

第87回東伏見スポーツサイエンス研究会

日時 2024年1月23日 (Tuesday) **16:00~17:30 pm**

場所 早稲田大学79号館(STEP22)302教室

演題

Towards a sociology of achievement:

A case study of Icelandic sports

Dr. Vidar Halldorsson (University of Iceland)

■**Abstract:** Sports are a production of a particular place and time. The ideology of sport, the organization of sport, and the way sports are played and perceived differ from one place to the next making some sport cultures more successful and constructive than others.

This presentation draws attention to the cultural and collective elements which can form the base of sporting success, on and off the field. The argument rests on the sociological premises that success in sports - as in other domains such as the arts, the academics, and the tech industry - is a cultural production that stems from a productive social environment rather than from individual characteristics and geniuses.

Iceland (with a population of 350.000) has attracted international attention for its sporting achievement on and off the field and provides an interesting case of a successful sports culture. On the one hand, Icelandic national teams have punched above their weight in major international competitions, such as World Cups, European Championships, and the Olympic Games, where Iceland's success has been described as "a miracle". On the other hand, from a public health perspective, Icelandic sport have had a remarkable success in promoting the well-being of its younger participants, for instance in preventing adolescent alcohol and other substance use through sport. Currently, cities and nations around the world are trying to implement "the Icelandic Model" (through "Planet Youth") in how to organize sport so that it promotes the well-being of generations of young people.

The case of Iceland is of particular interest as the social organization of sports in Iceland contrasts the organization of sports in most other countries, as Icelandic sports have managed to combine a healthy and constructive sport-for-all policy with a high production of successful athletes and teams. The case of Iceland represents, in other words, a successful and collective sports culture.

Key words: Sports, Excellence, Well-being, Culture, Iceland.

■**Bio:** Dr. Vidar Halldorsson is a professor of sociology at the University of Iceland, a guest professor in sport science at Reykjavik University, and a guest lecturer in the international CIES FIFA Masters Program. Halldorsson is further a prominent sport consultant, an international speaker, and one of the experts of "Planet Youth". He is the author of "Sport in Iceland: How small nations achieve international success" and he is currently writing two books on the important role of the social in peoples' everyday lives, which he describes through the novel concept of 'social magic'.

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