

# Analysis of decision-making styles of department of sports management students

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## Abstract

The aim of this study is to examine the decision-making styles of the students in the department of sports management. The population of the study comprises a total of 158 students (51 female, 107 male) randomly selected from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students of Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, Physical Education and Sports Academy, Department of Sports Management in Burdur province in 2016 - 2017 academic year. The data obtained in the survey study were analyzed and evaluated with the help of SPSS 13.0 statistical program. Frequency (f) analysis was performed to represent the demographic information of students participating in the survey. The arithmetic mean and standard deviation values were determined to identify the decision-making styles of the students. The mean of the answers given by the Department of Sports Management students to questions about avoidant decision-making style is at the level of "Sometimes True". Based on this, it is concluded that when students make decisions, they sometimes act avoidant. The mean of the answers given by the students questions about dilatory decision-making style is at the level of "Sometimes True" Based on this, it can be said that students sometimes act dilatory when making decisions. The mean of the answers given by the students to questions about panic decision-making style is at the level of "Sometimes True". Based on this, students sometimes act panicked when making their decisions. A significant difference was detected between students living in the town and the students living in the provincial center in terms of panic decision-making. Based on this, the mean value of panic decision-making in students living in the town is significantly higher than the students living in the province center.

**Key words:** Decision-Making Styles, Sports Management Students.

## INTRODUCTION

While calculated and appropriate decisions lead to positive changes in the individual's life, misjudgments can negatively affect the orientation to life (10). Decision-making styles can be explained as learned habits (14). Decision-making is not just about defining the alternatives in consideration on various occasions before choosing an alternative; it is also to realize the most appropriate goals, requests, life style together with the values. Decision-making is defined as the process of adequately reducing doubts and uncertainties while making appropriate choices among the alternatives (2). The ability of the person to make calculated and correct decisions depends on the ability to correctly perceive the alternatives and then the ability to correlate between his/her needs and the alternatives (3). The amount of information used while reaching the decision varies from one decision-maker to another (8). Factors that restrict the decision process are biological, psychological and sociological (15). It is often not possible to evaluate all the possible options, the properties of each option, and the

possible consequences simultaneously when faced with decision-making (13). Most individuals seem to prefer succinct routes and short cuts when making decisions and do not to use their cognitive capacities to the full (11). Only a small fraction of decisions are made with absolute certainty. This is because every decision carries a certain amount of risk (9; 6). Individuals with rational decision-making style tend to be more cautious when making decisions (1).

## MATERIALS & METHODS

### Study population

This The population of the study comprises a total of 158 students (51 female, 107 male) randomly selected from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students of Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, Physical Education and Sports Academy, Department of Sports Management in Burdur province in 2016 - 2017 academic year.

### Statistical analysis

The data obtained in the survey study were analyzed and evaluated with the help of SPSS 13.0

statistical program. Frequency (f) analysis was performed to represent the demographic information of students participating in the survey. The arithmetic mean and standard deviation values were determined to identify the decision-making styles of the students.

## RESULTS

### Data Collection Tools

The original Melbourne Decision Making Questionnaire developed by Mann et al. (12) was adapted to Turkish by Deniz (7) and was used after the completion of the validity and reliability studies.

Table 1. Avoidant Decision-Making Style of Department of Sports Management Students

		Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Gender Status	Female	27	38.6
	Male	43	61.4
Request for graduate education	Yes	Female: 14	32.5
		Male: 29	67.5
		Total: 43	61.4
Request for graduate education	No	Female: 13	48.1
		Male: 14	51.9
		Total: 27	38.6
Working status in the sports tourism and recreation sector before	Yes	Female: 9	42.8
		Male: 12	57.2
		Total: 21	30.0
Working status in the sports tourism and recreation sector before	No	Female: 18	36.7
		Male: 31	63.3
		Total: 49	70.0
Reason for choosing this field	Voluntarily	Female: 23	36.5
		Male: 40	63.5
		Total: 63	90
Reason for choosing this field	For other reasons	Female: 4	57.1
		Male: 3	42.9
		Total: 7	10

