



ISCPES

International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport

edited by

IISE HARTMANN-TEWS

and **GERTRUD PFISTER**

SPORT AND WOMEN

SOCIAL ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Sport and Women

Social issues in international
perspective

Edited by Ilse Hartmann-Tews
and Gertrud Pfister

 **Routledge**
Taylor & Francis Group
LONDON AND NEW YORK



ISCPES

International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport

First published 2003
by Routledge
11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE

Simultaneously published in the USA and Canada
by Routledge
29 West 35th Street, New York, NY 10001

Transferred to Digital Printing 2004

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group

©2003 Ilse Hartmann-Tews and Gertrud Pfister for selection and
editorial matter; individual chapters the contributors

Typeset in Garamond by Taylor & Francis Books Ltd
Printed and bound in Great Britain by TJI Digital,
Padstow, Cornwall

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted
or reproduced or utilised in any form or by any electronic,
mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter
invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any
information storage or retrieval system, without permission in
writing from the publishers.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Sport and women : social issues in international perspective / edited
by Ilse Hartmann-Tews and Gertrud Pfister.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Sports for women—Cross-cultural studies. 2. Sports—Social
aspects—Cross-cultural studies. 3. Sports—Sex differences—Cross-
cultural studies. I. Hartmann-Tews, Ilse. II. Pfister, Gertrud.

GV709 .S66 2003
796'.082—dc21 2002073982

ISBN 0-415-24627-X (hbk)
ISBN 0-415-24628-8 (pbk)

Sport and Women

Although female athletes are successful in all types of sport, in many countries sport is still a male domain. This book examines and compares the sporting experiences of women from different countries around the world and offers the first systematic and cross-cultural analysis of the topic of women in sport.

Sport and Women presents a wealth of new research data, including in-depth casestudies of 16 countries in North and South America, Asia, Oceania, Eastern and Western Europe and Africa. In addition, the book offers comparative assessments of the extent to which women are represented in global sport and the opportunities that women have to participate in decision-making processes in sport.

The book illuminates a wide range of key international issues in women's sport, such as cultural barriers to participation and the efficacy of political action. It is therefore essential reading for anybody with an interest in the sociology, culture and politics of sport.

Ilse Hartmann-Tews is Professor of Sport Sociology and Gender Studies at the Institute of Sport Sociology and is currently Dean of the Faculty of Social and Cultural Sciences at the German Sport University, Cologne. **Gertrud Pfister** is Professor at the Institute of Exercise and Sport Science at the University of Copenhagen and was President (now Vice-President) of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport.

**International Society for Comparative Physical
Education and Sport**

Series Editor: Ken Hardman

University of Manchester

Other titles in the series include:

Sport and Physical Education in China

Edited by James Riordan and Robin Jones

Sport and Physical Education in Germany

Edited by Roland Naul and Ken Hardman

Contributors

D. Margaret Costa is Professor of Kinesiology and Director of Interdisciplinary Studies at California State University, Long Beach, USA. Her current research is on the international sporting woman with emphasis on women from developing countries. She has published 'Cultural Diffusion in Brazil: Sports and Other Pastimes' in *Brazil 500 Years: Crossing Borders From Cabral to the Third Millennium* (2000), supported by the United States' Department of Education Fulbright Commission. Her latest book review is of Maartin Van Bottenburg's *Global Games*, published by the Journal of Sport History.

Nicole Dechavanne is Senior Lecturer at the Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres Physical Education (IUFM) in Paris (since 1991). She was president and national coach of the Fédération Française d'Éducation Physique et de Gymnastique Volontaire (FFEPGV). In 1998 she was elected as a member of the Comité National Olympique et Sportif Française (CNOSF) and in 2000 as Foundation President of the Association 'Femmes, Mixité Sport'.

Kari Fasting is Professor at the Department of Social Science of the Norwegian University of Sport and Physical Education in Oslo, Norway. She became the first elected Chair of this institution and served as Rector from 1989 to 1994. She is Past President of the International Sociology of Sport Association (ISSA) and is currently the Vice-President of the Executive Board of Women's Sport International (WSI). Her main research is gender and sport. She has published widely on different aspects related to women, exercise and sport. At present she is involved in collaborative research in the area of sexual harassment.

