CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING SPORT FOR ALL:
TEENAGE GIRLS AND SPORT
– HAVE A BREAK OR HAVE A PROBLEM?
TEENAGE GIRLS AND SPORT – HAVE A BREAK OR HAVE A PROBLEM?

• Learnings from international research on teenage-girls

• Specific data and analysis from Denmark

• Findings and possible issues
FROM EAST TO WEST – GENDER DIFFERENCES IN SPORT:

- Boys/men are more involved in sport than girls/women
- Differences seem to diminish in many countries (due to more rapid growth in female participation (especially among adult women)
- Linked to modernization processes (equality)

Casper et al. 2011; Engel & Nagel 2011; Eurobarometer 334/72.3; Jakobsson et al. 2012; Lau et al. 2007; Scheerder et al., 2011, Seippel 2005;).
GENDER DEVELOPMENT – TOWARDS EQUALITY?

Denmark:

Participating in sport/exercise

Pilgaard, 2012
GENDER DEVELOPMENT – TOWARDS EQUALITY?

Norway:

Breivik, 2013
FACTSHEETS ON EU-LEVEL:

Figure 3.10  Gender gap in monthly sport participation, in percentages (male > female)

© K.U. Leuven, Research Unit of Social Kinesiology and Sport Management

Scheerder et al. 2011
Figure 3.14 Gender gap in club sport participation, in percentages (male > female)

© K.U. Leuven, Research Unit of Social Kinesiology and Sport Management

Scheerder et al. 2011
WHEN TAKING A CLOSER LOOK:

Denmark:

Participate in sport/exercise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-9 years</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-19</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women:  
- 7-9 years: 90%  
- 10-12 years: 85%  
- 13-15: 80%  
- 16-19: 75%  
- 20-29: 70%  
- 30-39: 65%  
- 40-49: 60%  
- 50-59: 55%  
- 60-69: 50%  
- 70+: 45%

Men:  
- 7-9 years: 90%  
- 10-12 years: 90%  
- 13-15: 85%  
- 16-19: 80%  
- 20-29: 75%  
- 30-39: 70%  
- 40-49: 65%  
- 50-59: 60%  
- 60-69: 55%  
- 70+: 50%
TEENAGE GIRLS - THE ONLY GROUP BECOMING LESS ACTIVE OVER TIME

Denmark:

Women

Men


www.idan.dk
YOUNG WOMEN ARE ‘TAKING A BREAK’:

31 pct. ‘Not at the moment’

Participate in sport/exercise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-9 years</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-19</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLUB SPORT EXPERIENCE THE DROP OUT:

Denmark:

Participate in club sport

- 7-9 years
- 10-12 years
- 13-15 years
- 16-19 years
- 20-29 years
- 30-39 years
- 40-49 years
- 50-59 years
- 60-69 years
- 70+

Women
Men

www.idan.dk
WHILE OTHER OFFERS RECRUITE:

Denmark:

- Private/commercial

- 7-9 years: Women 5%, Men 2%
- 10-12 years: Women 5%, Men 2%
- 13-15 years: Women 10%, Men 5%
- 16-19 years: Women 20%, Men 10%
- 20-29 years: Women 25%, Men 15%
- 30-39 years: Women 20%, Men 10%
- 40-49 years: Women 15%, Men 10%
- 50-59 years: Women 10%, Men 5%
- 60-69 years: Women 5%, Men 2%
- 70+ years: Women 3%, Men 1%
SOME POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS?

1. Background
   1. Age
   2. Ethnic/cultural background
   3. Socioeconomic background
   4. Parent’s interest in sport
   5. Own educational situation

2. Possibilities
   1. Competition from other offers
   2. Organized sports offers
   3. Availability of facilities

3. Experiences
   1. Opinions about sport from School and leisure time
   2. Coach-experiences
   3. The role of the ‘social’
   4. Performance/competition
   5. Well-being
   6. Bodily female identity

From Ibsen et al., 2015:
CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING SPORT FOR ALL:

Do we have a problem?

Is it difficult for sport clubs to change their game plan?

Need for increased diversity in the supply?

Males in public funded sports clubs – females in the private sector – an issue of equal rights?

Do facilities and spaces for sport appeal equally?
The 27th of October
Play the Game 2015
Aarhus

Maja Pilgaard

CHALLENGES IN PROVIDING SPORT FOR ALL:
TEENAGE GIRLS AND SPORT
– HAVE A BREAK OR HAVE A PROBLEM?