionnaires were collected. Over 90% of respondents were between the ages of 16 to 35 years old. And on average were about $216/3 \pm 8$ years sports. More than 80% of them had a bachelor's degree and less. And more than 90% of respondents are single, over 80% of them were unemployed, means that they don't have any job just sport. And more than 90 percent have deployed overseas. Of the 202 participants in this study were 175 patients with a history of champions. Over 53% of respondents, had the history of winning at the provincial level and 28% of respondents had history of national heroes, the Asian and worldwide. The findings show that many elite female athletes and athletic fields in Khuzestan province (swimming, karate, tennis, basketball, badminton, taekwondo, football, volleyball, aerobics, Vshvv, gymnastics, rowing) have participated in this study. In order to conduct confirmatory factor analysis, according to the questionnaire and the results of exploratory factor analysis and factor models 9 and 8 factors were evaluated. And identified, seven-factor model is better than other models. 8 main factor (with 43 questions) as barriers to the promotion of female athletes to top sports Khuzestan province, including gender and culture (5 questions), 2) costs and job prospects (6 questions), 3) community treatment (5 questions), 4) gender inequality in sports organizations (6 questions) 5) corruption in sport organizations (5), 6) agents (6 questions), 7) Technical factors (6 questions) and 8) thought of Sex (the three questions) were identified. Model for measuring the partial least squares method. First, the reliability is measured by three criteria: 1) Cronbach's alpha, 2) reliability combined 3) factor loadings coefficients. Then examine the convergent and divergent validity, Classical criteria to assess reliability and Cronbach's alpha measure is considered appropriate to assess the internal consistency. Mouse (1998) about the variable with limited number of questions, Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 6/0 as the border have introduced.

Table (2) The reliability of the 8 elements

Of 8 Cronbach's alpha coefficient (a) Composite reliability

(CR) The average variance extracted (AVE)

Gender and Culture

Costs and job prospects

Community treatment

Gender inequality in sports organizations

Corruption in sports organizations

Management factors

Technical factors

Image of gender

In Table 3 items related to the eight factors, load factor and t values corresponding to each been reported.

Table (3) The load factor and t values corresponding to each of the items.

Of 8 Number items related to a factor of 8 times the amount of t.

Gender and Culture

1 Tendecy of Khuzestan families toward the girls at camp or sports trip 830/0 567/19

2 wearing hijab and preservation of Islamic affairs 883/0 863/21

3 multi-responsibility of women (treating a husband, parenting, house chores) 518/0 124/4

5 Men's violence and mood 562/0 415/3

38 looking gender in sports 666/0 845/9

Costs and job prospects

6 fear of academic failure 513/0 819/4

7 Fear of the future sports career and retirement 783/0 221/18

8 lack of funding for professional life through sport and the championship 835/0 857/21

9 inability to pay top female athletes in the sport of champions 661/0 428/8

22 Lack of financial support from athletes in 22 sports insurance 732/0 832/19

46 Failure to fulfill the financial promises and contract 521/0 234/5

Community treatment

11 The lack of media coverage of women's sports competitions Broadcasting Khuzestan Province 715/0 053/11

12 spectators underrepresentation of women in sports competition 700/0 501/8

13 little attention to the success of women's sport in the province 716/0 103/10

15 little media attention in the Champions female athletes (radio and television, newspapers, websites, etc.) 714/0 745/11

16 organizations wanting to invest in women's sports team and you're 670/0 898/8

Gender inequality in sports organizations

14 sports officials of Khuzestan attention to women's sport success 600/0 885/7

17 special care officials in several sports and neglect of other disciplines 722/0 959/10

18 The lack of dedicated facilities and equipment appropriate to women's sports 760/0 855/9

19 Low funding for women's athletics in the province 686/0 to 950/6

20 lack of talent programs for women's sport in the province 477/0 509/2

28 Unfollow rights of athletes from the province of Khuzestan 723/0 359/11

Corruption in sports organizations

23 corruption and governance criteria relations in the city and province level delegations 890/0 508/23

24 Customer relationships based on the level of corruption and the rule of Sport and Youth offices Khuzestan Province 900/0 852/32

25 Customer relationships based on the level of corruption and the rule of sports federations 868/0 976/28

27 weakness and negligence delegations of athletes and sports federations in the province of national teams 847/0 992/23

29 sports federations 795/0 074/21 transparency of the selection process

Management factors

21 non-use of psychologists in the province athletes 548/0 050/6

26 Lack of effective managers woman in 513/0 614/4

30 unfamiliarity with the ability of athletes to other provinces 726/0 486/12

31 Low training camps for female athletes Province 814/0 339/29

32 weaknesses and irregularities in the sports competitions program for women in 698/0 721/6

