

The Opinions of Camp Program and Leader of Female Students in the Ministry of Youth and Sports Youth Camps

Pınar Guzel [1], Melike Esentas [2], Selhan Ozbey [3], Muberra Celebi [4]

ABSTRACT

One of the driving forces behind Turkey's economic growth is a young, dynamic and highly ambitious population. There are 20 million under-20s in Turkey and nearly 50% of the population is under 25. Minister of Youth and Sport (GSB) has long given high priority to issues of the extension of youth services in order to organize their leisure time; the support of the youth studies and youth projects and the cooperation and the coordination with other institutions. Ministry is also aiming at increasing the number of youth centers, to ameliorate them in terms of quality and to further increase the number of youth leaders compared to the previous year. Youth camps In this survey it was aimed to analyse, interpret and to give proposals when necessary to the ideas of girls students according to the age groups and types of camping. Survey research method was used for data collection. In analysis of the data cross tabulation method were employed. According to the results of the survey, girls participants had positive ideas about camp leaders. The most important finding in the nature camps was basic requirements for the elimination of "food" issue 28,8%. Another important finding was that, by the families of the participants using of the internet and mobile phones had been criticized. Thus, the negative features of camp programs need to be healed. However, participants expressed positive opinions about the leader of the youth camp and they put an emphasis on the importance of the camp leader during the activities.

Keywords: *Youth Camps, Girls students, Leisure Time, Youth Camps Leader*

INTRODUCTION

In our society, especially among young people we see that many problems. These problems being faced by parents and educators and adversely affect the quality of life as a threat emerges. In this context, recreation programs as in the leisure time activities should be considered as an important alternative approach to avoid all these problems and improve the quality of life (Çelebi, Özbey ve Güzel 2012). Leisure time is a time slot in order to sustain the life from the remaining jobs. Nowadays, the increasing economic, cultural and social needs and also an effort to keep pace with technological developments has revealed with intensive, tiring and monotonous lifestyle. People who want to get away from this situation physically and spiritually, have resulted in the emergence of leisure time activities (Güzel, 2011).

Youth camps organized in order to assess their leisure time, are applied in two ways. These are Nature Camp and Sea Camp. Thousands of young people through youth camps, acquires new friends and share something with them. And also, they had the opportunity to get to know the historical and cultural values of Turkey. Youth Camps for young people gives new life experiences, understandings of different ideas and enrich their personal wealth, provide

to share time and venues with other friends, enables them to see the shortcomings in team work and realize their talents (Çoşkuner, 2009).

If person set some of the requirements and objectives that cannot reach alone, he or she need to act together with people who come together not bewareing and work to create for being a group. Taking people to specific goals, with the needs of personal desires and interests we have to follow what they are. Then we must gathered these people around a group for increasing powers, courage, desire and energy. In this case, by detecting this energy, capable of leading to an individual to stimulate the leader is needed. Leader represents the person and has the power to influence the group members (Özbey ve Çelebi, 2003). Leaders are encourage and inspire people. A group without a leader would quickly degenerate at a debate and confusion (D. QuinnMills, 2005).

With the law as of 08.08.2011, Youth and Sports Ministry (GSB), new activities within the scope of Youth services was seen as a leisure time activity or those that have started to be implemented differently. Youth Camps in the Sea and Nature camp launching new applications are arranged in boys and girls groups instead of mixed groups. This research was done with the total of 747 girls participants who attended to the Nature and Sea camp in the summer semester of 2012. In this survey it was aimed to analyse, interpret and to give proposals when necessary to the ideas of girls students in the Youth and Sports Ministry's Youth camps according to the age groups and types of camping.

METHOD

Research Method

In this research it was analyzed to the ideas of girls students about the camp program and leader behaviors as leisure time activity. Survey research method was used for data collection. A personal data form and questionnaire form was prepared in order to establish the demographic features and profiles of the participants.

Population and Sampling

The population of this study was "Kastamonu Nature Camp and Çeşme Büyükliman Sea Camp" and the sample group was the girls participants to the 5th&6th Kastamonu Kadıdağı and 8th Term Çeşme Büyükliman Camps. The participants were asked to complete questionnaires after giving information on the subject. Total 747 questionnaires were distributed and 100% of the feedback was taken.

