

INVESTIGATION OF BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND UNDER PROTECTION AND CARE IN TERMS OF SOME VARIABLES

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to investigate the factors that may prevent the children living with their families and being protected by the state from participating in recreational activities according to some variables. For this purpose, "Leisure Barriers Scale developed by Gürbüz and Karaküçük (2007) was used. A total of 280 students, who were living with their families and staying at the Directorate of Children's Houses Coordination Center and Children's Houses Site, participated in the study voluntarily. Cronbach Alpha internal consistency coefficient calculated to test the reliability of the scale is in 6 sub-dimensions found ,87. As a result of the analyzes, a significant difference was found in the time and interest and information deficiency subscales of the leisure time scale of children under protection and care. It was determined that this

difference was due to children living in the family. According to the age variable, it is between 14 and 16, 14-17, 15-16 years in the lack of time and interest sub-dimension, between 14 and 16, 14 and 17 years in the individual psychology sub-dimension, 14 and 15, 14 and 17 years in the lack of information sub-dimension. There was a statistically significant difference between the ages of 14 and 17 in $p < 0.05$ alpha level of friend deficiency ($p > 0.05$). As a result, it was concluded that the children who are under the protection and care of the participants participate in more recreational activities, and the participation in recreational activities increases with increasing age levels.

Key Words: Social Environment, Age, Gender, Protection and Care.

INTRODUCTION

Participating in recreational activities is the most effective way to get rid of the physiological, sociological and psychological pressures brought by modern life. However, the lack of adequate recreation areas in modern urbanization plans and the inability of people to effectively manage their leisure time are seen as the biggest obstacle to their participation in recreation activities.

The decrease in working time and increase of leisure time due to technological development contributed to the increase of education and income levels. As a result, the demand for recreational activities has increased. Outdoor recreation activities provide many opportunities for knowing and investigating (Mansuroğlu 2002).

In many studies, recreational activities have had positive benefits to personal and social health. According to these positive effects of participation in recreation activities, it is seen that people do not engage in such activities which are important for themselves for different reasons. (Karakucuk and Gurbuz 2007).

When the results of the experimental studies are examined, the factors affecting the individual's participation in recreational activities are as follows; “Money”, “time”, “lack of friends”, “transportation” and “facility” (Shinew et al 2004).

The aim of this study is to determine the leisure time barriers of children under protection and care and to children living in the family, to make suggestions for the solution of these barriers and to make children more involved in recreational activities.

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Model Of Research

In this study, the screening model was used as it was aimed to identify and compare the barriers of participation of children living in families and state protection to recreational activities. This model is the screening of the whole universe or the sample to be taken in order to reach a general judgment about the universe in a universe consisting of many elements (Karasar, 2014).

Subject

The study group of the study consists of 280 children, 14-17 years old, who live in the Children's Houses Site which serves under the Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Services.

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of the study group

		f	%
Gender	Man	132	47,1
	Girl	148	52,9
	Total	280	100
Age	14	80	28,6
	15	91	32,7
	16	60	21,4
	17	49	17,5
	Total	280	100
Do you live with your family?	Yes	140	50
	No	140	50
	Toplam	280	100

47.1% of the children participated in the study were female and 52.9% were male. 28.6% of the children are 14 years old, 32.5% are 15 years old, 21.4% are 16 years old, 17.5% are 17 years old. 50% of the children stay with their families and 50% are under protection and care.

Data Collection Tools

The data collection tool used in the study consists of two parts. In the first part, questions about demographic information and recreational tendencies of the participants were given. In the second part, the “Leisure Barriers” scale, which was developed by Alexandris and Carrol (1997), consisted of 6 sub-dimensions and 27 items. The validity and reliability study of the scale for the Turkish population was conducted by Karaküçük and Gürbüz (2006). Cronbach ‘s Alpha internal consistency value was 0.864. In addition, a Personal Information Form consisting of 4 questions developed by the researcher was used in the study.

Analysis of the Data

For the purpose of the research, the data collected for the sub-problems whose answers were sought were first processed into the data coding form. All 280 data were included in the study. Then, statistical analysis was applied on the data transferred to SPSS 24.0 Packet program.

Frequencies, minimum and maximum values are presented in the statistical representation of the data. Whether the data showed normal distribution was tested with skewness and kurtosis values test, and parametric tests were performed because of normal distribution. T-test was used for comparison of the scores obtained from the scales according to gender and living status in homestay or state protection, and One Way Anova test was used for age.

Table 2. Normality distributions of data

	n	Skew	Flattness
Friends Deficit	280	-0,183	-0,461
Lack of facilities	280	-0,830	-1,417
Transportation Problem	280	-0,269	-0,373
Lack of Information	280	0,63	-0,635
Lack of Time and Interest	280	-0,143	-1,282
Individual Psychology	280	0,035	-0,512

In Table 2, when skewness and kurtosis coefficients were examined, it was found that the scores were within ± 2 range. Cooper-Cutting explains that skewness and kurtosis values are within ± 2 range as an appropriate case for normality, while Büyüköztürk interpretes that these values are within ± 1 range as no deviation from normality.

In this study, it was decided to apply parametric statistical techniques because the skewness-kurtosis values of the scores were not at extreme levels, were within ± 2 range and there were no excessive deviations in the normal distribution curves.