44 provincial non-implementation by sports federations calendar 580/0 284/4

45 low monitoring on doping test in sport competitions for women

511/0 508/3

Technical factors

33 weak technical skills of women coaches Province 767/0 079/9

34 Low female referees familiar with the rules of the sports day

565/0 071/5

36 inability to attract foreign female coach 416/0502/2

Low of 41 full-time coaches for sports teams females 470/0 762/3

42 weakness and disorganization in training sessions 792/0 849/8

43 not a fixed time for exercise

778/0 225/9

Image of gender

4 championship sports seen as masculine in our culture Province 541/4 792/0

10 physiological weakness in female athletes 642/0 805/2

37 self-help to a professional female athletes to male 555/0 413/2

As we can see in the above table the load factor of questions are more than 4.0 which is demonstrated the suitability of this measure T values obtained for all of the questions that is more than 96.1 suggests a significant impact on the confidence level of is 95/0 all the questions.

Table (4) The validity of the model by Fornell and Larcker

Commercial Sex

And

Culture Clash costs and job prospects of gender inequality in organizations of corruption in sports organizations management of technical factors thought of their gender

Gender and Culture 706/0

Costs and job prospects 419/0 685/0

Clash of society 137/0 631/0 703/0

Gender inequality in organizations

Sport 142/0 611/0 414/0 668/0

Corruption in sport organizations 008/0 518/0 010 / 0-322/0 860/0

Management factors 244/0 670/0 054/0 413/0 521/0 636/0

Technical factors 367/0 367/0 051/0 128 / 0- 246 / 0-582/0 649/0

The image of their gender 623/0 069 / 0- 301 / 0- 108 / 0- 069 / 0- 236/0 160/0 670/0

According to research findings, the questionnaire is designed with reliability and validity.

Discussion and conclusion

This study consider the barriers to women's athletics in the way of sport Championship in province. In order to examine barriers to the promotion of women's sports league players it requires a valid and appropriate reliable instrument by using the results of exploratory factor analysis, by removing the 8 questions from the questionnaire of 54 questions and 46 questions remaining, eight main factors: Gender and Culture (5), 2) costs and job prospects (6 questions) 3) treatment of (5), 4) gender inequality in sports organizations (6 questions) 5) corruption in sport organizations (5), 6) agents (6 questions), 7) Technical factors (6 questions) and 8) Image of their sex (3 questions) in Khuzestan province were identified as barriers to the promotion of sports female athletes. Lack of willingness of families to the presence of girls in the camps a few responsibility of women, gender and violence in sports and the mood of men, are factors in gender and cultural. Naghdi and et al (1390) consider the role of physiological factors inhibiting women's reluctance to competitive sports effective in a study. Physiological barriers that are related to physiological characteristics of female athletes are including the impact of exercise on muscles, hormones, body shape and body's natural cycle of women. The fear of these effects, always have been an obstacle in women's athletics. Culture by the mass media, communication officials with families, couples and psychological support to the success of female athletes and their glory will be effective, low

attention in comparison with the achievements of female athletes and sports officials the importance of multidisciplinary special sports officials and the neglect of other disciplines, the lack of dedicated facilities and equipment appropriate to women's sports. Low funding for women's sports championship. Lack of talent, and lack of follow-up by the sports rights of athletes Khuzestan province is the effective factor in inequality gender in sports organizations. Unfortunately, our sports administrators are trying to capitalize on sports teams filling two men. So more attention to women's athletics in the fund, dedicated to all sports programming in the province can be effective in improving the performance of athletic women. Corruption and rule on Customer Relations in the province, Sports federations and youth and sports departments, Weakness and negligence Sports Bureau province in order to introduce athletes to national teams, Transparency of the selection process of athletes in the Federation is an important factor in Corruption of sports organizations. Factors such as lack of psychologists in the athletes, lack of efficient administrators woman in the province, the ability of the athletes' lack of familiarity with other provinces, lack of training camps, weakness and disorder in females, sports, not matching provincial programs with sports federations Calendar, low monitor the doping tests in sports for women, the barriers identified in the management area. Lack of technical skills in women coaches Province, low familiarity of the women coaches with the rules of date to date sport, Inability to attract foreign female coaches,, underutilization of full-time coaches for sports teams females, weakness and disorganization in the practice sessions, lack of constant and proper time to practice, are the factors affecting technical barriers. Considered

sport as an activity of men in society Self-handicapping physiological weakness and negligence in female athletes and less trust to a professional female athletes instead of women is one of the factors in the image of the gender. by empowerment of women in order to increase self-awareness, as well as the culture of the most original and at the same time is the best way to change the current situation, Can provide fertile ground for the growth and promotion of women's athletics. Despite with all the potential of sport, it has a world of big and small problems that one of them is lack of sponsors. In fact, researchers in different sports in order to achieve the championship Information they have done extensive studies studying the time structure of sports, Physiological study, anthropometric, Psychological and mood outstanding athletes, reason of injury in sports, the relationship between the different variables Sports, Providing outstanding athletes profile, and comparison athletes at Championship level and lower levels are Examples of studies in sports championship (Marcus, 2009). Of course there are problems and other obstacles in the path of female athletes that identify and review all of them cannot be included in this study. But the important thing is that in order to fix it, requires effort to be felt by all members of the community, That in the meantime, the main task is on the shoulders of women that with effort and persistence to prove their ability and competency in this area. Recognizing the need and obstacles to the promotion of sports female athletes will help planners to make effective decisions and avoid of impractical planning unenforceable and unreasonable programs. It is hoped that with timely and appropriate support and investment, paving the way of further growth and development of women's athletics.