Gathering Datas

For this research data to be gathered in two stages. In the first stage; in order to determine the profile of the participants involved in the youth camp a personal information form containing demographic characteristics was established. In the second stage; personal data form including questions about the behavior of the leader and the camp program was established to the participants.

Analysing Datas

All the personal data forms and questionnaires had been checked to gain information by the researchers and datas had been coded to be comparable to code instruction. The coded datas had been interpreted by using explanatory statistics and setting the tables. Results was evaluated with the "Crosstab" method using by SPSS.

Validity and Realibility

The questionnaire was established with systematic data collection technique. These questionnaire included Yes - No and multiple choice questions depending on the study's problem and sub problems. Questions were prepared from literature. Generally, the survey tried to adjust a research problem as a whole. All questions about the specifics of the problem separately, private and independent questions that have occurred. For finding the aspect valid;

1. Problems associated with each question being examined.
2. The survey covered the whole subject.
3. Questions were clear and understandable.

FINDINGS

The findings of the study were examined in three parts. These are;

- Demographic Characteristics
- Leader’s Behaviors
- Camp Program

Demographic Characteristics

According to research data, while the female students in the 13-15 age group on the Sea camp were 205 (28%), the number of participants with the age group of 16-17 in the Nature camp were 542 (72%). Participants had been identified that; 22,9% lived metropolitan, 63,7% lived in the city, 6,8% lived in the county, 0,7 lived in town and 5,9% lived in the village.

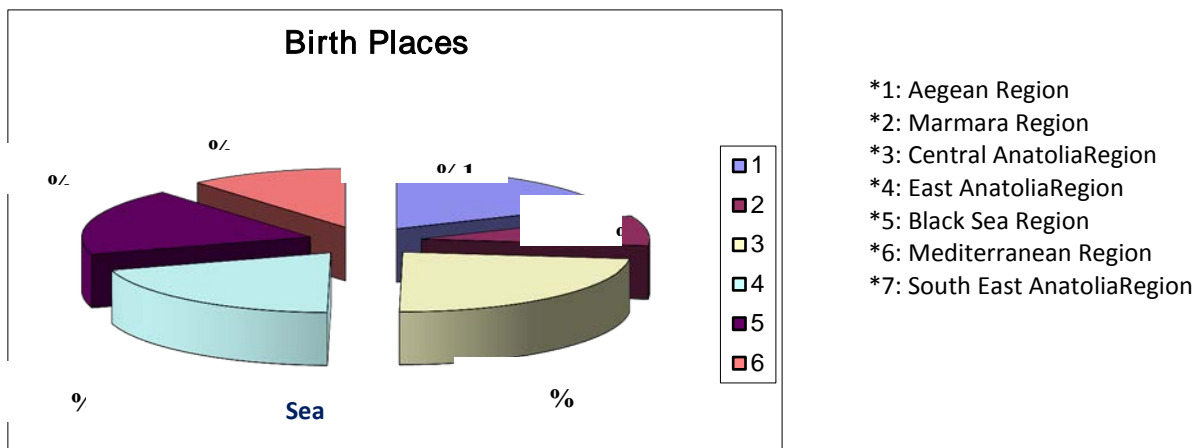


Figure 1: The distribution of birth places of the girls students on the Sea Camp

After examining Figure 1, attendance of girls participants in the Sea camp at GSB at the age of 13-15 age group, the highest rate of 23,4% was in Central Anatolia Region and the lowest rate of 8,2% was in Marmara Region.