Ludmila Fialová is an Associate Professor at the Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic and is working in the Department of Psychology, Pedagogy and Didactics at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport. Her most recent books include *Body Image as a Part of the Self-Concept* (Karolinum, 2001) and *Didactics of School Sport* (with Antonín Rychtecký, Karolinum, 2000). She is the Scientific Secretary in the Czech Kinanthropologic Society. Her research is in the area of body concepts, health and sport, especially amongst women.

Rubiela Arboleda Gómez is a teacher and research assistant at the Instituto Universitario Educación Física y Deporte at the University of Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia. She graduated in Physical Education and Anthropology and has a Masters degree in Contemporary Social Problems. Her research focuses on body culture and semiotic with a special interest in the relation between sport, gender and social behaviour. Her most recent research deals with somatic culture in different human groups. She has several publications on the relation of body and culture and she is member of the *Somatic Culture Research Group*.

M. Ann Hall is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Alberta in Canada. She serves on the editorial board of several academic journals, and is co-editor of the 'Sport and Culture' book series published by the University of Minnesota Press. Her most recent books include: *The Girl and the Game: A History of Women's Sport in Canada* (Broadview Press, 2002); *Honoring the Legacy: Fifty Years of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women* (with Gertrud Pfister, Smith College, 1999), and *Feminism and Sporting Bodies: Essays on Theory and Practice* (Human Kinetics, 1996).

Ilse Hartmann-Tews is Professor of Sport Sociology and Gender Studies in the Institute of Sport Sociology, and is currently Dean of the Faculty of Social and Cultural Sciences at the German Sport University, Cologne. She serves on editorial boards of several academic journals and is member of the Extended Executive Board of the International Sociology of Sport Association (ISSA) and member of the Board of Directors of the European College of Sport Science (ECSS). She has written extensively on sports development in a comparative perspective and on gender issues in sports. Her ongoing research focus is on social construction of gender in the sport media, gender imbalances in decision making positions in sport and issues of gender mainstreaming.

Fan Hong is Reader in the Department of Sports Sciences at De Montfort University in England. She was an editor of the *Chinese Journal of Sports Culture and History* in the 1980s. Her main research interests are in the areas of body, gender and sport with particular reference to China. Her most recent books in English are: *Sport in Asian Society: Past and Present* (co-edited with J.A. Mangan, Cass, 2002), *Freeing the Female Body: Inspirational Icons* (co-edited with J.A. Mangan, Cass, 2001) and *Footbinding, Feminism and Freedom: The Liberation of Women's Bodies in Modern China* (Cass, 1997). She is a member of various renowned editorial boards and sport commissions.

Denise E. M. Jones is a Senior Lecturer at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. She completed her Ph.D. on *Gender, Sport and Power: The Construction of Identities as Sportswomen in South Africa* (2001) at the Netherlands Research School for Women's Studies. She received the

National Sports Council's award for her contribution to women and sport in South Africa. She has served as an elected member of Women and Sport South Africa (WASSA) and is an editorial member of the International Council for Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE). She has written a policy document entitled *Women and Girls get Active* (1997), has an entry on 'South Africa' in the *International Encyclopedia of Women and Sports* (with Jennifer Hargreaves, 2001) and a chapter entitled *In Pursuit of Empowerment: Sensei Nellie Kleinsmidt, Race and Gender Challenges in South Africa* (with J.A. Mangan and Fan Hong as editors, 2001).

Machiko Kimura is Professor at the Nara University of Education in Japan. She is Commissioner of the Sports Sector in the Science Council of Japan, and co-editor of the Japanese Journal of Physical Education, Health and Sports Science. Her most recent books are *Taiikukakyoku o manabubito no tameni* (For Students of Physical Education) (co-edited with Atsuo Sugimoto, Kyoto: Sekaishisoya, 2001) and *Sportsbunka no Genzai* (Sports Culture at Present) (Nara University of Education, 1998).

Sascha Alexandra Luetkens studied Sports Science, English and Spanish philology at the University of Cologne and German Sport University Cologne, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and Universidad de Sevilla (Spain). She is Research Assistant at the Institutes of Sociology of Sport and Leisure Studies at the German Sport University Cologne and part time lecturer in Gender Studies. Her research focuses on national and international sports development and youth research (gender approach). In the context of research projects, she advises regional sports and youth organisations on sports development. Her most recent publication is *Berichterstattung und Wissensmanagement im Sportsystem* (Surveillance, Monitoring and Knowledge-Management in the Sport System) (in collaboration with C. Breuer, V. Rittner and F. Herb, Cologne, 2002).