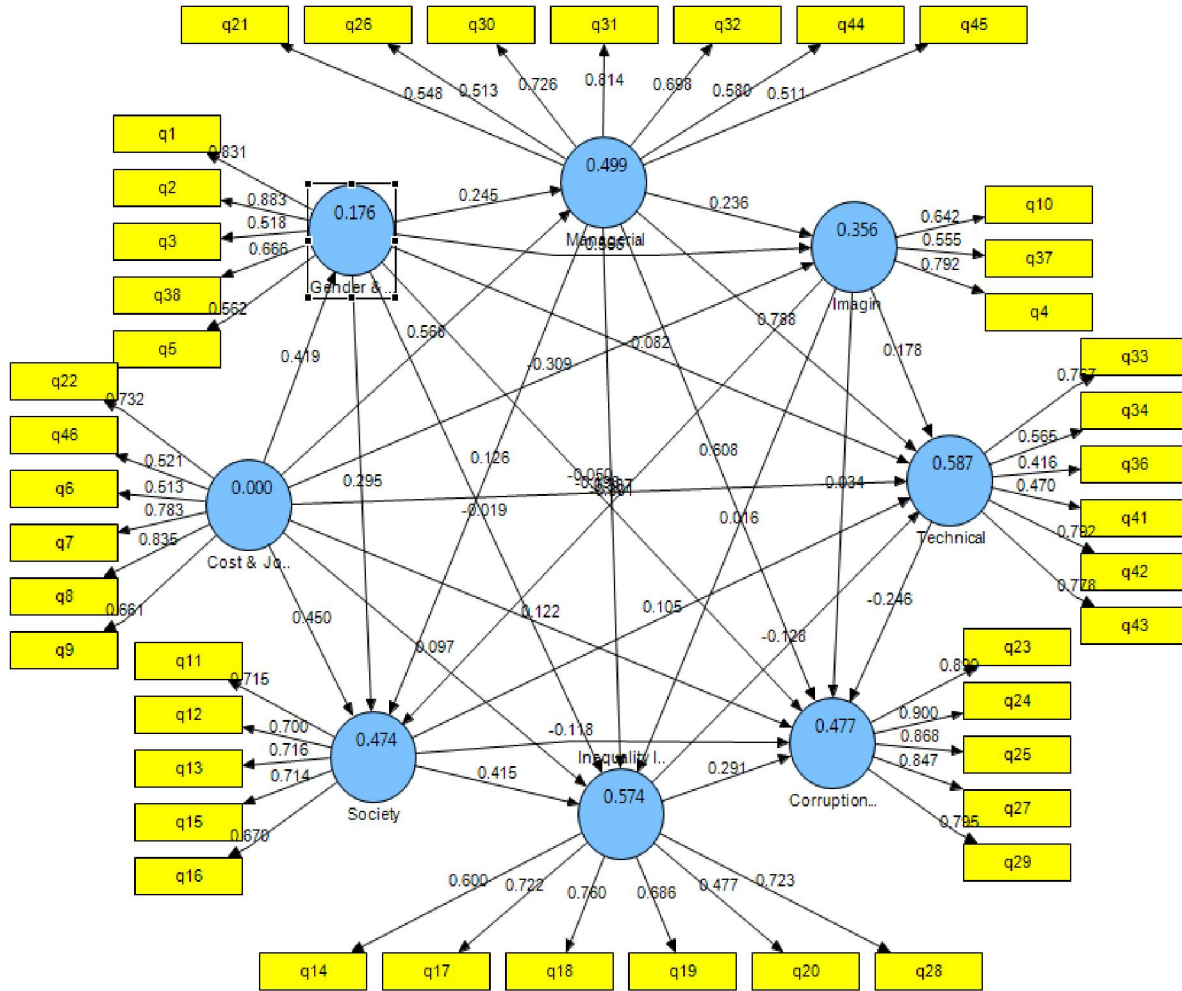


Figure 1. Graphs the factors hindering the promotion of female athletes with 8 elements third model is the measuring of assessment criteria for the divergent validity. matrix methods were investigated by using the Fornell and Larkr validity of the model.

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