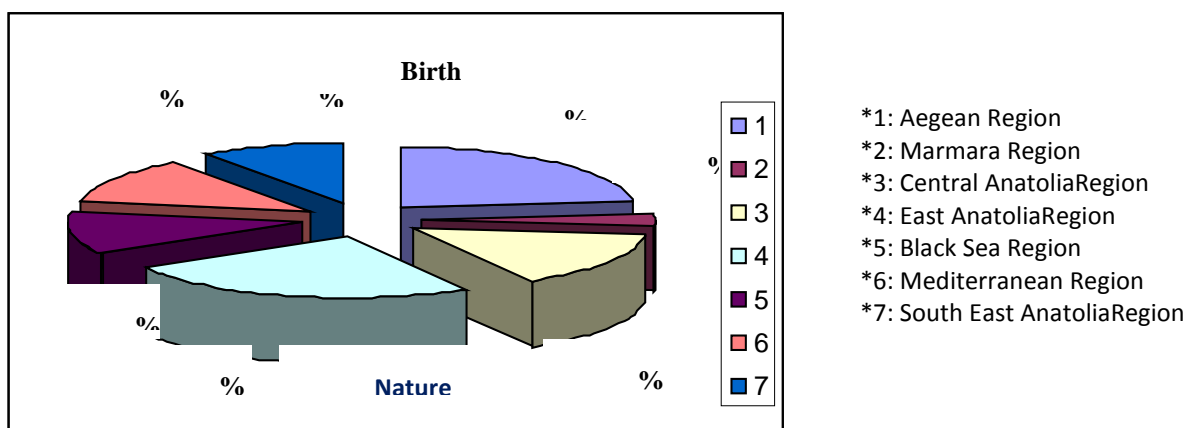


Figure 2: The distribution of birth places of the girls students on the Nature Camp

After examining Figure 2, attendance of girls participants in the Sea camp at GSB at the age of 16-17 age group, the highest rate of 24,9% was in East Anatolia Region and the lowest rate of 2,9% was in Marmara Region.

Table 1: Percent and frequency distributions of girls participants' slating issues by families according to age and camping type

Youth Camp	AGE	Slating Issues by Families					Total
		Not Studying	Friends	Clothes	Relationships with Siblings	Internet-Cellular Phone	
Sea Camp	13-15	97 %47.3	26 %12.6	5 %2.4	55 %26.9	22 %10.8	205 %27.5
	16-17	183 %33.8	97 %17.8	34 %6.3	126 %23.2	102 %18.9	542 %72.5
Total		280 %37.5	123 %16.5	39 %5.2	181 %24.2	124 %16.6	747 %100

According to the Table 1, girls participants in the Sea and Nature camp at GSB, the highest rate of 37,5% was for not studying and the lowest rate of %5,2 for the clothes that they wear were the slating issues by their families.

Table 2: Percent and frequency distributions of participants' smoking behaviors according to age and camping type

Youth Camp	AGE	Smoking or Not		
		Yes	No	Total
Sea Camp	13-15	17 %8.3	188 %91.7	205 %27.5
	16-17	34 %6.3	508 %93.7	542 %72.5
Total		51 %6.8	696 %93.2	747 %100

According to the Table 2, girls participants in the Sea and Nature camp at GSB, for the answer of "Smoking or not smoking" question the participants of Sea camp gave "NO" answer with the rate of 91,7% and for the Nature camp 93,7%.

Leader's Behaviors

Table 3: Percent and frequency distributions of participants' perceptions of leader's behaviors according to age and camping type

Leader Behaviors	YES		NO		SOMETIMES		TOTAL		Total
	13-15 age	16-17 age	13-15 age	16-17 age	13-15 age	16-17 age	13-15 age	16-17 age	
	Sea Camp	Nature Camp	Sea Camp	Nature Camp	Sea Camp	Nature Camp	Sea Camp	Nature Camp	
Solving the conflict	171 %83.4	462 %85.2	7 %3.4	32 %5.9	27 %13.2	48 %8.9	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
To support the group to be	161 %78.6	442 %81.5	22 %10.7	59 %10.9	22 %10.7	41 %7.6	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
Support for participation in activities	192 %93.7	462 %85.2	4 %1.9	32 %5.9	9 %4.4	48 %8.9	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
Opinions of Leader	155 %75.6	438 %80.8	15 %7.3	33 %6.1	35 %17.1	71 %13.1	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
Creation of communication	173 %84.4	458 %84.5	8 %3.9	28 %5.2	24 %11.7	56 %10.3	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
Collaborative support (intra-group)	185 %90.2	470 %86.7	4 %1.9	23 %4.2	16 %7.9	49 %9.1	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
Communicating Solidarity	174 %84.9	468 %86.3	5 %2.4	28 %5.2	26 %12.7	46 %8.5	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
To use the word of "We"	175 %85.4	476 %87.9	9 %4.4	23 %4.2	21 %10.2	42 %7.9	205 %27.5	542 %72.5	747 %100
To give	172	449	7	24	26	68	205	542	747