Prisca Massao graduated with a Bachelor of Education in Physical Education at the University of Dar-es-Salaam and a Master's degree in Sport Sociology at the Norwegian University of Sport and Physical Education. Her masters thesis was titled *Women in Sport: Feminist Analysis of the Sport Development Policy of Tanzania*.

Ludmila Mourão has been teaching since 1985 and is a Research Assistant at the Department of Physical Education, Gama Filho University, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Her doctoral study was in the area of Gender and Sport, specifically on *Social Representation of Brazilian Woman in Physical Sporting Activity* (1998). Her research is related to gender, body and society with a main focus on the analysis of Sport Events. Her most recent publication, co-authored with S. Votre is 'Ignoring Taboos: Maria Lenk, Latin American Inspirationalist', in *Freeing the Female Body: The International Journal of the History of Sport* 18, 1: 196–218 (2001).

Gertrud Pfister is Professor at the Institute of Exercise and Sport Sciences at the University of Copenhagen. She serves on editorial boards of several academic journals, is co-editor of three book series and holds a number of international offices including Vice-President of the International Society for Sport History and Convenor of the Committee of Consultants of IAPESGW. She had 'guest professor' status at several universities (among others Queens University, Kingston, Canada and University Playa Ancha, Valparaíso, Chile) and has given numerous keynote presentations at international congresses. Recent authored books are *Sport im Lebenszusammenhang von Frauen* (Schorndorf: Hofmann 1999), *Frauen und Sport in der DDR* (Köln: Strauß 2002). She is co-editor of the *International Encyclopaedia of Women and Sport* (New York: Macmillan 2001).

Núria Puig is Professor for Sociology of Sport at the Institut Nacional d'Educació Física de Catalunya (INEFC) in Barcelona. She has a Ph.D. in Political Sciences and Sociology (Paris, 1980) and a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Sciences of Education (Barcelona 1993). She has published in different languages. Her main areas of research are Socialisation, Sport Organisations and Sport and Space. She serves on the editorial boards of several academic journals. She is a member of the International Sociology of Sport Association and the Asociación Española de Investigación Social aplicada al Deporte.

Gloria Vallejo Rendón is a teacher and research assistant at the Instituto Universitario Educación Física y Deporte of the University of Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia. She graduated in Music Education, specialising in Music and Pedagogy of Dancing at the German Sports University, Cologne; she has a Masters in Linguistics. Her recent research deals with the relationship of sport and music focusing on non-verbal communication and terminology in the fields of instrumental music execution and sport training (gender perspective). She has several publications on the relation of body and culture and she is member of the Somatic Culture Research Group.

Susanna Soler is a member of the research group Attitudes and Values in Physical Education and Sport at the 'Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona' and collaborates with the Women and Sport Study Group (G.E.D.E.) at the INEFC Barcelona, Spain. Her most recent research is on sport history in Catalonia and the development of women soccer players' training. She is involved with several projects on values in physical education in primary schools in Barcelona, and especially in coeducation. She collaborates as a teacher in different courses in continuing education training.

Shona M. Thompson is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Auckland in New Zealand. She serves on the editorial board of several academic journals and is currently editing a book which collates research on women in sport in New Zealand. Her recent book, *Mother's Taxi: Sport and Women's*

Labor (State University of New York Press, 1999) is based on research in Australia, recording experiences of women, who are wives and mothers of sport players and also those who are sport-playing club members.

Sebastião Votre is a research assistant at the Department of Physical Education, Gama Filho University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He has a Ph.D. in Socio-linguistics. Recently published texts include 'Ignoring Taboos: Maria Lenk, Latin American Inspirationalist', in *Freeing the Female Body: The International Journal of the History of Sport* 18, 1: 196–218 (2001) (co-authored with L. Mourão), and 'On Athleticism in the Victorian and Edwardian Public School: A Semiotic Analysis of J.A. Mangan's Approach to Historical Knowledge', in *Culture, Sport, Society* 4 (2001).

Anita White is a Visiting Professor at Loughborough University, UK, and an international consultant in sports policy and sports development. She is an acknowledged leader in the Women and Sport Movement both in the UK and internationally, and advises several national and international organisations on women's sports development. Recent publications include *The Politics of Sports Development: Development of Sport or Development through Sport?* (with Barrie Houlihan, Routledge, 2002) and *From Windhoek to Montreal: Women and Sport Progress Report 1998–2002* (with Deena Scoretz, Sport Canada, 2002).

