# The Comparision of Narcissism Levels of Theathletes at Individual Sports According to Their Socio-Demographic Features

Ünsal TAZEGÜL<sup>1</sup> Aytekin SOYKAN<sup>2</sup>

### **Abstract**

The aim of this research is to compare degree variable based, by determining the narcissism levels of male athletes. Narcist Personality Inventory, which has been translated into Turkish by Salim ATAY in 2009, has been used at the research. 55 male boxers, 72 male free style wrestlers, 66 male greko-roman style wrestlers, 56 male weight-lifters, 61 male kick-boxers, who have attended the Türkiye championship in 2012 and have been chosen by random sampling method, form the sample of the research. SPSS 15 Packet program has been used to analysis the datas. To determine, the datas having normal distribution "Kolmogorov-Smirnov" test, to determine the homogeneity of the datas "Anova-Homogeneity of Variance" test, has been applied and Datas having normal and homogenous distribution have been determined. For analysing the datas descriptive statistic, to determine the relationship between more than 2 variables one-way variance analysis and also to determine the relationship between the variables Tukey test has been applied. There has been found a difference at meaningful level as statistically between 16 and 17-18 age groups at weight lifting sport branch. There has been found a difference at meaningful level as statistically between 4-5 and 6-8 age groups at free style wrestling sport branch.

**KeyWords:** Narcissism, Sportman, Socia-demographic.

### Introduction

Narcissistic personality is defined as the person who admires his physical and psychological characteristics and is so much full of himself (Back & Schmukle,2010; Brown & Hill, 2004; Edelstein et al, 2010; Seward, 2007). Sigmund Freud has used the narcissism term for the first time as a footnote in his journal titled "Three Essays on The Theory of Sexuality" published on 1910, and realized his first important study on narcissism with his journal called as "On Narcissism: An Introduction" written on 1914 (Rapier,2005).

According to Freud, he describes narcissism as libidinal investment from the outside world by pulling one's self directed and he talks about two kinds of narcissism. Primary narcissism is described as the child's libidinal investment in external objects, not of self-directed and that all children have to go through such a specific maturation process. According to Freud, primary narcissism and libidinal energy are found in self/ego from the start and they are not directed to the objects. This situation is followed by swelling of the self accompanied by feelings of being powerful and precise. Freud also defined secondary narcissism as relationship difficulties and frustrations as a result of acts of the next process, which is made of the libidinal investment in the outside World and withdrawing from people, directed to self/ego (Timothy et al, 2006; Gençtan,2004).

According to Greek mythology, Narcissus was a young man who fell in love with his own reflection on lake and he drowned when he attempted to hug his reflection. This is the root of the word narcissism and it is described as someone's desire to his/her body (Timuroğlu, 2005;Brunellet al, 2008).

Even if Otto Rank used the term narcissism to describe self-sexual love, he also referred narcissism as arrogance and self love (Atay, 2010). Kenten desribes narcissism as a defence mechanism that a child establishes in order to tackle with the anxiety that his/her parents may leave him/her alone by the age of 3. Kenten also argues that this distorted relationship is taken to adulthood via boosted ego (Rataj, 2003)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>School of Physical Education and Sports, Marmara University, İstanbul, Turkiye 128

Narcissist athletes reveal hostility and skepticism for human relations in their later relationships due to their negaitve experinces with their families in early childhood. As a result, pre-conditions of social feedback and self-implications, remain uncertain manner, so that doubts arise about the value of social feedback. Narcissistic athletes feel the need for testing whether the others bear appreciative thoughts or not and keep their relations under constant pressure in order to get the desired feedback. However, due to negative experinces in their early childhood not only they have distrust but also they can not really love and care the others, at the same time underestimate them (Gülmez, 2009; Morf & Rhodewalt).

Narcissism may sometimes affect the performance of the athletes positively. Narcissistic athletes themselves feel valuable, and their admiration for others to gain advantage depends on the capabilities of reveal themselves. They reveal their superiority by exhibiting the best movements that they perform in the sports field and try to attract attention. They are less interested in being loved and cared when compared to other people. Therefore, narcissistic athletes behave combatant and self assertive during the competition in order to avoid the destruction of their self-esteem due to performance failure. The most important thing for a narcissistic athlete is to win. They also apply for unethical behaviors in order to acquire the targeted objective (Wallace & Baumeister, 2002).

