

Special Issue

Social Justice Youth Development through Sport and Physical Activity

Message from the Guest Editors

Ever-present but further exacerbated and exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, political and civil conflict, and the ongoing realities of colonization, racial oppression as well as gender and gender identity inequity and violence have rightfully garnered increased platforms and dialogue on issues of social justice. Social justice is a broad, and at times, contested term. It is frequently used and aspired to, but rarely clearly defined. This broad conceptualization offers both challenges and opportunities for scholars and practitioners working at the intersection of youth development, social justice, sport, and physical activity. This Special Issue aims to highlight cross- and interdisciplinary work under the broad umbrella of social justice youth development through sport and physical activity. We adopt a definition of social justice youth development offered by the Center for Social Justice Youth Development Research, which states that it is: “focused on creating equitable access and opportunities for all youth by actively reducing or eliminating disparities in education, health, employment, justice, and any other system that hinders the development of young people”.

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