

# THE CATALAN SPORTS OBSERVATORY: AN ANALYSIS FROM THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE

## INTRODUCTION

The Catalan Sports Observatory (CSO) an initiative of the General Secretary of Sport of the Government of Catalonia and developed by The National Institute of Physical Education (INEFC), is a tool that creates and manages information for all those people and institutions related to the sport system in Catalonia. Offering information on the evolution of the sport phenomena always from a gender perspective and which objective is to guarantee equality among men and women through the way the processed information is presented.

The objective is to describe the inclusion of the gender perspective not only in the web site but also in reports derived from CSO.



## METHODS

A descriptive analysis of the information provided by CSO was conducted, analyzing content and the form of CSO's web site and the information derived from studies. The web site [www.observatoridelesport.cat](http://www.observatoridelesport.cat) gives information about different indicators related to sports participation; organizations and spaces for sport; economics of sport; training and research in sport; and legal and sports policy.

The gender perspective can be seen in relation to the use of non-sexist language, the use of neutral images and the work teams of CSO.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The CSO uses non-excluding and non-sexist language based on Guidelines for Gender-fair Use of Language (Lledó, 2009).

All the indicators used in the web site include classification by sex (Lledó, 2009; Vilanova, 2009; UFEC, 2005).

Moreover, the published studies include also the results from the gender perspective (Vilanova, 2009).

At governing level, the CSO seeks the balanced presence of women and men in their direction execution and experts' committees. The presence of women in the executive committees has increased in the last years.

Moreover, the staff has been trained from the gender perspective through awareness, workshops and courses (Vilanova, 2009).

The majority of images that has been used in the web site and in the studies are neutral. Usually images used focus only in body parts and avoid females or male characteristics.

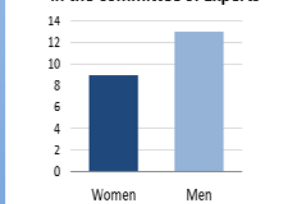


Examples of neutrals images used in OCE studies.

Presence of women and men in the Directive, coordinative and executive Committees



Presence of women and men in the Committee of Experts



### Guidelines for Gender-Fair Use of Images (UdL, 2008)

1. Represent the human group with male and female images and icons when referring to people.
2. Recognize the achievements of women in images.
3. Show women in activities in which they are underrepresented (sports, technical professions, etc.) and in the same way, show or feminized men in those activities traditionally attributed to women (domestic work, care, etc.).
4. Balanced presence of women and men in the pictures.
5. Placing women in close-ups, avoiding appearing men and women separately.
6. Show the diversity of women who are part of society (age, cultural groups, professions, social class, etc).
7. Use neutral, inclusive and equitable icons.

## CONCLUSIONS

- The CSO integrates the gender perspective in its lines of work.
- The use of gender indicators shows a specific situation and the evolution of the sport phenomena in the gender perspective. This information allows us to visualize and evaluate the current situation of women in the sport environment in Catalonia and enable to plan gender policies.
- In conclusion, it may have great influence on institutions related to sport in encouraging the use and treatment of information from a gender perspective.

## REFERENCES

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