

Chapter 7 – Essay Questions

1. Your supervisor in a large public sport and recreation centre tells you that she thinks it is possible for sports to be sites for young people to learn how to control expressions of violence. She asks you to design a programme in which young people might learn to be less violent. What kind of a programme would you develop, and how would it be organized to meet your supervisor's expectations?
2. Feminist cultural critic Varda Burstyn has argued that the hypermasculinity exhibited in certain power and performance sports reaffirms a gender ideology based on the belief that men are naturally superior to women. How does she support her argument? Do you agree or disagree with it? Provide examples to support your agreement or disagreement.
3. Violence among spectators can be a serious problem. Some people say that this problem exists because people learn violent behaviour patterns while they are watching sports. Evaluate this hypothesis on the basis of materials in the book. Also explain whether you are a more violent person because you have watched sports on television.
4. Research indicates that crowd violence is a complex social phenomenon. It is related to three factors: action in the sport event, crowd dynamics and situational factors, and the context in which the event occurs. Give an example of crowd violence and indicate how one or more of these three factors may be related to the incidence of violence among spectators.
5. You are hosting a game between your #1-ranked football team and the #2-ranked team in your division. Violence has occurred at this game in previous years. After reading the chapter, what measures would you take to control player and spectator violence on and off the field?