Social Psychology of Doping in Sport:
A Literature Review

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SPECIAL REPORT

BUSTED!

WHEN AND WHERE BEN JOHNSON OF CANADA TOOK STEROIDS . . . AND HOW DRUGS COST HIM HIS GOLD MEDAL IN THE 100
SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

WADA is committed to improving evidence-based doping prevention strategies through social science research.

Understanding the fundamental differences between athletes who choose to compete clean and those who resort to doping or why some athletes decided to dope — despite being well aware of the harmful effects of doping and of anti-doping rules — will assist in ensuring that doping prevention strategies are effective and efficient.
SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH FUND:
International Literature Review:
Attitudes, Behaviours, Knowledge and Education – Drugs in Sport: Past, Present and Future

Prepared for
World Anti-Doping Agency

By the
Carnegie Research Institute
leeds metropolitan university

Backhouse, McKenna, Atkins & Robinson (2007)
Knowledge, attitudes and beliefs

Risk and protective factors

Models and theories

Education/intervention programs

Review Focus

103 peer reviewed papers
“The evidence base undermines strategic planning and limits the capacity to target appropriate and efficacious education programmes to abate doping in sport”
8 years on
Social Psychology of Doping in Sport: A Literature Update

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98%
Publication growth

No. of publications

Year


Publication growth

27.2

6.06
Method expansion

- Quantitative - Questionnaire
- Quantitative - experimental
- Qualitative - interviews/focus groups
- Mixed methods
- Other
(Ajzen, 1985; Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980; Lazarus et al. 2010)
Intentions  

Behaviour
Doping is a complex behavior.
Sample

No. of studies

Elite | Competitive | Adolescents | Gym users | General public

Athlete support personnel

Sample

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Any other person working with, treating or assisting an Athlete participating in or preparing for sport

“Athlete Support Personnel”

- Coach / trainer
- Manager
- Agent
- Team staff / official
- Medical/paramedical personnel
- Parent

N ~3,893

9 mixed samples
21.2 Roles and Responsibilities of Athlete Support Personnel

21.2.1 To be knowledgeable of and comply with all anti-doping policies and rules adopted pursuant to the Code and which are applicable to them or the Athletes whom they support.

21.2.2 To cooperate with the Athlete Testing program.

21.2.3 To use his or her influence on Athlete values and behavior to foster anti-doping attitudes.

21.2.4 To disclose to his or her National Anti-Doping Organization and International Federation any decision by a non-Signatory finding that he or she committed an anti-doping rule violation within the previous ten years.

21.2.5 To cooperate with Anti-Doping Organizations investigating anti-doping rule violations.

21.2.6 Athlete Support Personnel shall not Use or Possess any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method without valid justification.
Assessing the true incidence of drug use in sport is problematic...

...athletes, support personnel and general public believe that doping is highly prevalent
Drugs In Sport: Rugby must tackle ‘widespread' usage

BY NICK HARRIS AND DAVE HADFIELD | Thursday 10 December 1998

Jeff, an ex-professional rugby player living in the North-west of England, knows a lot about steroids. Some of his acquaintances are dealers and some of his friends are suffering health problems after years of use. Jeff played both codes of the game before an injury-forced retirement about seven years ago but is still closely involved in the sport.

“Watching certain teams and knowing what goes on, you can identify the players who are using steroids,” he said of current professionals. “You can see quite a substantial amount are ‘on the gear’, as we call it.

Rugby: Ex-hooker backs claims of widespread doping

Former France hooker Laurent Benezech claims people are turning a blind eye to doping in rugby in the same way that was once the norm in cycling.

Speaking to Le Monde, Benezech said: “The proofs [of doping in rugby] are in front of our eyes but no one's interested. Rugby is in exactly the same situation cycling was before the Festina affair.”

Cycling doping report: Drug taking remains widespread

One witness in CIRC inquiry set up in wake of Lance Armstrong affair claims 90 per cent of peloton still cheating.
ASHAMED, EMBARRASSED, DISGRACED
A-Roid finally tells ugly truth
LIAR. CHEAT.

Athletics: Kenya warn doping cheats belong in 'dustbin of history'
February 13, 2015 | 12:10 AM

Exclusive: Wada chief John Fahey to target the cheats behind the drug cheats

Anti-doping chief to introduce new code that allows athlete's team to also be held accountable

Hated American tennis cheat banned 15 years for doping
By Associated Press
March 13, 2015 | 2:45 pm
Quantity and quality of studies has increased

Methodological diversity

Programmes of research

Global landscape

Clearer understanding of doping behaviour emerging

Integrated models

Periods of instability

Threats to legitimacy

Absence of evidence limits prevention planning

Education/Interventions

Athlete support personnel

Cross-cultural

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Thanks for listening!

Please feel free to get in touch:

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Carnegie Clean Sport Research Team