



Exploring **activism type** in social justice and disability sport

current status and future prospects of the disability social movement

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BIRMINGHAM

Introduction

Kim (2008)

	Quickening period (Before 1988)	Maturing period (1988- mid 1990s)	Diversity period (After late 1990s)
Value	Care	Rights	Human rights
The core force	Parents, experts	People with minor disability, experts	People with severe disability

The potential core force

“Para- sport”

- High visibility and cultural idolization to highlight social injustice
- Increasing worldwide media coverage of Paralympic Games
- Inevitable relation with disability politics

Athlete activism

- a) **Using their celebrity to draw attention to social injustice as opportunity for change**
(e.g., athletes advocating for human-right causes based on race and gender)

- b) **Taking direct action to reform sport itself as the site for social change**
(e.g., speaking out against gender discrimination or homophobia in sport)

Aims

This study is aimed to expand the empirical literature on *'Para-athlete activism'*

1



Categorize
activism type

2



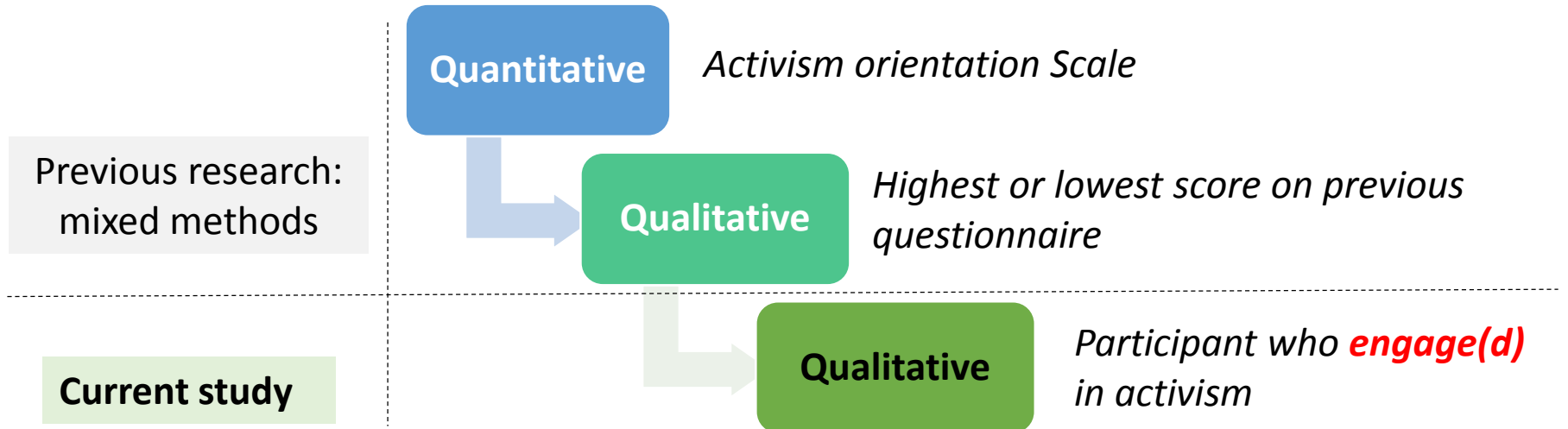
Influence
on society

3



Commonalities
& Differences

Methods



Participant

21 disabled people (3 groups)

(11 Para-athlete, 6 non-athletes, and 4 retired athletes who were athlete activist)

Data collection

Semi-structured interview (e.g., Please share your story about engaging in activism)

Data analysis

Narrative analysis with regards to: activism type, consequence of activism, comparison of activism amongst different groups

