

"DISABLED ATHLETE ACTIVISM" IN SOUTH KOREA

A mixed-method study

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Introduction

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.

Aims.

- ① Describe difference between disabled elite athletes and non-athletes for activism orientation in South Korea
- ② Understand the reasons *why/why not* disabled elite athletes engage in activism, in comparison to disabled non-athletes in South Korea

Results

Disabled elite athletes in South Korea had a greater activist orientation than **disabled non-athletes**.

↓ **WHY?**

Para-athlete



Motivators = *Socialisation process*

1. Athlete status
2. 2018 Paralympic Games
3. Encouragement

Barriers = *Emotional cost*

1. Fear of disadvantage
2. Perceived backlash
3. Loneliness / Depression

↑ Comparison ↓

Non-athletes with disabilities

Motivators 'Environmental facilitator', 'Emotional benefits'

Barriers 'Difficulty of access', 'Personal barriers'

Methods

- Sequential mixed-methods design
- All participants with disability

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

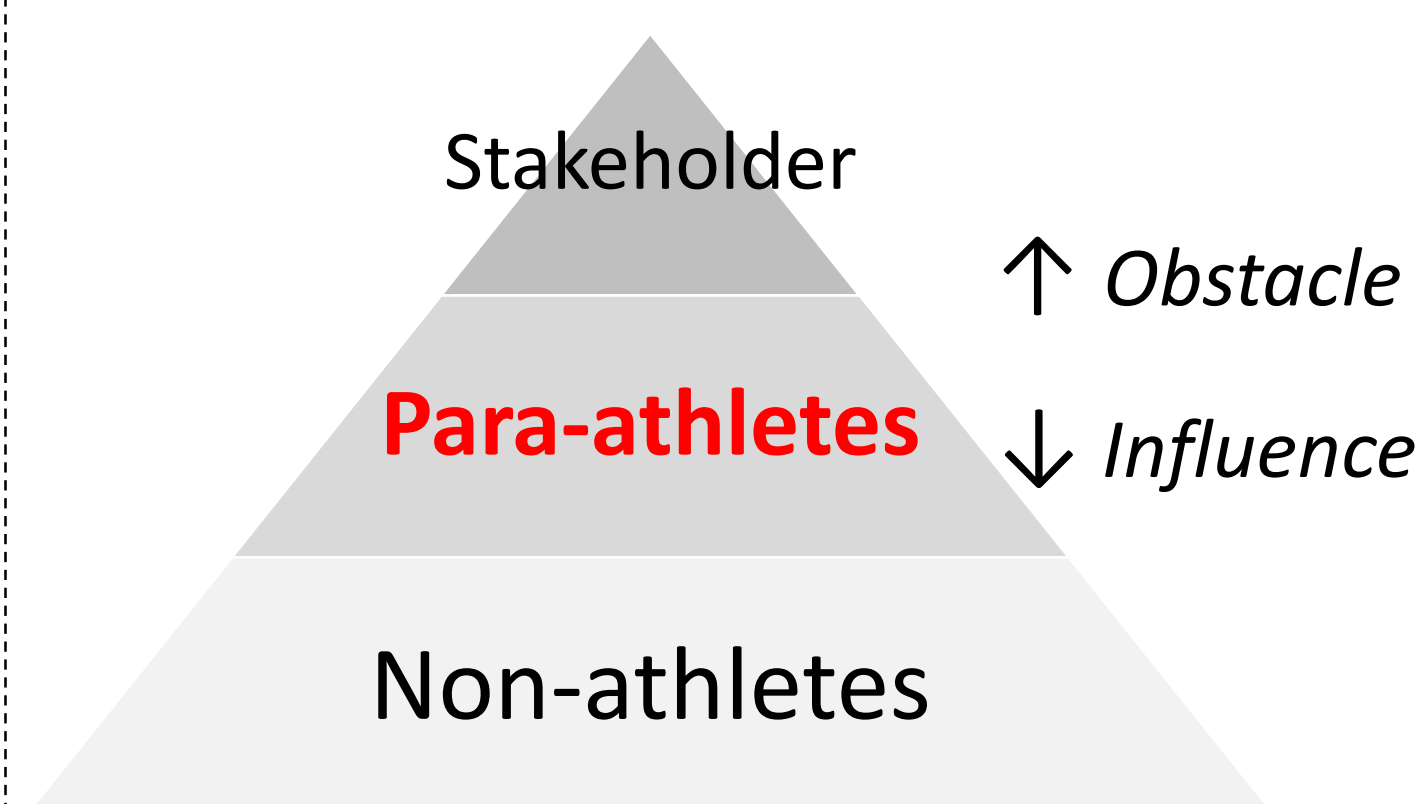
Semi-structured interview

Discussion

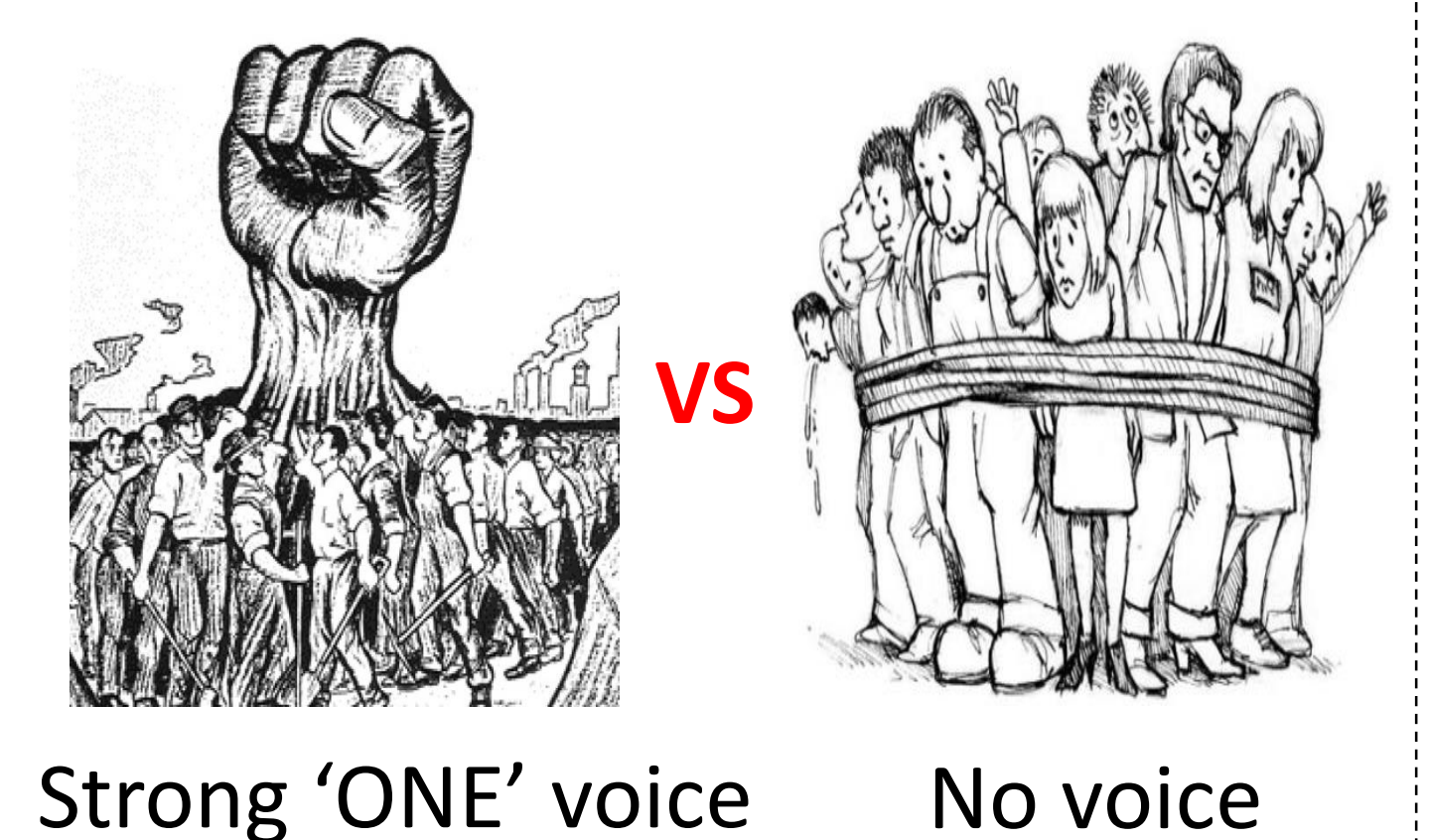
This study offers the **first** nuanced analysis of social activism for disabled athletes in a non-Western culture

Interpretation

1. Hierarchical culture



2. Collectivism



3. Han culture

: uncontrollable psychological state of frustration, caused by the cognitive appraisal of an unfair discrimination or oppression

Hope = Encouragement

Or

Harshness = Discouragement

The cultural perspective is important

WE WANT 'RIGHTS'