Narcissist athletes, often see their failure's reason in the referee's attitude, "strange rules", audiences, "the wrong strategies of coach" etc. They usually do not face their failure and do not believe in their responsibility in failure (Tazegül, 2011).

The narcissism types seen in athletes are divided in to two as dangerless and pathological:

Dangerless narcissism: Athlete's own struggle, and the resulting object is something that at the end of occupation. For example, a movement is learned from working with athletes that have achieved success, or due to a narcissistically compliment. Emerged as a result of their efforts to object, his excessive interest in the success of their own works of non-stop throughout the study, his interest in the materials used is balanced. Wherefore the factors that create dangerless narcissism self evaluate itself (Fromm 1994).

Dangerless narcissism, procures the athlete can deal effectively feel the expectations of the environment and the surrounding area, activities to enjoy, be proud of the achievements, errors and omissions to experience feelings of shame and anger, (Rozenblatt, 2002).

2) Pathological narcissism: Its object is not created or produced by the athlete, it is the thing owned by him. For example, his body, appearance, wealth, beauty... sickly narcissistic athletes have achieved something of a feature, not because they have also boast (Foster &campbell, 2007; Fromm, 1994).

Basic purpose of this study is to determine narcissism levels of male sportsman and compare narcissism levels of sportsman based on highest level variables gained through calendar age and sports age of sportsman among their socio-demographical characteristics.

# Material and Method

# **Participants**

Universe of the study consists of people doing box, free wrestling, Greco-roman wrestling, weight lifting and kick box between ages 17-19 in Turkey. Paradigm consists of 55 male boxers, 72 male free wrestlers, 66 male grco-roman wrestlers, 56 male weight lifters and 61 nake kick-boxers who participate to Turkey Championship in 2012 and selected with random paradigm method.

#### **Research Data Collection**

Narcissistic Personality Inventory composed of 16 questions and translated into Turkish by Salim Atay in 2009 was used as a scale factor. NPI composed of 16 questions was arranged by Daniel R. Ames, Paul Rose ve Cameron P. Anderson in 2005 translated into Turkish by Salim Atay. After the pilot application by Atay Cronbach's Alpha value was determined as 0,57 in the first performed study. Reliability coefficient below the values expected due to the presence of each factor scale, the negative correlation is detected and evaluated and determined not provide additive scale of four, were revised statement. After the measurements performed this change Cronbach's Alpha value was raised to 0,652. The questions in 16 questions scale factor translated into Turkish by Atay also distributed in 6 factors as superiority, authority, pretension, self sufficiency and exploitation similar to the 16 questions NPI English version.

The points that can be gained from NPI are: extent of authority 0-2, extent of exhibitionism 0-3, extent of explotation 0-3, extent of pretension 0-2, extent of self-sufficiency 0-3, extent of superiority 0-3, total narcissism is between 0-16 points. As the point increases the level of narcissism also increases (Atay, 2010; Atay, 2009).

# **Analysis of Data**

SPSS 15 software was used to analyze the data obtained. On whether a normal distribution of the data for one sample "Kolmogorov-Smirnov 'are used and are found to have a normal distribution of the data. Then, in order to assess whether or not a homogenous data "Anova-Homogeneity of variance" test was applied and the data were found to be homogeneous. After this initial inspection of the test method shall be used parametric statistical analysis of the data. Descriptive statistics and more than 2 variables to determine the difference between the one-way Anova analysis, Tukey's test was applied to determine the difference between the variables.

# **Results**

Findings acquired as the result of research are analyzed in this section.

Table 1.Degree, sports age, age variable descriptive statistical findings

	Degree V	Degree Variable		Sports age variable		Age variable		
	$\overline{X}$	S.D		X	S.D		X	S.D
Region first end	7,185	2,820	1-3	6,780	2,848	16	6,794	2,678
Champion of Turkey	7,176	2,480	4-6	6,800	2,749	17	6,758	2,850
Turkey first end	6,267	2,812	6-8	6,606	2,517	18	6,769	2,171
International Competition First End	6,444	2,030	8 >	6,977	2,017			

