

## Sports Preference Intervention as a Predictor of Sustainable Participation at Risk Teenagers in Ibadan Metropolis, Ibadan Nigerian

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**Abstract :** Introductory Statement: Sustainable participation of teenagers in sports requires deliberate and concerted plans and managerial policy rooted in the “philosophy of catch them young.” At risk, teenagers need proper integration into societal aspiration: This direction will go a long way to streamline them into security breaches and attractive nuisance free lifestyles. Basic Methodology: The population consists of children between 13-19 years old. A proportionate sampling size technique of 60% was adopted to select seven zones out of 11 geo-political zones in the Ibadan metropolis. Qualitative information and interview were used to collect needed information. The majority of the teenagers were out of school, street hawkers, motor pack touts and unserious vocation apprentices. These groups have the potential for security breaches in the metropolis and beyond. Five hundred and thirty-four (534) respondents were used for the study. They were drawn from Ojoo, Akingbale and Moniya axis = 72; Agbowo, Ajibode and Apete axis = 74; Akobo, Basorun and Idi-ape axis 79; Wofun, Monatan and Iyana-Church axis = 78; Molete, Oke-ado and Oke-Bola axis = 75; Beere, Odinjo, Elekuro axis = 77; Eleyele, Ologuneru and Alesinloye axis = 79. Major Findings: Multiple regression was used to analyze the independent variables and percentages. The respondents' average age was 15.6 years old, and 100% were male. The instrument (questionnaire) used yielded; sport preference ( $r = 0.72$ ), intervention ( $r = 0.68$ ), and sustainable participation ( $r = 0.70$ ). The relative contributions of sport preference on the participation of at risk teenagers was ( $F$ -ratio = 1.067); Intervention contribution of sport on the participation of at risk teenagers = produced ( $F$ -ratio of 12.095) was significant while, sustainable participation of at risk teenagers produced ( $F$ -ratio = 1.062) was significant. Closing Statement: The respondents' sport preference stimulated their participation in sports. The intervention exposed at risk-teenagers to coaching, which activated their interest and participation in sports. At the same time, sustainable participation contributed positively to evolving at risk teenagers' participation in their preferred sport.

**Keywords :** sport, preference, intervention, teenagers, sustainable, participation and risk teenagers

**Conference Title :** ICSMM 2023 : International Conference on Sport Management and Marketing

**Conference Location :** Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Conference Dates :** August 03-04, 2023