

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-58945

Title: Perception du developpement psychosocial des enfants de l'École du Sport de l'Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis selon les parents.

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	X			
Techn. Quality	X			
Clarity	X			
Significance		X		

Reviewer's ID: JPR-212

Detailed Reviewer's Report

General Assessment:

This is a well-designed and clearly presented study that makes a meaningful contribution to the understanding of organized sports' impact on child development in the Senegalese context. The research addresses an important gap in the literature, as most studies on this topic have been conducted in Western or other non-African settings. The choice to focus on parents' perceptions is methodologically sound, as parents are key observers of their children's development across multiple domains. The mixed-methods approach is appropriate and well-executed, with the quantitative data providing clear evidence of differences between organized and informal sports participation, while the qualitative data (from interviews with specialists) adds depth and explanatory power to the findings.

The paper is logically structured, the literature review is comprehensive, and the results are presented in a clear and accessible manner through well-designed tables. The discussion effectively connects the findings to existing theoretical frameworks and empirical studies. The study has practical implications for educational policy, sports programming, and child development interventions in Senegal and similar contexts. The manuscript is in very good shape and requires only minor revisions to further strengthen its presentation and scholarly impact.

Minor Issues (to be addressed in revision):

1. Language and Clarity Issues:

- **Inconsistent Language Usage:** The paper uses both French and English in the abstract and keywords. While the main text is in French, the abstract is presented in both languages, which is appropriate for an international journal. However, the keywords are listed only in French ("Mots-clés") and then again in English ("Keywords"). This should be standardized. If the journal requires both, they should be clearly labeled and presented consistently.
- **Typographical Error:** On Page 4, Table 1, the row for "Gestion des émotions élevée" shows a percentage of 2296 for the "Sport encadré UGB" column. This is clearly a typographical error and should read "96%" or "100%". This needs to be corrected.
- **Slight Awkward Phrasing:** On Page 6, line 146, the phrase "le cadre institutionnel favorise l'apprentissage systématique" could be slightly rephrased for greater precision, perhaps as "le cadre institutionnel favorise un apprentissage systématique et structuré."

2. Methodological Details to Strengthen:

- **Sample Selection Justification:** The methodology section (Page 3-4) describes the population but does not provide sufficient detail on *how* the 25 children for the organized sport group and the 23

REVIEWER'S REPORT

children for the informal sport group were selected. What were the inclusion/exclusion criteria? How were the parents of the informal sport group identified (e.g., through schools, community centers)? Adding a few sentences to justify the sampling strategy would strengthen the methodological rigor.

- **Questionnaire Development:** The paper mentions a questionnaire for parents but does not describe how it was developed. Was it adapted from existing validated instruments? Was it piloted? Were there questions about the reliability (e.g., Cronbach's alpha) of the scales used? Providing this information would enhance confidence in the quantitative findings.
- **Informed Consent:** There is no mention of informed consent from the parents or ethical approval for the study. While this may have been obtained, it should be explicitly stated in the methodology section, especially given that the research involves children.

3. Data Presentation and Interpretation:

- **Inconsistency in Table 1:** Table 1 shows that for "Épanouissement élevé," the informal sport group reports 91% while the organized sport group reports 77%. This is a surprising finding, as it suggests that children in informal sports feel more "épanoui" (fulfilled). The author should address this apparent anomaly in the discussion section. Is it because informal sports provide more freedom and enjoyment, while organized sports can sometimes be more demanding or stressful? This is an interesting finding that warrants interpretation.
- **Table 2 and Table 4:** The data in Table 2 (Développement cognitif perçu) is striking, particularly the 80% for "Résolution de problèmes élevée" in the organized group compared to 18% in the informal group. This is a very strong finding. However, Table 4 ("Priorités éducatives des encadreurs selon les parents") shows that parents perceive "Résultats sportifs" as a priority for only 40% of coaches. This is interesting but does not directly connect to the cognitive/psychosocial findings. The discussion could better integrate these two findings by suggesting that coaches' focus on holistic development (plaisir, développement personnel, cognitif) may be the mechanism leading to the cognitive improvements.
- **Sample Size:** The overall sample size (N=48) is relatively small. While the mixed-methods design helps compensate for this, the author should explicitly acknowledge this as a limitation in the conclusion and suggest that future research with larger, more diverse samples (e.g., including children from different regions of Senegal, different socio-economic backgrounds) would strengthen the generalizability of the findings.

4. Strengthening the Contribution:

- **Contextual Significance:** The study is conducted in Senegal, a West African country where organized youth sports programs are less prevalent than in many Western countries. The author could briefly highlight the significance of this context in the introduction or discussion. For example, how do the findings speak to the challenges and opportunities of promoting organized sports in resource-limited settings in Africa?
- **Practical Recommendations:** The recommendations on Page 6-7 are good but could be more detailed. For example, the recommendation to "renforcer les écoles de sport" could be expanded with specific suggestions: "Il serait bénéfique d'étendre le modèle de l'École du Sport de l'UGB à d'autres régions du Sénégal, tout en adaptant les programmes aux ressources locales." Similarly, "former les encadreurs en psychologie du sport" could be expanded to suggest specific training modules (e.g., child development, positive coaching, emotion regulation strategies).

Specific Comments for the Authors (for a Minor Revision):

This is an excellent and valuable study that is very close to being ready for publication. The author has made a significant contribution to the literature on sport and child development in the African context. The following minor revisions are recommended to polish the manuscript and strengthen its scholarly impact:

1. **Correct Typographical Errors:** Fix the "2296" error in Table 1 and ensure consistent language labeling in the abstract and keywords.
2. **Enhance the Methodology Section:** Add a brief justification for the sampling strategy, describe the questionnaire development process (even briefly), and explicitly mention informed consent and ethical approval.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

- Interpret the Anomalous Finding:** In the discussion, specifically address the counterintuitive finding from Table 1 regarding "Épanouissement élevé" and offer a plausible interpretation (e.g., the freedom of informal sports vs. the structure/rules of organized sports).
- Acknowledge Limitations:** Explicitly state the small sample size as a limitation and mention the need for future research with larger, more diverse samples.
- Refine the Recommendations:** Expand the practical recommendations to be more specific and contextualized to the Senegalese/African context.
- Proofread for Minor Language Errors:** Conduct a final proofread to catch any remaining minor typos or awkward phrasing.

Conclusion:

This paper presents a well-conceived, methodologically sound, and significant study on parents' perceptions of organized sports' impact on child development in Senegal. The mixed-methods design is appropriate and effectively used, and the findings clearly demonstrate the benefits of structured sports programs. The study makes an important contribution to the field of sport psychology and educational development, particularly in a context where such research is scarce. With the minor revisions outlined above, this manuscript will be ready for publication and will serve as a valuable resource for researchers, policymakers, and practitioners working in child development and sports education in Africa and beyond. The recommendation is therefore for acceptance after minor revision.