Athlete activism

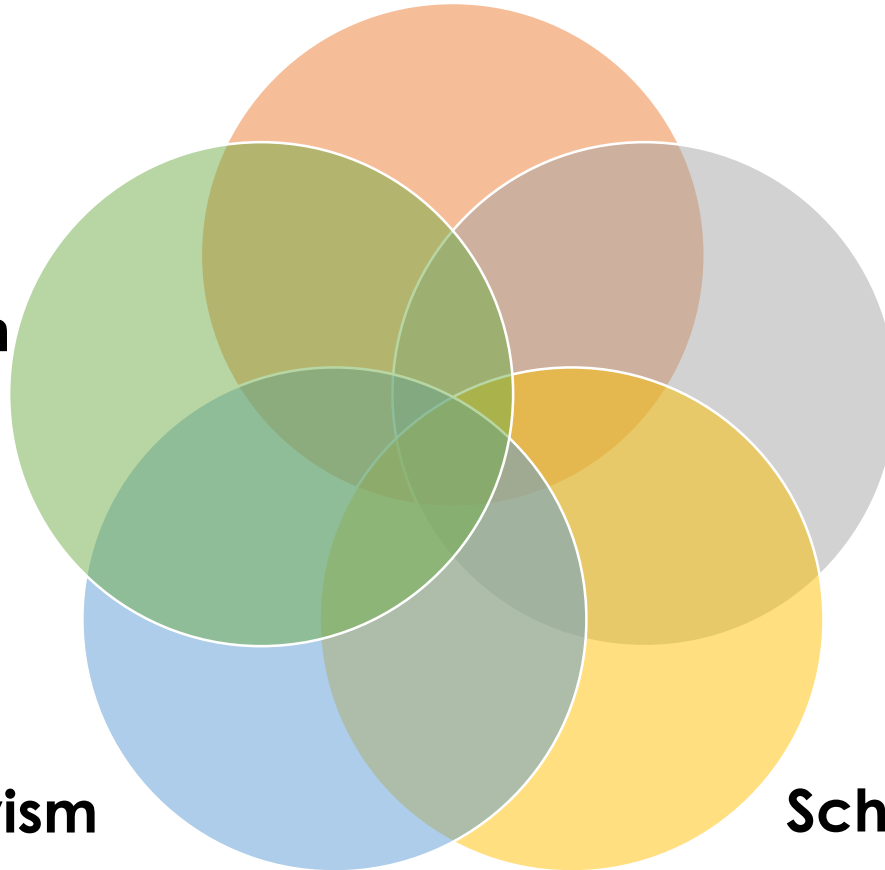
Sport-based activism

Social activism

Online activism

Political activism

Scholar activism



1. Sport-based activism

Actions taken by athletes to make positive change or inspiration, and reduce the subordination or exploitation of certain groups ***within the sport culture***

- Elite athlete / Medallist
- Paralympic committee member (e.g., IPC, KPC)
- Talent donation (for public or junior athletes)

I think that **being an elite athlete by itself contributes positively to society** by participating in international competition and showing good performance.

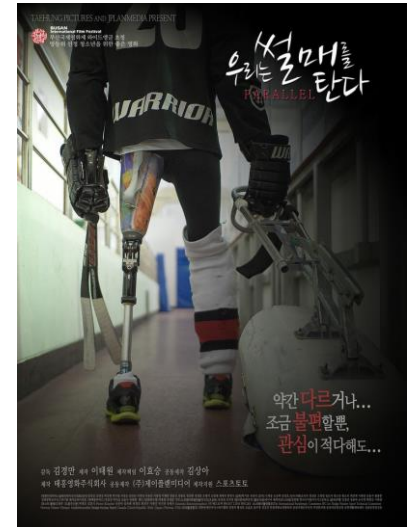


2. Social activism

Actions or discourses designed to draw attention to social injustice and raise awareness beyond sports and disability issues across society through ***diverse social platforms***.

- Interview
- Motivational speech
- Mentoring
- Volunteering
- Donation
- Advertisement / Ambassador

It is not easy for disabled people to leave their house after they acquire a disability. So I **visit them in their house, consult their worries, share my experience, and encourage societal engagement.**



3. Political activism

Behaviour exhibited in **public areas or organizations**, for the sake of raising awareness on certain political issues (e.g., a corrupt or unjust system) and promoting legislative change (e.g., law enforcement).

- Protest: Radical/Aggressive -> Peaceful/Conservative (e.g., candlelight protest)
- Discussion with politicians or stakeholders in person
- Policy monitoring
- Civil complaint / Voting / Petition

I **had a chance to have responsibility to do policy monitoring for disability**. So, I have reported the need to improve convenience facilities and policies from the perspective of disability in media.



4. Scholar activism

Transmission of ideas within **academic environments** (e.g., in universities, training institutes) to enhance a person's understanding of oppressive systems for achieving a radically fairer world.

- Research
- Lecture / Special lecture
- Forum / Conference
- Publish a paper

I wrote my PhD thesis on the discrimination faced by disabled employees. With regards to this, I am still **doing research**. And I also **give lectures on how to increase awareness on disability for student and public** and giving some advice if someone asks me.

Paralympic Sport as a Vehicle for Social Change in Bermuda and Ghana

December 11, 2015 • Volume 3, Issue 5

Authors

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Citation: Forber-Pratt, A.J. Paralympic Sport as a Vehicle for Social Change in Bermuda and Ghana. *Journal of Sport for Development*. 2015; 3(5): 35-49.



5. Online activism

Advocacy type that uses **digital communication** (e.g., social media, blog, and podcasts) for social, political, and cultural movement to deliver a particular message to a large or specific audience.

- Social networking (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, Instagram)
- Blogging

In fact, *romantic relation between disabled and non-disabled people* is very unusual in media. We **blog to increase awareness that, although it might look strange, there is nothing strange.** Our blog posts seem to bring some changes in people's attitude towards disabled people.

"사랑에 장애가 있나요?"

