SUMMARY FORM

For ITAL2P98

Data Collection on Ethnicity and Gender inequality in Sports in Canada

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| Information Collected by | Ava Magliaro |

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| Questions | Interviewee 1 | Interviewee 2 | Interviewee 3 |
| Date of Interview | October 27 2020 | Octpber 29 2020 | October 30 2020 |
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| Name of Interviewee  (use initials if the person wants to remain anonymous; only person conducting interview knows the person’s identity) | Sue Palisak | Veronica Rodrigues | Ralph Magliaro |
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| 1. What age group/generation are you in? | Generation X. I am 46 | I am 19 and part of Generation Z | Generation X. I am 51 |
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| 1. Do you identify with a cultural background and heritage? (Describe your cultural heritage, traditions, etc.) | Yes, I am Croatian. | I am Portuguese. I can’t think of any traditions that we celebrate in Canada, but I do travel back and forth from Portugal a lot. When I am in Portugal, we celebrate a lot of religious traditions, since Portugal is mostly Catholic. We celebrate saint festivals, and special masses during Christmas. | I am Italian. My parents are from Avellino. Growing up I had a lot of Southern Italian influence, especially in cooking and certain traditions. We are also Roman Catholic, we identify with many religious holidays including La Festa di San Giuseppe, Santo Stefano, Epifania, and Pasquetta. During the summer my daughter and I travel to Italy for a few weeks to visit my family and celebrate the festivals of my town that are based upon its patron saint, San Audeno |
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| 1. Were you born in Canada or abroad? Did you or your parents or grandparents in any generation emigrate to Canada? | My parents emigrated to Canada. My brothers and sisters and I were born in Canada. | I was born here. My grandpa was the first person to immigrate here. During my dad’s childhood he moved back and forth between Portugal and Canada. My mom however was born and Portugal and grew up there before meeting my dad and moving to Canada. Most of my immediate family still lives in Portugal | I was born in Hamilton. My parents both immigrated to Canada in the 60s. Only myself and my twin brother reside in Canada, as well as our children. All of my immediate family lives in Italy. My brothers are much older than me, when my parents left Italy they already had a well-established life and their own families, so unfortunately they did not move to Canada with my parents |
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| 1. Did you grow up speaking a language or dialect other than English or French at home? How often was the language spoken or was it only spoken at holidays with extended family or grandparents? | Yes I did. Croatian was spoken every day at home. I did not speak a word of English until I started school | I grew up speaking English and Portuguese. I did not know how to speak English until I went to school and during my time in Kindergarten my mom and I were learning English at the same time. Although today, I cannot speak Portuguese as well as I used to, but I can still understand it. We spoke a dialect | All I spoke at home was an Italian dialect from my region. Our dialect is similar to the Napolitano dialect since my hometown is so close. I did not know how to speak English until I began school. My parents also never spoke English despite their many years living in Canada. |
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| 1. Did you grow up in or live currently within an ethnic community of your own heritage or of a different heritage? (Or do you not see your community identifying with an ethic community where everyone speaks English or French.) | I was born and raised in Hamilton. My parents were part of the Croatian church which was an extension of the Hamilton Catholic Diocese. My parents were also part of different communities like the Croatian sports and community center, because my dad played soccer. We also were a part of the Croatian National Homewhich focuses on music and folklore. | : I live on Hamilton Mountain, most of the Portuguese community in Hamilton lives downtown. Unfortunately, I grew up away from that, I didn’t feel that disconnected to it since we would still go to the events and festivals. But as I got older that connection with my community downtown slowly began to fade.” | Yes I did. On my street we had many neighbours that were from Italy but different regions, Calabrese, Sicilian, Northern Italian. I also spent a lot of my childhood in Italy as we would visit for months at a time. That vibrant Italian culture was always in my household and around me. |
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| 1. Did your community have various sports offered for youth participation in a variety of team sports for recreation or competitive? | Yes. We had Hamilton Croatia which was a Croatian soccer club for males. | No. There weren’t really any Portuguese community-based sports. | Yes, I was apart of soccer which was offered by St. Anthony’s Parish in Hamilton. There was no other sport offered other than soccer, since soccer is such an Italian sport. Soccer was mostly recreational, friendly games amongst us. |
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| 1. Did you or someone you know want to play sports? Were you able to join a team in your community? | My younger brother was able to play Croatian based sports while he grew up, since they only offered male teams. My sister and I however were not able to play Croatian based sports until we were in high school. | Well, I know that my cousins and my dad wanted to play sports, but they had to join general sports teams with no specific ethnicity. | I never really liked playing sports. I mostly played it as a friendly game between friends, nothing really competitive. It was the same with my friends as well, back in our day no one took community sports to a competitive level unless it was offered in high school. |
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| 1. Were young girls encouraged to play sports? Were they able to join a women’s team or join a co-ed team in your community? | It was not very popular. In school it was but outside of school it was not really pushed. | I did not really experience any type of inequality when it came to sports. Neither did any of my female family members. But then again I did not play a lot of sports | No, girls were not encouraged to play sports in my community |
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| 1. Were you, young girls, or the person discussed in this interview encouraged or discouraged by your family or community to participate in team sports? | My family didn’t push sports, but they were not against us being on any teams. They supported it and showed up to some games. | No | I never had any sisters or female cousins that lived in Canada, so I wouldn’t know what it was like to be a female in the sports community. My parents never encouraged me to play sports, it was up to my own choice. |
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| 1. How often did you play? Were you on a recreational or competitive team? Were there competitive available for girls in the community? | I played all of the elementary school sports which were volleyball and basketball. In grade nine and ten I played basketball and volleyball from grade nine all the way to grade thirteen. I had to quit basketball because my grades kind of suffered and my parents made me choose one sport to focus on. | I played the basic elementary school sports which were volleyball, flag football and basketball. I played hockey in high school. I tried to play a little bit of everything | I did not play sports often, mostly high school sports. My high school did offer female sports but my community, however, did not. |

**Analysis**

The interviews conducted with Sue Palisak, Veronica Rodrigues, and Ralph Magliaro highlighted the critical issues faced within the European sports communities. European communities are known mainly for their strict traditional and religious backgrounds. Those whom I interviewed came from prominent European communities in the Hamilton, Ontario, area. All the interviewees had similar yet diverse responses about their time in the sports community. Many of the interviews from Generation X told similar stories about their traditional pasts while our Generation Z interviewee showed development within traditions. This essay will discuss my observations that I feel prove how European communities have developed from their traditional pasts and conform to twenty-first-century norms.

