UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

 Date 26.9.2023

RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT

# 1. Who is Excluded from Gender Equality in Elite Sport: A Transdisciplinary Study of Generational Culture Shifts in Sporting Ambition, Parenting, and Identity (SportEX)

**You are invited to participate in the SportEX research**, which aims to investigate the gendered generational shifts in personal values and meanings related to sporting ambition, parenthood, and identity. The goal is to gain a deeper understanding of the mechanisms and reasons why certain experiences are excluded from elite sports. The research is carried out in close collaboration with various sports stakeholders, with the aim of providing recommendations to enhance equality and justice in sports policy and cultural change in elite sports. This three-year research project is funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture (OKM/23/626/2023).

You are invited to participate in the research because you have been involved in sports organizations in various roles, such as an athlete, coach, or a person in charge.

This announcement describes the research and participation. Attached is information about the processing of your personal data.

The research employs an interdisciplinary approach to gain insights into diversity and inclusion in sports organizations from the perspectives of sports policy, the sports community, and individuals. Both quantitative and qualitative methods will be used in the research. In the initial phase, a survey will be conducted, followed by individual and group interviews with various stakeholders in sports. You are invited to participate in the survey, with the goal of obtaining 800-1000 survey responses.

This is an individual study. However, you may be contacted for further research if you consent to it.

**The participation criteria are that you have been part of the Finnish sports system and are at least 15 years old. We ask participants under the age of 18 to inform their parents about participating in the survey before completing it.**

**Every response is important and valuable!**

**2. Voluntary Participation**

Participation in this research is voluntary and safe. You have the right to refrain from participating or to interrupt your participation in the survey. If you choose to interrupt your participation or withdraw your consent, the personal information, samples, and other data collected from you up to that point will be used as part of the research data when necessary to ensure research results.

Your information will remain completely anonymous. The survey will be distributed as a web link, and responses cannot be linked to participants afterwards. All collected data will be anonymized and securely archived with password protection for use by the “SportEX” project research team at the University of Jyväskylä. Anonymous data will be used for research and educational purposes for several years.

**3. Research Procedure**

Responding to the survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes. You can respond to the survey in Finnish or English. The survey collects information about your background, sports goals, as well as your views and experiences related to diversity and inclusion in your sports environment. Through this survey, we aim to provide a channel for those involved in sports in Finland to describe their own experiences.

**4. Potential Benefits of the Research**

Participants in the study will have the opportunity to share their thoughts on the development of sports careers in Finland through the survey. Participation in the research may support participants in reflecting on their experiences.

The study significantly advances research in the field, as there has been no previous research on the structural factors limiting the development of professional sports careers for women and non-binary individuals in Finland. The research has the potential to significantly increase gender equality in sports, which may also have broader implications for increasing equal career opportunities in society as a whole. By studying participants of different ages, we can gain insight into generational shifts related to diversity and inclusion in sports.

**5. Potential Risks, Harms, and Discomforts, and Mitigation**

Participation in the research is not expected to pose any risks, harms, or discomfort to participants.

**6. Research Costs and Compensation for Participants**

No compensation will be provided for participating in the research.

**7. Dissemination of Research Results and Research Findings**

Research results will be published as scientific articles, theses, conference presentations, and books. Individual participants will never be identified in these publications. Participants can contact the researchers if they wish, for example, regarding questions raised during interviews.

**8. Insurance Coverage for Participants**

University of Jyväskylä and participants are insured.

University of Jyväskylä’s insurance covers only damages directly related to the assigned research task that occur during the instructed research task. The insurance does not cover damages that occur during breaks. The insurance provided by University of Jyväskylä is not valid for remote research if the participant's home municipality is not in Finland.

The insurance includes patient insurance, liability insurance, and voluntary accident insurance. Research participants (test subjects) are insured for injuries, damages, and injuries caused by external factors during the research period. The accident insurance is valid during measurements and immediately related trips.

**9. Contact Information for Further Information**

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