ENHANCING CLEAN SPORT BEHAVIOUR AT SCHOOL: EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF POSITIVE EDUCATION INTERVENTION PROGRAM IN MALAYSIAN ADOLESCENT ATHLETES

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Introduction: Doping endangers athletes' health and degrades sports by substituting fair competition with an inflated perception of power. Young athletes are particularly prone to hazardous behaviours when lack a strong ethical grounding. This study provides a novel positive education intervention designed to encourage players to engage in clean sport behaviour. With increased worries about doping and unethical behaviours, the intervention focuses on fostering a culture of integrity, respect, and fair play, as well as promoting the value of competition and anti-doping principles. Methodology: Using the PERMA Model (Seligman, 2018), the intervention delivers training modules as a comic book series that emphasises the dangers of doping and promotes clean sport ideals. The study involved 40 adolescent's athletes from the Malaysian National Sport School and used a pre-test post-test control group design. The intervention was administered to the experimental group, but not to the control group. Results: The experimental group demonstrated a better comprehension of anti-doping rules, more ethical decision-making abilities, and a greater dedication to clean sport. In addition, compared to the control group, participants demonstrated improved attitudes towards sport ideals and understanding of doping. Conclusions: The findings show that a PERMA-based positive education intervention effectively promotes clean sport behaviour, improves anti-doping awareness, and develops ethical decision-making among young athletes.

Keywords: Anti-doping, Athletes, Clean Sport Behaviour, PERMA Model, Positive education.