My first interview with Sue Palisak was an excellent place to start. Sue provided me with a good foundation to work myself off of as I analyzed other interviewees. Croatian culture is not fully set in traditional religious values that we see in other European cultures. Though many cultures promote women and girls staying in the household with their mothers, Sue's did not. Her parents allowed her to play both in her community and her schooling. Growing up, Sue was more of a 'tom-boy,' and although her parents were on the more traditional side, they accepted their daughter for who she was. Her parent's openness towards her personality extended towards her daughter Melania, as she allows her to play any sports both with girls and boys.

My second interviewee was Veronica Rodrigues. Veronica explained to me how her family's heavy cultural influence did not have much of an impact on her sports career in high school and elementary school. Veronica is the only person in Generation Z that I interviewed, showing how immensely culture has changed within Europe. Her parents were brought up on strict Portuguese values but did not carry it over to Veronica or her brother Vasco. Moreover, Hamilton has a smaller Portuguese community, leading Veronica to have a more Canadian upbringing when it came to sports. Most ethnic communities in Hamilton offer teams associated with it, but because the Portuguese community is so small and has a large elderly population, it does not offer such opportunities.

My final interviewee was Ralph Magliaro. I thought he would be perfect for this project as I felt like I needed a male's opinion to see how gender inequality was treated within European ethnic communities. Because of Ralph's traditional Italian background, he provided me with insight into how females were treated in his community. Like Sue, Ralph is in Generation X, but the Italian community promoted young girls and women to stay home and take after their mothers. Many of the results I got from his interview I had expected, with Ralph's parents being traditional southern Italians I knew from my previous years of study and topics covered in this course and others that they were not open to females in sports. Even though male sports were offered in the Hamilton Italian community, it was not very encouraging. This was because fathers wanted their sons to stay home in order to teach them the tricks of the trades.

To conclude, the observations that I made during these interviews proved to be essential in analyzing traditional European thought development. Ralph Magliaro provided me with insight into how women were once treated, while Veronica Rodrigues and Sue Palisak showed advancement in European culture and society. It shows how ever-changing society is and how first and second-generation immigrants are more likely to form their thoughts on gender equality rather than conform to those they experienced in ‘the old country.’

**Reflection**

European ethnic communities are continually evolving from their traditional ways to a twenty-first-century viewpoint. The interviews that I conducted finding answers explaining why gender and ethnic inequality is experienced in sports allowed me to delve into the world of Hamilton's small European communities. Initially, I thought that many European communities still practiced their traditional religious values, not allowing females to play sports as athleticism is seen as a "male trait." Through this reflection, I will introduce and explain critical details that aid me in believing how females in sports are now a widely accepted subject. Sue Palisak, Veronica Rodrigues, and Ralph Magliaro provided me with answers and insight into the ever-evolving twenty-first-century European culture.

Ralph Magliaro provided me with an excellent background on how Italian immigrant families treated women in sports. Growing up, Ralph played mainly soccer and high school football. However, his Italian community only provided sports to males. Females were not encouraged to participate in sports. Ralph explained to me how many Italian females he knew had to stay home with their mothers and learn how to make a household. This ritual was normal to them; females would not ask why they were being treated like this. I found this unsurprising as I grew up in an Italian culture where gender roles were highly prominent. The fact that females could not participate in sports is the harsh realities in which gender inequality must still deal with today. Unfortunately, the modern-day Italian Canadian community in Hamilton no longer offers sports to the public. Their recreational clubs are focused on bringing together the elderly community for events and games of briscola.

Contrary to the accustomed norms that I discussed with Ralph, Sue Palisak and Veronica Rodrigues provided a completely different outlook onto the female sports community. One that I was not expecting. Both ladies experienced culturally neutral upbringings. Their parents assimilated into Canadian culture and understood that a woman could do just as much within the sports community as a man could do. Neither parents were authoritative in keeping their daughters at home and taking after their mothers; they wanted them to experience life to the fullest. Sue was able to play sports in her Croatian community once they began female sports and played sports in elementary school and high school outside of her community. Similarly, Veronica, who has Catholic Immigrant Portuguese parents, was allowed to participate in sports during her high school career, while the Portuguese community did not offer ethnic sports.

Despite cultural norms set in each of my interviewee's countries, they proved to advance above it. Many of their values revolve around bettering those around them as well as their selves. Ralph and Sue both have children who push towards achieving the best for themselves, pushing them towards education and promoting gender equality in their household. Veronica studies political theories that have to do with women's civil rights both in North America and in foreign countries. All parties work towards bettering themselves and the community around them, abandoning traditional thought. This will prove to be better in the long run with future generations, creating equal and unbiased ethnic and gender norms in their communities. The more we can educate, the better the outcome for the generations that precede us.

In conclusion, each interviewee had their personal story of their experiences in their community. Initially, I had thought that they would be stuck in the past, focused on the toxic gender norms of old Europe. However, I was astonished at how developed they were, especially those of Generation X.