



Technology for modelling a sociological study of social conflicts in the sphere of sports

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Abstract

Objective of the study is the development of a technology for modelling a sociological study of social conflicts in the sphere of sports, providing for certain variants of their prevention and resolution.

Methods and structure of the study. This work represents a descriptive sociological study, built and organised on the basis of the consistent use of the sociological methods of document analysis and participant observation, and the general-scientific operations of typologisation and modelling.

Results and conclusions. The results of the conducted study prove the possibility of constructing a relatively universal model of a sociological study of social conflicts in the sphere of sports. The indicated model includes the logic of constructing a typical structural-content map and a typical scientific thesaurus filling the sociological toolkit. However, the profile-applied application of this technology for modelling a thematic sociological study is necessarily connected with the knowledge of various levels and fragments of management and organisation in the sphere of sports, sports activity, sports management, and sports education, without which the indicated sociological model is deprived of a practical foundation and turns into a pure abstraction. Accordingly, each particular profile-applied model of the technology of a sociological study of a social crisis in the sphere of sports will necessarily require the development of a particular thesaurus as well, adapting the sociological toolkit to the specifics of the level and fragment of socio-crisis counteraction under consideration.

Keywords: *social conflicts in the sphere of sports, sociological study, modelling technology, prevention and resolution of social conflicts in the sphere of sports.*

Introduction. Conflict as a social phenomenon has long and fruitfully been researched and studied in many sciences, in particular, in conflictology, sociology, and psychology [1-8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17-22]. Profile-applied science is not an exception in this context either: pedagogy, the theory and methodology of sports, sports management, sports psychology, and the sociology of sports. Although in the field of profile-applied science there are far fewer such thematic publications, and they concern, in the main, the procedure of sports arbitration, other legal procedures, and the legal status of athletes [1-3, 11, 12, 16]. Meanwhile, social conflict in the sphere of sports can and must be studied at various levels, in various sports, and, moreover, both in a particular and in a general form [9, 12, 16].

As a result of such a diverse and multidirectional study, a confrontation of various approaches and points of view cannot but arise and, accordingly, of-

ten arises, caused by numerous interdisciplinary and intradisciplinary conceptual contradictions. In this article, the authors make an attempt at metascientific sociological modelling, partly "removing" the above-mentioned problem of theoretical-methodological and methodical uncertainty. The choice of precisely the sociological direction of the study of social conflict in the sphere of sports is conditioned by the universality of the application of the sociological methodology and technology in practically all the scientific disciplines of the social block.

The scientific problem is the phenomenon, caused by the multiplicity and various scientific-disciplinary affiliation, of the polysemy and partial contradictoriness of the approaches to the interpretation of the theme of social conflicts, which hinders the formation of an unambiguous scientific understanding of the essence and the possibilities of the typical resolution of social conflicts in the sphere of sports.



The relevance of the study is the necessity of “removing” the polysemy and partial contradictoriness of the approaches to the interpretation of the theme of conflicts in the sphere of sports through the development of a typology of such profile-applied conflicts and the construction of a scientifically substantiated theoretical-technological model presupposing the possibility of their prevention or resolution.

Objective of the study is the development of a technology for modelling a sociological study of social conflicts in the sphere of sports, providing for certain variants of their prevention and resolution.

Methods and structure of the study. This work represents a descriptive sociological study, built and organised on the basis of the consistent use of the sociological methods of document analysis and participant observation, and the general-scientific operations of typologisation and modelling.

Results of the study and discussion. The summary result of the conducted descriptive study by the method of the sociological analysis of documents was an analytical reference, including the following main provisions:

1) A specific sociological study of social conflict can be conducted using any of the four main scientific-empirical methods of collecting primary sociological information: the analysis of documents, the survey, observation, the experiment. At the same time, each of the chosen methods of the specific sociological study is characterised by its own features, manifested, in particular, in the formal and structural-content organisation of the toolkit (the document analysis form, the questionnaire or interview form, the observation sheet, the experiment journal).

2) Despite the features of the different types of specific sociological study of social conflict, there exists a certain common structural-content core characteristic of each of them. Acting as such is the structural-content map, which, following the prominent American representative of post-positivism Thomas Samuel Kuhn (1922–1996), could be called an interdisciplinary scientific matrix or scientific paradigm, and, in accordance with the approach of another representative of the school of the philosophy of science, the English philosopher of Hungarian origin Imre Lakatos (1922–1974), could be designated as a scientific research programme.

3) The logic of constructing the structural-content map of the sociological study of social conflict contains a number of consistently carried-out theoretical-empirical steps-procedures:

– carrying out the analytical procedure of the identification (the statement of the presence of characteristic features) of social conflict, that is, the procedure of the formal fixation of the social conflict situation, defining as such the acute phase of the development of an individual, group, or mixed social contradiction, threatening the conflicting parties with physical, mental, or social damage;

– the determination and characterisation (the construction of a socio-psychological portrait) of the conflicting parties;

– the determination of the spatio-temporal framework of the current stage and period (phase) of the development of the social conflict, proceeding from the premise of the presence of three main stages of the development of a social conflict (the pre-conflict or preconflict, the actual or directly conflict, the post-conflict), given that each of the stages has its own periods or phases;

– the determination of the social context (the control social contingent included in the conflict, and the neutral social environment not directly included in the conflict);

– the determination of the real role (the orientation and degree of influence) of the various elements of the social context;

– the compilation of a scientific forecast of the course of the development and the consequences of the social conflict both for the conflicting parties and for the social context (the near and far environment);

– the working out of the strategy and tactics (the sequence of the application of methods and means) of the resolution of the social conflict;

– the assessment of the possible prospects and the desirable line of the unfolding of the post-conflict stage, the development and approval by the parties of the conflict of preventive measures, as well as sanction measures in the case of a departure from this line.

4) Naturally, in addition to the construction of the structural-content map of the sociological study of social conflict, for the creation of a full-fledged toolkit it is necessary to form a scientific thesaurus. In this case, the thesaurus, obtained by carrying out the operations of the primary logical interpretation (definition) and operationalisation (division) of the main concepts, includes such terms as: the forecasting of social conflict, the prevention of social conflict, the strategy of its prevention, the diagnosis of social conflict, the main phases, periods, and stages of the dynamics of the conflict, the indicators of social tension, and others.



5) The profile-applied application of the indicated sociological technology to the study of social conflicts in the sphere of sports implies the knowledge of the systemic foundations of multi-level management, including the general and particular features in various sports [9, 12, 16].

Conclusions. The results of the conducted study prove the possibility of constructing a relatively universal model of a sociological study of social conflicts in the sphere of sports. The indicated model includes the logic of constructing a typical structural-content map and a typical scientific thesaurus filling the sociological toolkit.

However, the profile-applied application of this technology for modelling a thematic sociological study is necessarily connected with the knowledge of various levels and fragments of management and organisation in the sphere of sports, sports activity, sports management, and sports education, without which the indicated sociological model is deprived of a practical foundation and turns into a pure abstraction.

Accordingly, each particular profile-applied model of the technology of a sociological study of a social crisis in the sphere of sports will necessarily require the development of a particular thesaurus as well, adapting the sociological toolkit to the specifics of the level and fragment of socio-crisis counteraction under consideration.

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