
Session 32

The Effects of Rafting on the Transformation of a Village in Turkey: The Case of Beskonak, Koprulu Canyon

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The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of rafting sport on the transformation of Beskonak Village, the nearest village to Koprulu Canyon in Antalya, Turkey. The Koprulu Canyon is a National Park which is very popular for rafting in Turkey.

Data were collected by means of 5 focus group interviews (3 female, 2 male groups) and one in-depth interview as a qualitative method. Each focus group consisted of 5 persons and took approximately 1-1.5 hours. The in-depth interview took approximately 2 hours. The content analysis method of qualitative analysis was used to analyze the data.

The data obtained from the interviews was sorted into two main themes: social effects and economical effects of rafting. With regard to the theme of social effects, villagers reported that besides the ascending rates of remigration, out migration was considerably reduced. In addition, first marriage age was delayed and some dimensions of daily lives of the villagers were changed. With respect to the theme of economical effects, rafting sport provided new opportunities for employment for the village. Moreover, it became the only income resource for the youth.

In conclusion, it was seen that, rafting sport had effects, both socially and economically, on the transformation of Beskonak Village.

Session 13

Sport Policy Documents – Purpose and Effects

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I want to discuss what effect the formulation of policy documents in organisations like school and governing sports bodies has on the reality of child sport practices. Many organisations formulate different policy documents. Their purpose is often to guide the people who are members of the organisation by dictating to them what's right and what's wrong, what's desirable, and what's not.

This is often the formal purpose, but far from always the only one. I believe that many times these kinds of documents serve the purpose of legitimating organisations' activities to surrounding organisations and/or institutions (the government, for example). In these cases, when formulating the documents, the organisations take little consideration as to what characterises the actual activities of its members. Instead, they describe how the institution and its member's should, look and work. When doing so, the organisation makes certain characteristics of its (and its members') activities invisible, characteristics that are crucial for a deeper understanding of the underlying logics and meanings of the organisation and its activities. That is to say the mere foundation of its existence.

The question is how do the suggested circumstances (above) effect the reality of child sport practices? By discussing the relationship between the formulation of a policy document and the reality that the document is supposed to work in, my aim is to induce a larger understanding of this question.

Session 46

The Failure of the First Global Winter Olympics: Skiing at Lake Placid 1932

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The paper will answer the question: why was this first attempt at globalization of skiing at the Winter Olympics such a failure? Letters and manuscripts in the Dewey archives, held by the Lake Placid Historical Society, supplemented by the material in the Olympic archives in Lausanne, plus a few contemporary newspapers and journals will be analyzed to show why these first Winter Olympics outside Europe were such a failure. How did the owner of a social club come to organize the world events of these Third Winter Games? By juxtaposing responses to the technical commissions' reports, by exposing the stubbornness of Godfrey Dewey with the willfulness of (particularly) the Norwegians, and not forgetting the two factors outside anyone's control, the bad weather and the economic depression, it becomes clear that Dewey's dogmatic authority, his refusal to heed advice, indeed to listen to anybody, made this first attempt to globalize the Winter Olympics a disaster.