FINDINGS

Table 3. The results of the analysis between the gender and sub-dimensions of the children participating in the study

	Gender	n	X\pm Ss	t	p
Lack of Time and Interest	Man	148	1,48 \pm 0,89	0,319	0,75
	Girl	132	2,42 \pm 0,84		
Individual Psychology	Man	148	2,30 \pm 0,55	0,751	0,45
	Girl	132	2,47 \pm 0,59		
Lack of Information	Man	148	2,85 \pm 0,54	0,251	0,80
	Girl	132	2,97 \pm 0,57		
Transportation Problem	Man	148	2,93 \pm 0,67	1,040	0,29
	Girl	132	3,00 \pm 0,83		
Lack of facilities	Man	148	2,84 \pm 0,80	1,574	0,11
	Girl	132	2,99 \pm 0,84		
Friends Deficit	Man	148	2,51 \pm 0,49	-1,538	0,12
	Girl	132	2,56 \pm 0,63		

When Table 3 is examined, it was found that there was no statistically significant difference between any of the sub-dimensions and $p < 0.05$ alpha level according to the gender variable of the children participating in the study.

When the sub-dimensions of family gender mean scores were examined, it was found that the time and lack of interest scores were 1.48 ± 0.89 in men, 2.42 ± 0.84 in women, and 2.30 ± 0.55 in women and 2.47 ± 0 in women. 59, lack of information scores of 2.85 ± 0.54 in men, 2.97 ± 0.57 in women, 2.93 ± 0.67 in men, 3.00 ± 0.83 in women, and 3.00 ± 0.83 in women and inadequacy scores in men. 2.84 ± 0.84 for women, 2.99 ± 0.84 for women, and 2.51 ± 0.49 for men and 2.56 ± 0.63 for women.

Table 5. The results of the analysis between the age and sub-dimensions of the children participating in the study

	Age	n	X	ss	p	Tukey HSD
Lack of Time and Interest	14 ¹	80	2,95	,509		1-3
	15 ²	91	2,91	,531		1-4
	16 ³	60	2,10	,607	,001*	2-3
	17 ⁴	49	2,32	,677		
Individual Psychology	14 ¹	80	3,30	,519		1-3
	15 ²	91	3,20	,478	,002*	1-4
	16 ³	60	3,02	,622		
	17 ⁴	49	2,78	,617		
Lack of Information	14 ¹	80	3,25	,759		1-2
	15 ²	91	3,01	,603		1-4
	16 ³	60	3,15	,679	,001*	
	17 ⁴	49	2,61	,907		
Transportation Problem	14 ¹	80	2,93	,720		
	15 ²	91	3,25	,870		
	16 ³	60	2,88	,875	,080	
	17 ⁴	49	2,47	,841		
Lack of facilities	14 ¹	80	3,00	,625		
	15 ²	91	3,21	,738		
	16 ³	60	2,97	,582	,760	
	17 ⁴	49	3,04	,915		
Friends Deficit	14 ¹	80	2,90	,688		1-4
	15 ²	91	2,84	,692	,038*	
	16 ³	60	2,85	,675		
	17 ⁴	49	2,75	,776		

When Table 5 is examined, it is found that between the leisure time sub-dimensions and age, the lack of time and interest sub-dimension is between 14 and 16, 14-17, 15-16 years, the individual psychology sub-dimension is between 14 and 16, 14 and 17 years, and the lack of information sub-dimension. It was found that there was a statistically significant difference between $p < 0.05$ alpha level between 14 and 15, 14 and 17 years, and between 14 and 17 years in the friend deficiency sub-dimension ($p > 0.05$).

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

47.1% of the children participated in the study were female and 52.9% were male. 28.6% of the children are 14 years old, 32.5% are 15 years old, 21.4% are 16 years old, 17.5% are 17 years old. 50% of the children stay with their families and 50% are under protection and care.

No statistically significant difference was found between $p < 0.05$ alpha level and any of the sub-dimensions according to the gender variable of the children participating in the study. This result shows that gender variable does not have any effect on leisure time barriers.

Tolukan (2010), in his study on university students, found that there was a statistically significant difference between the gender variable and the lack of information sub-dimension. Alexandires and Carroll (1997) stated that there is a significant difference between the barriers of evaluating leisure time in terms of gender, whereas Culp stated that gender is an important part of social impact and an important element limiting the leisure activities of individuals. These studies do not match the research.

According to the variable of living in the family or state protection of the children participating in the study, there was a statistically significant difference in the subscales of time and interest and lack of information at the level of $p < 0.05$, and this difference was due to the children living with their families.

When the field literature is examined, it is seen that there are no studies about the leisure time barriers of children living with their families and living under protection and care, and it is thought that this study will contribute to the field literature.

Between the leisure time sub-dimensions and age of the children participating in the study, between the ages of 14 and 16, 14-17, 15-16, in the lack of time and interest sub-dimension, between the ages of 14 and 16, 14 and 17 in the individual psychology sub-dimension, It was found that there was a statistically significant difference between 14 and 15, 14 and 17 years of age and between 14 and 17 years of age in the palsy deficiency sub-dimension ($p > 0.05$).

In the study of Emir (2012), there is a significant difference in the time sub-dimension of leisure time scale of university students according to age variable. In addition, Üstün (2013) concluded that there is a significant difference between age variable and leisure time barriers. These studies support the results obtained.

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