Leader Behaviors	YES		NO		SOMETIMES		TOTAL		Total
	13-15	16-17	13-15	16-17	13-15	16-17	13-15	16-17	
	age	age	age	age	age	age	age	age	
confidence in subject	%83.9	%82.9	%3.4	%4.5	%12.7	%12.6	%27.5	%72.5	%100
To ask the thoughts	189	454	1	24	15	64	205	542	747
Pattern making during the event	%92.2	%83.7	%0.4	%4.5	%7.4	%11.8	%27.5	%72.5	%100
To implement the camp program	198	483	2	20	5	39	205	542	747
	%96.6	%89.1	%1	%3.7	%2.4	%7.2	%27.5	%72.5	%100
	190	504	13	19	2	19	205	542	747
	%92.7	%93	%6.3	%3.5	%1	%3.5	%27.5	%72.5	%100
Leader Behaviors	YES		NO		SOMETIMES		TOTAL		Total
	13-15	16-17	13-15	16-17	13-15	16-17	13-15	16-17	
	age	age	age	age	age	age	age	age	
Sincerity	143	459	8	36	54	47	205	542	747
To take into account the proposals	%69.8	%84.7	%3.9	%6.6	%26.3	%8.7	%27.5	%72.5	%100
To support the new ideas	142	431	10	38	53	73	205	542	747
To Support	%69.3	%79.5	%4.9	%7.1	%25.8	%13.4	%27.5	%72.5	%100
To take precautions	182	423	3	45	20	74	205	542	747
To give responsibility	%88.8	%78.1	%1.5	%8.3	%9.7	%13.6	%27.5	%72.5	%100
	175	451	10	42	20	49	205	542	747
	%85.4	%83.2	%4.9	%7.7	%9.7	%9.1	%27.5	%72.5	%100
	179	453	5	27	21	62	205	542	747
	%87.3	%83.6	%2.4	%4.9	%10.3	%11.5	%27.5	%72.5	%100
	164	401	19	66	22	75	205	542	747
	%80	%73.9	%9.3	%12.2	%10.7	%13.9	%27.5	%72.5	%100

On Table 3, participant students in the sea and nature camps had reported a positive opinion (Yes- ~80%) about expected leader behaviors during the camp. Considering the age groups of the participants, some differences were found about the behavior of the leaders. Age group of 13-15 students who participated in the Sea Camp, had expressed the opinion with the highest percentage (96,6%) about **“Pattern making during the event”** and the lowest rate were **“Sincerity”** (69,8%) and **“To take into account the proposals”** (69,3%). Evaluating the Nature Camp students’ in the age group 16-17, the highest rate of behavior was **“To implement the camp program”** (93%) and the lowest rate were **“To give responsibility”** (73,9%) and **“To support the new ideas”**. According to the views of student participating in both Sea and Nature Camps all in the age groups; negative view of the high rate of behavior about the group leader were ~10,8% **“To support the group to be”** and **“To give responsibility”**. According to the various age groups of and the camp types the participants’; with the highest rate of disagreement between leader behavior was **“Sincerity”** 14,9%. Participants in the age group of 13-15, 26,3% sometimes believed the leader as **“sincere”** and 25,8% thought **“To take into account the proposals”** so that this was a significant finding. Nature Camp participants in the age group 16-17, gave *“sometimes”* respond about the leader behaviors with the rate of 13,4% **“To take into account the proposals”** and 13,6% **“To support the new ideas”**. According to the findings of the Table 3, students who participated in the Sea Camp with the Nature Camp students’ in the age group 16-17, view of the high level of similarity between these groups were leader’s **“Creation of communication”** ~84% , **“Solving the conflict”** ~84%, 85,6% **“Communicating Solidarity”** and 92,9% **“To implement the camp program”**.