Descriptive statistical analysis of the findings in Table 1, which ranked among the top three athletes in the region (=  $7.185 \pm 2.820$ ) for the first time, Turkey's champion athletes (=  $7.176 \pm 2.480$ ) in second place, which entered into International tournament among the top three athletes (=  $6.444 \pm 2.030$ ), which became one of the top three athletes in Turkey and in the third row (=  $6.267 \pm 2.812$ ) is in last place. Sports athletes who are over the age of 8 (=  $6.977 \pm 2.017$ ) for the first time, the fitness of athletes who are aged 4 - 5 (=  $6.800 \pm 2.749$ ) in the dualistic, sports athletes with age between 1 and 3 (=  $6.780 \pm 2.848$ ) in the third, sports age 6 of 8 athletes with provincial (=  $6.606 \pm 2.517$ ) is in last place. 16 age group athletes (=  $6.794 \pm 2.678$ ) for the first time, the age group of 18 athletes (=  $6.769 \pm 2.171$ ) in second age group of 17 athletes (=  $6.794 \pm 2.678$ ) is in last place.

Table 2.Single Way variance analysis

Degree variable			Sports age		Age		
	F	P	F	P	F	P	
	2,725	,030	,179	,911	,006	,994	

Table 2 Analysis of variance is analyzed, highly variable statistically significant differences (p <0.05), no statistically significant differences were found for the other variables (p>0.05).

Table 3.Inter- comparison of age variables (Tukey test)

Age		MeanDifference (I-J)	Std. Error	P
16	17	,03654	,34844	,994
	18	,02489	,39770	,998
17	16	-,03654	,34844	,994
	18	-,01166	,42105	1,000
18	16	-,02489	,39770	,998
	17	,01166	,42105	1,000

In table 3, as the result of inter-comparison of age variables, no important statistical difference is found between all variables (p>0,05).

MeanDifference Sports age 1-3 4-5 -0.0200,384 1,000 6-7 0.174 0,419 0,976 8 > -0,1970,478 0,976 4-5 1-3 0,020 0,384 1,000 6-7 0,969 0.194 0.428 8 > -0,1770,486 0,983 6-7 1-3 -0.174 0,419 0,976 4-5 -0,194 0,428 0,969 -0,371 0,514 0,888 8 > 8 > 0.197 1-3 0,478 0,976 0.177 0,983 4-5 0.486 6-7 0,371 0,514 0,888

Table 4. Inter comparison of sports age variables (Tukey test)

In table 4, as the result of inter-comparison of sports age variables, no important statistical difference is found between all variables (p>0,05).

Degree		MeanDifference	S.D	P
Region first end	Turkey's Champion	0,008	0,454	1,000
	Turkey First End	0,918	0,385	0,123
	International Competition First End	0,740	0,425	0,410
Turkey's Champion	Region first end	-0,008	0,454	1,000
	Turkey First End	0,910	0,455	0,270
	International Competition First End	0,732	0,490	0,566
Turkey First End	Region first end	-0,918	0,385	0,123
	Turkey's Champion	-0,910	0,455	0,270
	International Competition First End	-0,178	0,427	0,994
International Competition First	Region first end	-0,740	0,425	0,410
End	Turkey's Champion	-0,732	0,490	0,566
	Turkey First End	0,178	0,427	0,994

Table 5. Inter comparison of degree variables (Tukey test)

In table 5, as the result of inter-comparison of degree variables, no important statistical difference is found between all variables (p>0.05).

# Discussion

A descriptive analysis of the findings included in this study shows levels of narcissism athletes, which ranked among the top three athletes in their own regions narcissism scores champion of Turkey, Turkey and the International tournament among the top three, which became one of the first three athletes to be more determined and statistically significant in the analysis of variance difference was found. This result is evaluated according to DSM-IV criteria, which became one of the top three athletes in their respective regions to be more selfconfidence, they are independent and assertive, their actions do not expect anyone's approval, they take decisions in accordance with their own wishes, and said that they need more to succeed. If you get one of the top three athletes of other athletes in their regions emerged the biggest reason for this difference, which ranked among the top three athletes in their respective regions thought to stem from the desire more and more success. Because narcissistic individuals are always the best at what they do, and they try to prove their ability. With a low degree of sport coaches and athletes themselves prove to the people around and work hard to be successful. In the literature study performed, studies are found parallel to data of the study. Tazegül, (2013a) in boxers has identified a positive relationship between narcissism and motivational orientations. This result is interpreted by the researcher according to the scale of the result is argued that the scale properties. Because the narcissist always be at the forefront athletes, want to prove themselves by demonstrating their ability, so the motivation is always high. Tazegül, (2013b) in female badminton players found that narcissism and self-esteem scores have a positive relationship between scores appeared. Narcissism is found to be natural to have a positive relationship between self-esteem because they feel self-worth and self-esteem is defined as an individual's self-proud, narcissistic individuals who rely on them unduly.

