

Abstract

The study compares the sports lifestyle of German and Chinese teenager based on the lifestyle theory of Bourdieus. To verify this statement, two major topics were methodical surveyed. 1. The situation of the Chinese teenage generation in a wealthy city. 2. An intercultural comparison between the German and Chinese culture.

Questionnaires were given to Peking adolescents and international literature was used to compare them to the German teenager. Used statistical measurements to interpret the results were descriptive data analysis, mean comparison test, linear discriminant analysis, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, factor analysis, analysis of covariance, clustering method, chi-square test, Spearman's rank correlation coefficient, regression analysis.

After analysing the data, the main results were summarised as follows. Sport has a functional meaning for young people in both countries. Sport is one main part of the whole teenage lifestyle. But there are differences in the sport commitment between both. The understanding of sport is related to the gender and culture. Leisure sport preferences could not be identified to match Bourdieus theory of social inequality. Subjective factors influencing the behaviour in exercise are age and gender specific. Bourdieus economic theory is just poorly connected to the actual data about adolescents in China and has a higher relationship to adolescents in Germany. In the teenage lifestyle in China, the usage of sport offers is highly related to the social inequality. In regards to the psychological development, it seems as if sport is more important for young people in China than it is for German teenager.