Camp Program

Table 4: Determination of problems in the camp events

YOUTH CAMP	AGE	The adequacy of the activities			Total
		Yes	No	Sometimes	
Sea Camp	13-15	80 %39.1	59 %28.8	66 %32.1	205 %27.5
	16-17	326 %60.1	72 %13.3	144 %26.6	542 %72.5
Nature Camp	Total	406 %54.3	131 %17.6	210 %28.1	747 %100

According to table 4, in the Sea and Nature camp at GSB, participants gave the answer for the “**Determination of problems**” question; 54,3% said “YES”, 17,6% said “NO” and 28,1%1 said “SOMETIMES”. The reason of the extent and content of the camp program had given on the Table 5.

Table 5: The distribution of the sources of the problems according to the camp types

Problems in the Camp program	Youth Camp		Total
	13-15 Age Sea Camp	16-17 Age Nature Camp	
Lack of material	13 %16.4	11 %9.4	24 %12.2
More events	12 %15.2	20 %17.1	32 %16.3
Inadequate leading	15 %18.9	36 %30.7	51 %26.1
Timeless event	1 %1.3	2 %1.8	3 %1.5
Deficiencies in the application	-	4 %3.4	4 %2.1
Low level skills of the events	17 %21.5	29 %24.7	46 %23.5
Lack of space	9 %11.4	-	9 %4.6
Risky and dangerous activities	9 %11.4	9 %7.7	18 %9.2
Lack of activities	2 %2.6	1 %0.9	3 %1.5
Lack of interest	1 %1.3	2 %1.8	3 %1.5
High level of skill	-	3 %2.5	3 %1.5
TOTAL	79 %40.3	117 %59.7	196 %100

The analysing of the participants about the extent and applicability about the camp program (Table 5); “Inadequate leading” (%26.1) and “Low level skill events” (%23.5) were the basic problems. According to the age groups; 13-15 age group participants had seen that “Easy Events” (%21.5) was the basic problem of the camp program. With this 16-17 age group participants had thought that Inadequate Leading” (%30,7) was the most important problem.

Table 6: According to the camp types and age groups satisfying the basic needs on the camp program

YOUTH CAMP	AGE	Satisfy basic needs			
		Yes	No	Sometimes	Total
Sea Camp	13-15	155 %75.7	23 %11.2	27 %13.1	205 %27.5
	16-17	217 %40.1	161 %29.7	164 %30.2	542 %72.5
Nature Camp	Total	372 %49.8	184 %24.7	191 %25.5	747 %100

In table 6, the participants of the 13-15 age group Sea camp noted that their basic needs had met on the rate of 75,7% but 16-17 age group Nature camp participants emphasized this 59,9% sometimes or never. This a high level's reason shown in detail in Table 7.

