

SPORT AS A PLATFORM FOR AFFIRMING VIRTUES, IN ANTIQUITY AND TODAY

ABSTRACT

In ancient times, since we have been following the demand for the development of body and spirit, whether through study, exercise, or leisure, a good athlete possessed not only physical strength but also virtues. Virtues were acquired through instruction, practice, and experience. There may be a desire to submit to sports virtues more than any other human activity. The paper asks whether participating in virtues is related to the question of success in people who play sports. In antiquity and today, sport and sporting success are built on: courage, moderation, justice, honesty, togetherness, dignity, friendship, a sense of duty, and humanity, which we recognize as a system of virtues and moral principles. Unquestionably, the concept of power is inherent to man, and in sports, the limits of this power are tested. Using the method of analysis, induction, and thus the synthesis of seemingly contradictory opinions of different authors, an attempt was made to investigate whether the system of virtues “preserves” this power within the limits of morality and whether the sport is a platform for the affirmation of virtues in antiquity and today. The comparison method confirmed the hypothesis that sport is a good platform for affirming virtues, which is partly recognizable in achieving top results.

Keywords: sport; ethics; virtues; moral principles; power.