Therefore, it is natural that the more developed narcissistic self-esteem individuals. Tazegül et al. (2013c), the data wrestlers level of narcissism  $(6.707 \pm 2.775)$  was set. Tazegül (2011) found as follows; Weightlifters narcissism level (7.283  $\pm$  2.786), boxers (7.216  $\pm$  2.584) and the level of narcissism of Greco-Roman wrestlers  $(6,750\pm2,777)$ . Elman et al. (2003), and 4.19 levels of narcissism football, basketball and rugby athletes branches levels of narcissism 8.17 and 2.15 were identified as individuals who are not athletes. Elman and his colleagues from the side of the reason for the difference between the study and our study, due to the scale used. Sohrabi et al (2011) opponent-contact sports (boxing and karate) non-contact with the opponent (swimming, gymnastics) compared the fitness levels of narcissism and sportswomen has found a statistically significant difference. Arthur et al. (2011), the level of narcissism coaches found in 13:37. Tschanz et al. (1998) reported that narcissistic men are more than women. Tammy et al (2007) found that males are more narcissist than female. Athlete who are more narcissistic individuals are the biggest cause of non-athletes, as they have an aesthetic and a nice thought to be due to physics.

Working under the age of athletes, sports narcissism scores were evaluated according to the variable levels of narcissism sports athletes age 8 and above age 4 - 5 and 6 were found higher in athletes is between -7. However, analysis of variance and comparison of athletes as a result of the variable age of narcissism, sports scores, a statistically significant difference (p> 0,05). Sports athletes over the age of 8, and this difference arose between other athletes, athletes, sports are difficult to implement with the increasing age of the technical and tactical movements of flood transact in a good way and a good physics, depending on the physical development of the thought that they have originated from. Because the narcissist always be individuals who are proud of their appearance and physical. Physical development is also increasing with increasing age of the athletes sport. Porcerelli and colleagues (1995) found that weightlifting and bodybuilding athletes using steroids is higher than the levels found in athletes not using steroids regarding narcissism. Being more narcissistic athletes using steroids use is the biggest reason athletes use steroids, growth rate faster than the physical one, thought to result from reasons to achieve success more quickly..

Athletes under the age of narcissism score study variable was examined by age group of 16 athletes and 18 age group athletes narcissism scores are higher than 17. However, analysis of variance and comparison of athletes as a result of the variable calendar age of narcissism scores, a statistically significant difference (p> 0,05). These results were evaluated according to DSM-IV criteria, 16 age group athletes more than other age group athletes say they like their physical and psychological characteristics. The age group of 16 athletes to show their individual talents, and they want to prove to people that they are thought to be due to the narcissism score more. Tazegül (2013d) found that, there is a statistically significant relationship between weight lifting, and Greco-Roman wrestlers regarding age and levels of narcissism.

# Conclusion

As a result, highly variable obtained from the athletes found a relationship between narcissism and athletes that have achieved levels of degrees was determined that an increase in the level decreases levels of narcissism. Age narcissism variable with the variables of age and sporting a statistically significant difference was found. However, the age group of young athletes in the age group of athletes narcissism score is more than a great sports athletes narcissism of the older sports scores are higher than the younger athletes. The literature, sports, and a limited number of narcissism has been on the run has been reached, including the United States, especially in Europe, most of these studies were done by the researchers. Therefore, this study was conducted on Turkish athletes, and will provide a major contribution to the literature, and it is hoped will be done after the example of more comprehensive studies.

Parallel to the development of science and technology in the world, scientists have developed new training styles based on scientific data. Developed this training has reached almost to the point of climax, working with athletes performances styles. It is impossible to develop the athletes broke records, Ahmed Mohamed. Today, the physical work performance to the next level to improve the performance of psychological studies of athletes. In sports, the athlete is not enforced by the success of one of the most important factors and performance of athletes they have double features. According to the characteristics of the individuals ' personality guidance to their field will affect an individual's success in a positive level in sports, sports. Because all the features that define the narcissistic personality feature, the narcissistic personality feature advanced individual (athlete) is not a good team player.

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