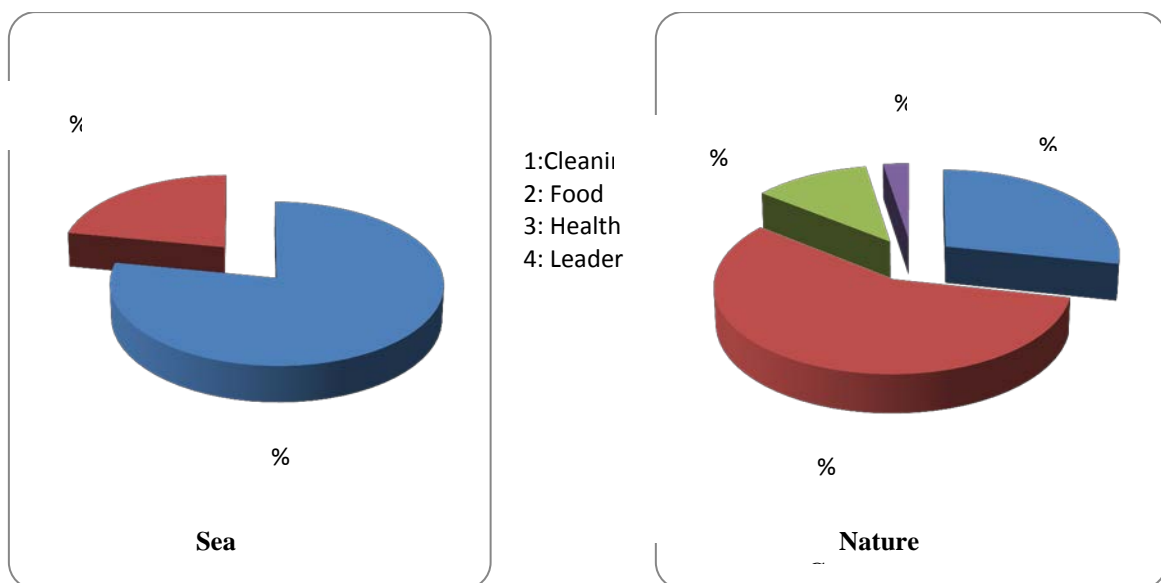


Figure 3: The problems about the basic needs of the participants based on camp types.

According to figure 3, "food" was the most important problem in Nature camp for the participants. But, in the Sea camp about "Food" negative opinion was at the low level. To the Sea and Nature camp participants, with the rate of 4,6% had seen "cleaning" as a problem. In the Sea camp there had been no problem about the "health".

RESULTS CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In the research results those findings were reached: girls participants' birth places, smoking behaviors, communication with the Youth camp leader and confidence ambiance (Table 3-6). Differences between birth places and regions participated in the camp were found. In the Sea camp no girls according to birth place participants East Anatolia Region. In order to eliminate the difference between the regions equally participating right is recommended. Girls participants in the Sea and Nature camp at GSB, the highest rate of 37,5% was for not studying and the other important rate of 16,6% for the internet-cellular phone using and clothes that they wear were the slating issues by their families (Table 2). That result could be seen as a result of inactivity and obesity. To Esentaş's study, (2012) the participants of girls and boys Youth camps, preferring leisuring activities in a passive way was in the high level. Girls students' smoking behaviors rates were minimum level. At the same time, it will be a positive effect for giving a general knowledge about this subject.

"Inadequate Leading" "and Low level skills of the events" in the Camp programs were the basic problems for the camp participants. Besides that "cleaning" and "health" subjects were the other basic needs problems that were seen in the Youth Camps.

Youth camps conducted by GSB is one of the most comprehensive services that reach to the youth. So it is important to support with the academic studies for educating **Youth Camp Leaders** and **applications of Camp Programs**. For this reason, co-operation of GSB and the university in every way will contribute to young people too many things.

REFERENCES

Celebi, M., Özbey, S., Güzel, P. (2012). "Role of Recreation in Education and Youth Development", 1. National Recreation Research Congress , pp:192-201 Antalya.

Coskuner, Z., (2009). " An Analysis of Youth Camp in Turkey", Fırat Üniversitesi Sağlık Bilimleri Enstitüsü Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Anabilim Dalı Yüksek Lisans Tezi.

Esentaş, M. (2012). "The analysis of youth camps which are carried out as leisure time activities in point of programme and leader". Celal Bayar University, Physical Education and Sport Teaching Department, Manisa.

Güzel, P. (2011). "As Part Of Sport For All Concept The Implementations Of The Olympic

Solidarity Programs And Analyzing Of The Olympic Values", Abant İzzet Baysal University, Social science Ins. Sports Managements Department, PHd. Bolu.

Karlı Ü., Polat E. ,Yılmaz B. , Koçak S., (2008). "Reliability And Validity Study Of Leisure Satisfaction Scale (Lss-Long Version), Hacettepe J. Of Sport Sciences, 19 (2), 80-91, Ankara.

Ozbey, S. (2002); "The Role of Youth Services in General Director of Youth and Sports AIBU Journal of Social Sciences Institution, Volume: 2002-1, pp: 29-45.

Yılmaz D., Ozbey A.S., and Celebi M. (2006). "Recreation Program Management: The Evaluation of the Views and Experiences of the Female Students who Participated in the Recreational Program at High School." The 9th International Sports Sciences Congress, 3-5 November, Mugla-Turkey.

Selected Web References:

<http://www.genclikkamplari.gov.tr/> (13.09.2012)

<http://www.gsb.gov.tr/> (13.09.2012)

<http://www.istanbul2020.com.tr/download/A.Uniting.Force.pdf> (13.09.2012)