

**PPA02**

## **Public Policy – School as Social Agent in The Decision of Women to Pursue a Career (in Sports)**

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### **Abstract**

A career in sports is unique in the fact that it requires serious commitment early on in one's life. Many times, athletes choose to end their career early due to a lacking in support of their responsible decision. It seems that less women pursue sports as a career as a result of a lack of support early on. This study examined the difference between such decision by women and men with the assumption that support from parents, coaches, schools, etc., bears importance in making this responsible decision. The study looked at 444 athletes and indicated gender differences with respect to the role of school staff in this decision. Specifically, it was found that school staff play an important role in this responsible decision among young women as a significant social agent in making the decision to pursue a professional career while unearthing gender stereotypes

### **Conference Track**

Public Policy and Public Administration