

OLYMPIC PHENOMENON AS A COMPONENT OF EDUCATION

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Summary: The major and extensive changes taking place today as a result of globalization have also, unavoidably, affected the educational process. Many people are talking more often about the need to change something in the educational process and to strengthen the pedagogical role of school in community. The accent is put on the lifelong learning, respect for cultural diversity and development of the man skills to give proper responses in our dynamic and changeable , contemporary society. Finding ways to integrate in education the innovations offered by the Olympic educations programs will require will, logistics and a great mobilization to include the Olympism as a discipline in each country school.

Introduction: In ancient times, sports contributed a great deal to peace and international understanding as the Olympic Truce was the most important tradition, which contributed to the cease of armed conflict. Today, unfortunately, our planet was become a much more complicated place, and the Olympics have become a worldwide event rather than one four members of a similar culture. In modern times, outside forces have influenced the outcome of some of the Games by means of boycotts, acts of violence, political and strategic influences and also terrorism, which contradict the Olympic spirit.

Olympism appears, first of all, as a myth with a system of representations that attempts to explain and justify a human practice or institutions by linking it to an age-old and at the same time sacred origin. The myth is essentially based on the symbolism of ancient Greece, tales, heroes and legends.

We owe the neologism “Olympism” to Pierre de Coubertin who replied to the question “What is Olympism” with the following definition: “It is the religion of energy, the cult of a strong will that is developed through the practice of virile sports based on hygiene and civic mindedness and supported by art and though”. For Pierre de Coubertin, Olympism is a tool that must be used to educate young people and not

only with double practice of sport and intellectual activity. This ambitions program's aim is to create a balance between the mind and the body.

Material-method:

If we take a good look to the main principles of Olympism, we can and certainly we should change the approach with our students, in order to accomplish the sentence "Mens fervida in corpore lacertoso" (a passionate mind into a trained body).

Fundamental Principles of Olympism:

1. Olympism is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind. Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles.
2. The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of man, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity.
3. The Olympic Movement is the concerted, organized, universal and permanent action, carried out under the supreme authority of the IOC, of all individuals and entities who are inspired by the values of Olympism. It covers the five continents. It reaches its peak with the bringing together of the world's athletes at the great sports festival, the Olympic Games. Its symbol is five interlaced rings.
4. The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play. The organization, administration and management of sport must be controlled by independent sports organizations.
5. Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender, or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement.
6. Belonging to the Olympic Movement requires compliance with the Olympic Charter and recognition by the IOC.

Pierre de Coubertin drew upon the admiration of ancient Greek culture that prevailed at the end of the 19th century in Europe, in order to impose his educational and pedagogical theories. This help us to understand better why modern Olympism's origins are derived from the of ancient Greece. The Olympic movement's actions today are

underpinned by the principles set forth in the Olympic Charter. These principles enable us to understand the challenges and the IOC's ambition to carry out successfully this universal education program.

It is very important to promote Olympism and trying in the same time to avoid the false value. Through the promotion of Olympism we must be aware of the potential of false values or misleading information that can be presented. The purity and idealistic nature of Olympism promotes fair play, sportsmanship and sport for all. This brings a high level of integrity emphasized on those that are involved with this principle. However, due to potential corruption in governmental and nongovernmental agencies, there is the possibility that the values of Olympism will be diluted or not expressed at all.

Olympism must to be promoted through governmental policies, not only from within the sport area. School outreach programs, teacher training and the support of the International Olympic Committee are crucial for maintaining a high level of development. Teacher and personnel should attend proper training so they can speak knowledgeably and passionately about the power of Olympism

It must be our concern how will introduce the Olympic values to someone that has never heard of them before. Education and outreach are vital to the development of sport and the Olympic values. However, there lies a problem in teaching these values to individuals unaware of the Olympic Movement and what it stands for. For having a true impact in a individual, it is important that this individual is reached by others who themselves have a strong passion for sport and the power of the Olympic Values. Unfortunately, sport has gone into a hibernation period in many countries e.g. a child does not know all the rules of the game and what the rules mean in detail. Maybe the outreach techniques or programs used to involve the child in the beginning were not very well organized or planned beforehand. We should concentrate our attention to attract the pupils in sport activities and Olympic movement, and in my opinion a very good opportunity could be the computer games, who was spread all over the world very fast. So the governmental agencies must to develop games were instead violence and crimes the child can discover many useful things about sports, Olympism, history etc. Another way is to educate parents on the value of sport, along with the Olympic values, because this will engage the parents and help keep the child more involved.

We must keep improving Olympic Education within all country regions because is vital for the growth of the Olympic Movement in our country. Promoting it as a special subject within the nation to learn about

the Olympism and Olympics will allow individuals to have a direct interaction with the Olympic Movement. International exchange programs can also be applied so that the students can learn more on other countries and once they return have an outreach of the different cultures. We must promote a better understanding of Olympism and the Olympic ideals on a long term basis prior to sporting games to reemphasize the connection. These values should be promoted in all sport but not just in the Olympic disciplines. New outreach opportunities need to be developed to reach the youth in practical ways in entertainment opportunities such as comic books, animation movies and computer games.