### Avoidant Decision-Making Style

	N	Mean	SD
9. I prefer to leave the decisions to other people.	158	1.63	0.66
15. I avoid making decisions.	158	1.52	0.67
17. I do not like to take the responsibility for making decisions.	158	1.97	0.75
20. If a decision is to be made by me or someone else, I leave the decision to the other person.	158	1.85	0.71
22. I do not make a decision unless I have to.	158	1.89	0.69
Mean		1.77	0.70

The mean of the answers given by the students of the Department of Sports Management on avoidant decision-making style is 1.77, which in general means SOMETIMES TRUE. Based on this, it can be said that students sometimes act avoidant when making decisions. (Table 1).

Tablo 2. Dilatory Decision-Making Style of Department of Sports Management Students

Dilatory Decision-Making Style			
	N	Mean	SD
11. I spend a lot of time on trivial matters before making the final decision.	158	1.89	0.72
13. I postpone the implementation even after making a decision.	158	1.90	0.73
16. When I have to make a decision, I wait a long time before I start thinking about the decision.	158	2.02	0.67
23. I postpone decision making until the last moment.	158	1.81	0.70
Mean		1.91	0.71

The mean of the answers given by the students on dilatory decision-making style is 1.91, which in general means SOMETIMES TRUE. Based on this, it can be said that students sometimes act dilatory when making decisions. (Table 2).

Tablo 3. Panic Decision-Making Style of Department of Sports Management Students

Panic Decision-Making Style			
	N	Mean	SD
7. I feel like I am under a great time pressure when making a decision.	158	1.99	0.72
19. The possibility that small things may not go well cause me immediately to dissuade from my decision.	158	2.10	0.64
21. Whenever I face a difficult decision, I feel pessimistic about finding a good solution.	158	2.23	0.69
Mean		2.11	0.68

The mean of the answers given by the students on panic decision-making style is 2.11, which in general means SOMETIMES TRUE. Based on this, it can be said that students sometimes act panicked when making decisions. (Table 3).

Tablo 4. Relationship Between The Residence of Department of Sports Management Students and Panic Decision-Making Style

Variables	(I) Residence	(J) Residence	Difference Between the Means (I-J)	Standard Error	P
Panic Decision-Making Style	Provincial Center	District Center	-0.087	0.092	0.783
		Village	-0.174	0.106	0.360
		Town	-0.401	0.145	0.032
	District Center	Provincial Center	0.087	0.092	0.783
		Village	-0.087	0.129	0.906
		Town	-0.315	0.163	0.218
	Village	Provincial Center	0.174	0.106	0.360
		District Center	0.087	0.129	0.906
		Town	-0.227	0.172	0.548
	Town	Provincial Center	0.401	0.145	0.032
		District Center	0.315	0.163	0.218
		Village	0.227	0.172	0.548

\*P<0.05

When Table 4 is analyzed, a significant difference is detected between the students living in the town and those living in the province center in terms of panic decision making. Based on this, the mean value of panic decision-making in students living in the town is significantly higher than the students living in the province center. (Table 4).

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The mean of the answers given by the Department of Sports Management students to questions about avoidant decision-making style is at the level of "Sometimes True". Based on this, it is concluded that when students make decisions, they sometimes act avoidant. Can, (2009). There was no significant difference between genders in terms of

self-esteem, careful, avoidant and dilatory decision-making levels. The mean of the answers given by the students to questions about dilatory decision-making style is at the level of SOMETIMES CORRECT. Based on this, it can be said that students sometimes act dilatory when making decisions. The mean of the answers given by the students to questions about panic decision-making

style is at the level of SOMETIMES CORRECT. Based on this, students sometimes act panicked when making their decisions. Çetin (2009) found that the students were significantly higher than the students living in the provincial center and the district center, whereas in terms of dilatory decision-making, contrary to our study, the scores of students who spent most of their life in the district center were significantly higher than the ones who lived in

the provincial center. A significant difference was detected between students living in the town and the students living in the provincial center in terms of panic decision-making. Based on this, the mean value of panic decision-making in students living in the town is significantly higher than the students living in the province center.

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