Foreword

Ilse Hartmann-Tews and Gertrud Pfister

There have been several international calls for action to increase the representation of girls and women in sports-related physical activity and provide greater opportunities for appropriate participation in decision-making processes. The extent to which these actions have had an impact on the situation of girls and women in sport is difficult to determine, mainly because there is a dearth of substantiated information on impacts in different countries. To date there has been no systematic international or cross-cultural analysis about opportunities for, and constraints on, participation in sport, about the influence of different structural and cultural phenomena and no authentic documentation to evaluate the effects of political action. These are gaps in knowledge that this book intends to fill.

The content of the book is international, analysing trends in countries from North and South America, the Middle East, Asia and Oceania, in Africa and West and East Europe. The selection of countries is reflective of geographical representation, different socio-economic, cultural contexts and political structures. It will help to gain a deeper understanding of the peculiar features of each country and of social issues in women and sport, which are of central concern in different countries. At the same time it will provide authentic material for critical comparative analysis and test the generality of statements about common patterns of development and gender issues in sport in different cultures.

The book brings together authors that have first hand experiences and scholarly knowledge of the situation of girls and women in physical education and sport. Although all chapters are written against the background of a shared analytic framework, they are characterised by individual styles, they reflect the diversity of cultures of science and sometimes even political constraints. All of this makes each of the contributions an invaluable piece of a mosaic still to be unearthed.

The book has a contextualising introductory chapter on the analytical background of international and comparative research and the underlying theoretical framework of a constructivist gender studies approach. The main contents of the book are individual chapters on sixteen countries. The final concluding chapter draws all the threads together in comparative/cross-cultural contexts. It focuses on the general findings with a special orientation to cross-cultural trends and the recognition of idiosyncratic developments, 'those that are tied up with specific cultures' and appreciates examples of 'good practice'.

Series editor's preface

Ken Hardman

The International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport (ISCPES) launched this book series in conjunction with E. & F.N. Spon and Routledge in 1999 with the first title *Sport and Physical Education in China* (Riordan and Jones, 1999: E. & F.N. Spon). The concept for the series originated in a perceived need to rectify the dearth of published literature in the international, comparative, trans-national and cross-cultural domains of sport and physical education. The concept was linked with the intention of moving international and comparative studies beyond description through disseminating analytically interpreted information and fostering critical awareness and understanding. Hence, in keeping with the ISCPES mission of developing international and comparative study through support and encouragement of those seeking to initiate and strengthen research and teaching programmes in physical education and sport throughout the world, the primary purposes of the titles in the series individually and collectively are to extend knowledge and stimulate comparative and reflective understanding of national systems and thematic and topical issues.

Structurally, the series is divided into two types of text: volumes, which essentially adopt an 'area' (i.e. mono-national) focus, and volumes which address 'problems' (i.e. topics or themes) in international and/or cross-cultural settings. Thus, the first two published titles in the series, *Sport and Physical Education in China*, followed by *Sport and Physical Education in Germany* (Naul and Hardman, 2002: Routledge), focused on national systems. This third title, *Sport and Women: Social Issues in International Perspective*, in specifically addressing this gender-related topical theme, is the first volume to take a 'problem' study approach. Like its two 'area' text predecessors, the template for the content of this 'problem' study volume facilitates comparative awareness of situations and developments in a differentiated array of countries and cultures and provides an analytic dimension rather than a mere descriptive narration of systems and issues, which are pervasively important in global and cross-cultural contexts. At the same time, these situations and developments are subject to culturally specific 'local' (national and/or community) interpretations, policies and practices, which have variously been shaped by a range of historical, ideological, polit-

ical, economic and social factors. Inevitably, therefore, similarities, variations and differences are encountered at these 'local' levels. The informed contributions, which form the content and which provide the international and comparative perspectives contained within this third volume, accord with the intention that all titles in the series present explanations and/or interpretations. In this way each volume represents a significant contribution to the progression of comparative, cross-cultural and trans-national studies.

Each text can be used on an individual/separate basis to extend knowledge and understanding. Equally, the volumes can be taken together as an integrated basis for informed comparisons, whether of national systems or thematic issues, thereby serving the overall purpose of contributing to critical awareness and analysis amongst confirmed and potential 'comparativists', academics, professionals and young scholars at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The facilitation of acquisition of critical and analytical skills and deeper insights into national systems and thematic issues in a variety of geo-demographic, political, economic and sociocultural settings is indicative of the ISCPES quest for development and enhancement of the international and comparative genre in sport and physical education related studies. This book series is a significant element in this quest.