The foundation needs to be laid by people closer to the player, for example, coaches, parents, and administrators to involve the people from young.

By Olympic education we can achieve several goals in our work with pupils especially sportive culture, history, geography, fine arts and others with benefic influences over the culture level of each individual.

The concepts and ideals of Olympism coexist as part of education's broader objectives in many education systems. In most European countries, despite existing differences, the main objective of education is the moral, social, physical and intellectual development of youth for a healthy, fair and democratic society with a robust economy that promotes sustainable development.

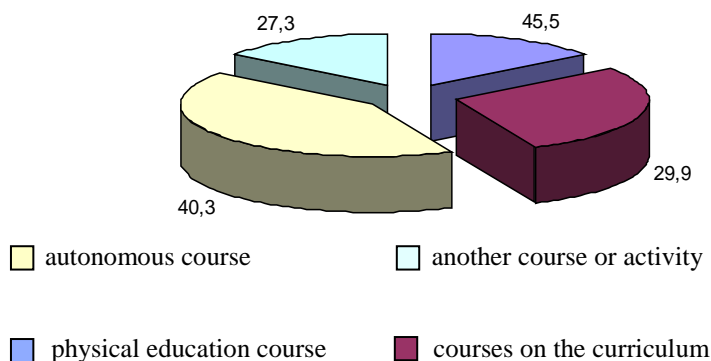
Results:

Implementing Olympic education programs in education is therefore recommended as it gives emphasis to educational trends and endeavors and is associated with education's socio-psychological dimension.

After Mr. Konstantinos Georgiadis the inclusion of Olympic education courses on the curriculum varies among countries, however, that in 45,5% of cases these programs were presented through the physical education course, in 29,9% through all the courses on the curriculum, in 40,3% as an autonomous course and in 27,3% as another course or activity (seminars, workshops, NOA programs, Olympic Clubs, etc.) as is illustrated in Graph. no.1.

Graph 1. The inclusion of Olympic Education courses on the curriculum

Percentage of Olympic Education courses on the curriculum



Olympic education is not the same in all countries, because existing differences among each nation education program. The differences between those are the result of five factors:

1. cultural
2. religious or ideological
3. politics
4. economical
5. social

Each one of this factors contributes to implementation of Olympic Education all over the world, but in the last period of time the economical factor seem to be more and more important and the future consequences is very hard to predict. We must engage in this struggle with “power of money” and succeed to use the financial resources in our benefit. Innovative actions like Olympic Education in the education process counterbalance is like a oxygen cure, thanks to their proactive methodology and thematic freedom who encourage and promote creativity, good will, initiative, diversity and correct behavior in society for both, teachers and students.

Discussions

The sports are an expression of culture. Their history is linked by different country, different cultures, and bringing them together will result a humanity celebration of peace, respect and understanding like Olympic

Games do. The Olympic Village and the opening and closing ceremonies are ways to allow the exchange of different cultures because they give athletes a chance to live together as a community. We can say that the planet is whole again and Olympic Games are the most higher expression of joy of the human been, expecting a perpetual truce and no more wars, conflicts, selfishness - only humanism and humanity.

We have a chance to improve universal culture with new directions and horizon's, we can affirm that we made the culture, so in my opinion, let's made it well.

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Titlu: Fenomenul olimpic ca și componentă a educației

Cuvinte cheie: olimpism, umanism, sport, educație, cultură, principii.

Rezumat: Schimbările majore și extensive care au loc astazi ca și rezultat al globalizării, au afectat de asemenea, inevitabil, și procesul educațional. Mulți oameni discută tot mai des despre nevoia de a schimba ceva în procesul educațional și de a întări rolul pedagogic al școlii în comunitate. Accentul este pus pe învățare durabilă, respect pentru diversitatea culturală și dezvoltarea priceperilor pentru a da răspunsuri potrivite în a noastră dinamică și schimbătoare societate contemporană. Găsirea căilor de a integra în cadrul educației inovațiile oferite de programele de educație Olimpică vor necesita voință și o mare mobilizare pentru a include Olimpismul ca și disciplină în școlile din fiecare țară.

Titre: Le phénomène olympique comme composant de l'éducation.

Mots- clé: olympisme, humanisme, sport, éducation, culture, principes.

Résumé: Les changements principaux et étendus, ayant lieu aujourd'hui en raison de la globalisation, ont inévitablement affecté le processus éducatif. Beaucoup de personnes parlent plus souvent au sujet de la nécessité de changer quelque chose dans le processus éducatif et de

renforcer le rôle pédagogique de l'école dans la communauté. L'accent est mis sur la formation permanente, le respect pour la diversité culturelle et le développement des qualifications d'homme pour donner des réponses appropriées dans notre société dynamique et variable, contemporaine. Trouver des moyens d'intégrer dans l'éducation les innovations offertes par les programmes d'éducation Olympique exigera volonté et une grande mobilisation pour inclure l'Olympism comme discipline dans chaque école de campagne.