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"고나리 하지 않지" 싸우지 않는 방법 2017. 12. 8. 82



누나가 널 데려러 가! 오빠가 널 만나리 가? 2017. 12. 6. 76

[공유] [커플스토리]"사랑에 장애가 있나요?" 스노우보드 타며 장애 뛰어넘는..

이웃을 밝혀주는 반가운 글! "사랑에 장애가 있나요?" 글거은 필요있니다!

2017. 12. 4. 19



너에게 부리고 싶은 하세 2017. 11. 25. 61



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hongsukman Today.. Support Center for Para Athlete was established by KPC.

This center support all para athlete in Korea for human rights of para athlete, retired athlete, KPC AC and so on.

and then, Korea Para Athletes discussed about rights and dual career of athlete and second life with KPC chairperson. I hope that established center will be make a better environment for ensuring rights and voice for Korea Para Athlete.

Past vs Now athlete activism

	Past (retired athletes)	Now (current athletes)
Social activism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview ▪ Motivational speech ▪ Mentoring ▪ Volunteering ▪ Donation ▪ Advertisement / Ambassador
Scholar activism		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research ▪ Lecture ▪ Forum / Conference / Seminar
Political activism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protest (High-risk / Radical) ▪ Discussion with politicians ▪ Civil complaint / Voting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protest (conventional / Candlelight protest) ▪ Discussion with politicians or stakeholders ▪ Civil complaint / Voting
Sport-based activism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medalist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elite athletes / Medallist ▪ Paralympic committee (e.g., IPC, KPC) ▪ Talent donation (for public or junior athletes)
Online activism		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social networking (e.g., Instagram, Twitter, Facebook) ▪ Blogging



Key takeaways

- Para-sport can lead effective strategies and action for social justice outcome
- Expanded diverse activism type from primary means of athlete's activism
- Insights to future research on disability studies, social movement, and athlete activism
- Possible directions for potential athlete activists and for athletes' career transition
- A platform to inspire activism ideas amongst activists (e.g., Para-athlete activists, non-athlete activists)

Thank you!

Brett Smith



Damian Haslett



“DISABLED ATHLETE ACTIVISM” IN SOUTH KOREA

A mixed-method study

Inhyang Choi (Alice) 🇰🇷, Damian Haslett 🇮🇪, and Brett Smith 🇬🇧



Introduction		Methods													
<p>Background. Elite disabled athletes have the opportunity to increase awareness on social rights of disabled people but, there is no data in non-Western culture on how elite disabled athletes can be supported in their social mission.</p> <p>Aims. ① Describe difference between disabled elite athletes and non-athletes for activism orientation in South Korea ② Understand the reasons <i>why/why not</i> disabled elite athletes engage in activism, in comparison to disabled non-athletes in South Korea</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequential mixed-methods design All participants with disability 													
<p>Results</p> <p>Disabled elite athletes in South Korea had a greater activist orientation than disabled non-athletes.</p> <p>↓ WHY?</p>		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Phase 1 Quantitative</td> <td>Elite athletes 100</td> <td>Non-athletes 100</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">↓ Activism Questionnaires</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phase 2 Qualitative</td> <td>Elite athletes High: 9 Low: 9</td> <td>Non-athletes High: 6 Low: 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">↓ Semi-structured interview</td> </tr> </table>		Phase 1 Quantitative	Elite athletes 100	Non-athletes 100	↓ Activism Questionnaires			Phase 2 Qualitative	Elite athletes High: 9 Low: 9	Non-athletes High: 6 Low: 6	↓ Semi-structured interview		
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<p>Para-athlete</p> <p>Motivators = <i>Socialisation process</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Athlete status 2018 Paralympic Games Encouragement <p>Barriers = <i>Emotional cost</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fear of disadvantage Perceived backlash Loneliness / Depression <p>Comparison</p> <p>Non-athletes with disabilities</p> <p>Motivators 'Environmental facilitator', 'Emotional benefits'</p> <p>Barriers 'Difficulty of access', 'Personal barriers'</p>		<p>Discussion</p> <p>This study offers the first nuanced analysis of social activism for disabled athletes in a non-Western culture</p> <p>Interpretation</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1. Hierarchical culture</td> <td>2. Collectivism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stakeholder ↑ Obstacle Para-athletes ↓ Influence Non-athletes</td> <td>Strong 'ONE' voice vs No voice</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Han culture</td> <td>Hope = Encouragement Or Harshness = Discouragement</td> </tr> </table> <p>↓</p> <p>The cultural perspective is important</p>		1. Hierarchical culture	2. Collectivism	Stakeholder ↑ Obstacle Para-athletes ↓ Influence Non-athletes	Strong 'ONE' voice vs No voice	3. Han culture	Hope = Encouragement Or Harshness = Discouragement						
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