Acknowledgements

Good ideas need individuals who are ready to work for it and commit energy, time and resources. Ken Hardman, former President of the International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport (ISCPES) and Editor-in-Chief of the Series has been central for the success in compiling this book and the editors express their deep appreciation for the work he has done. He not only played a vital role in the conception of the idea but committed inestimable energy in language control and comments on the contents.

We are indebted too to Sascha Alexandra Luetkens who played a central role at the operational basis in Cologne. Her managing abilities and obliging communications secured that (most) of our authors kept perfectly to the schedule and accomplished all the missing bibliographical material just in time. We very much appreciate her collaboration.

In addition we thank the 'Club of Cologne' for its sponsorship of a meeting of contributors and editors in Cologne 2001, a meeting, which intensified communication about the contents of the book and assisted in securing additional authors.

Last but not least we want to express our thanks to all the authors who helped to make this book an important building block in the broader feminist comparative research cycle.

Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	vii
<i>Notes on contributors</i>	viii
<i>Foreword</i>	xiii
<i>Series editor's preface</i>	xiv
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xvi
1 Women and sport in comparative and international perspectives: issues, aims and theoretical approaches	1
GERTRUD PFISTER AND ILSE HARTMANN-TEWS	
2 Women and sport in Norway	15
KARI FASTING	
3 Women and sport in the UK	35
ANITA WHITE	
4 The inclusion of women into the German sport system	53
ILSE HARTMANN-TEWS AND SASCHA ALEXANDRA LUETKENS	
5 Sports development and inclusion of women in France	70
NICOLE DECHAVANNE AND ILSE HARTMANN-TEWS	
6 Women and sport in Spain	83
NÚRIA PUIG AND SUSANNA SOLER	
7 Women and sport in the Czech Republic	102
LUDMILA FIALOVÁ	
8 Women and sport in Tanzania	118
PRISCA MASSAO AND KARI FASTING	

9	Women and sport in South Africa: shaped by history and shaping sporting history	130
	DENISE E.M. JONES	
10	Social issues in American women's sports	145
	D. MARGARET COSTA	
11	Girls' and women's sport in Canada: from playground to podium	161
	M. ANN HALL	
12	Brazilian women and girls in physical activities and sport	179
	LUDEMILA MOURÃO AND SEBASTIÃO VOTRE	
13	Women in Colombian sport: a review of absence and redemption	192
	RUBIELA ARBOLEDA GÓMEZ AND GLORIA VALLEJO RENDÓN	
14	Women and sport in Iran: keeping goal in the <i>bijab</i> ?	207
	GERTRUD PFISTER	
15	Women's sport in the People's Republic of China: body, politics and the unfinished revolution	224
	FAN HONG	
16	Gender relations in Japanese sports organisation and sport involvement	238
	MACHIKO KIMURA	
17	Women and sport in New Zealand	252
	SHONA M. THOMPSON	
18	Women's inclusion in sport: international and comparative findings	266
	ILSE HARTMANN-TEWS AND GERTRUD PFISTER	
	<i>Index</i>	281

Illustrations

Tables

5.1	Physical activity in France by sex, age and regular physical activity	76
6.1	Spanish participation in the Olympics according to gender	90
10.1	Comparison of all-time LPGA winners with 2002 PGA winners	157
12.1	Paralympic medals at Sydney 2000	182
12.2	Brazilian athletes in Sydney 2000	186
13.1	Best Colombian sportsmen and sportswomen with reference to the National Games	195
15.1	Centralised Chinese Sports Ministry before 1980	225
15.2	Reformed Chinese Sports Ministry after 1980	226
17.1	Sport and Physical Activity National Survey 1997 (New Zealand)	257

Figures

2.1	The percentage of physically active Norwegian women	21
2.2	The development in membership in the largest sports in Norway among women over seventeen years of age, 1985–99	22
4.1	Structure of the sport system in Germany	55
5.1	Structure of the sport system in France	73
6.1	Structure of the sport system in Spain	83
7.1	Structure of the sport system in the Czech Republic	103
7.2	Membership in Czech sports clubs according to gender and age of respondents	111
8.1	Structure of the sport system in Tanzania	118
11.1	Structure of the sport system in Canada	162
13.1	Structure of the sport system in Colombia	194
16.1	Structure of the sport system in Japan	239
16.2	Admission rates to Japanese sports clubs (by sex and age)	244
17.1	Structure of the sport system in New Zealand	254