**Senior Secondary Physical Education Elective**

**Part 8 Social Aspects**

**Worksheet 7**

**Sport and Violence**

1. Themes:
2. What kinds of violence are common in sport? What causes violence in sport?
3. What are the attitudes of athletes, judges, spectators and the media towards violence in sport?
4. What measures can be taken to reduce violence in sport?
5. Content:
6. Violence in sport:
7. Sports violence has been existing throughout the human history. There are different types of sports violence:
   * 1. On the field
     2. Off the field
     3. Violence among players
     4. Violence among spectators
     5. Terrorism in sport, for example the incident of attacking athletes during the 1972 Munich Olympic Games
8. Hooliganism is the most rapidly growing violence in sports venues, especially for football, in last decades. It usually refers to the behaviour of those football fans who use football stadia to
   * 1. express their dissatisfaction with the performance and the business model of the club;
     2. reaffirm their identity as sports fans and citizens;
     3. express their dissatisfaction with government policy, unemployment, nationalism, social alienation, injustice or over-commercialization in sport; and
     4. show their feelings and opinions in a collective and violent way that cannot be easily done on the streets.
9. Sports violence has two folds:
   * 1. First fold: Dissatisfied with the performance or administration of a football club.
     2. Second fold: A reflection of social problems like unemployment, poverty, gap between rich and poor, racial discrimination, politics, etc.
10. Attitudes of athletes, judges, spectators and the media towards violence in sport:
11. Athletes sometimes resort to violence to
    * + 1. establish his/her status in the team;
        2. reaffirm his/her identity in the sports culture; or
        3. demonstrate his/her power to dominate or control opponents.
12. Referees and judges

execute the established rules and regulations to strike a balance between athletes' acceptable violence and ensuring the safety and flow of sports competitions.

1. Spectators
2. perceive sports violence as entertaining and exciting;
3. expect sports violence in certain sports like ice-hockey, boxing and mix martial arts; and
4. express and reflect their feelings through sports.
5. Media
6. blame or glorify sports violence;
7. focus and enlarge sports violence through replay or high definition slow motion; and
8. treat it as part of their roles and functions to narrate violent incidents in sport

1. Measures to reduce violence in sport:
   * 1. set or modify sports rules to protect athletes and spectators;
     2. impose heavy penalty on those athletes and spectators who use violence;
     3. reduce the attraction of sports violence to spectators so as to lower its commercial value ;
     4. deny the saying that violence can improve sports performance;
     5. educate athletes and spectators about moral values to urge them to reject violence in sport;
     6. promote and pay more respect to those outstanding athletes who adhere to fair play; and
     7. tackle and solve the underlying social problems.
2. Questions and activities
3. Differentiate between violence and assertiveness in sport.
4. Propose measures to reduce violence in the sporting arena.
5. Discuss if boxing should be a competition event in the Olympic Games taking its violence-inherent nature into consideration.
6. References
   * 1. Coakley, J. (2015). *Sport in society: Issues and controversies* (11th edition). WCB McGraw – Hill.
     2. Jewell, R. T., Simmons, R., & Szymanski, S. (2014). Bad for Business? The Effects of Hooliganism on English Professional Football Clubs. *Journal of Sports Economics*, *15*(5), 429–450.
     3. Sønderlund, A. L., O’Brien, K., Kremer, P., Rowland, B., De Groot, F., Staiger, P., … Miller, P. G. (2014). The association between sports participation, alcohol use and aggression and violence: A systematic review. *Journal of Science & Medicine in Sport*, *17*(1), 2–7.