



Patriotic values of young men of military age involved in sports in the aspect of sociological analysis

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Abstract

Objective of the study was to identify the features of the development of patriotic values, the formation of civic consciousness and attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland among young men of military age involved in sports.

Methods and structure of the study. Step-by-step empirical work was carried out on the basis of the Kaliningrad military commissariat with young men of military age (310 people 17-18 years old), students of educational institutions in Kaliningrad. Diagnosis was carried out using questionnaires of constructive patriotism (S.V. Vasilyeva, A.V. Miklyaeva), attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland, and methods for assessing the level of formation of civic consciousness.

Results and conclusions. The diagnostic results obtained made it possible to identify the features of the development of patriotic values, the formation of civic consciousness and attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland among young men of conscription age who are and are not involved in various sports. Sports have a positive impact on the development of patriotic values, the formation of civic consciousness and attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland among young men of military age.

Keywords: *patriotic values, attitude towards military service, civic consciousness, sports, young men of conscription age.*

Introduction. Patriotic and civic education of young men of conscription age in modern conditions acquires particular relevance and significance, because is one of the most important components of the national idea of the Russian state. At all times in the development of the Russian state, the patriotic idea and civil patriotism were of great importance for instilling fighting spirit and the formation of moral and volitional qualities of young conscripts. The study of the problem of finding effective ways and means of forming patriotic and spiritual-moral values of young people of military age in the face of external threats seems timely and in demand, since ensuring the national defense and security of Russia, the functioning of the Armed Forces and giving them a promising appearance in a situation of increased likelihood of external threats to the security of citizens, society and the state

are impossible without a targeted, long-term system of preparing young people to serve the Fatherland.

Experts emphasize that over the past ten years, everywhere in the Russian Federation there has been a deterioration in the indicators of physical development, physical fitness and health status of people of military age. According to experts, 80% of secondary school graduates are unfit for military service, 60-70% have poor physical fitness and abnormal health conditions. They cannot meet control standards for physical fitness [1, 4]. A study by specialists of the physical condition of 17-18 years old boys showed only 10% of healthy young people, "practically healthy" - 42%, and 48% of young men in need of constant medical monitoring. According to M.N. Aliyev, conscripts who arrived for military service cannot receive a "satisfactory" rating in pull-ups on



the horizontal bar - 40-45%, in 1000 m cross-country - 65-70%, in grenade throwing - 50-55% [2]. Conducted studies [5, 6] state that in most educational institutions, insufficient attention is paid to the issues of physical training, the development of patriotic and spiritual and moral values of young people of military age, despite the fact that physical culture and sports have enormous potential for the formation of patriotic values and increasing physical and motivational readiness of young people for military service. In the context of confronting external threats, service

in the Armed Forces requires young men to experience great neuro-emotional stress and good physical fitness. The ability of young people to cope with enormous physical and mental stress during military service is becoming today one of the decisive conditions for the effectiveness of military operations, and therefore the security of our country.

Objective of the study was to identify the features of the development of patriotic values, the formation of civic consciousness and attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland among young

Table 1. Sports categories

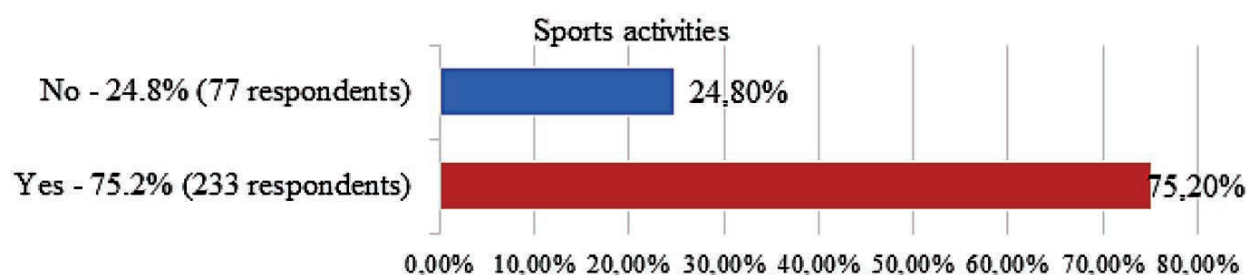
Kinds of sports		Frequency (number of respondents)	Percentages
Valid	Doesn't play sports	77	24,8
	Combat	66	21,3
	Individual	33	10,6
	Power	23	7,4
	Cyclic	44	14,2
	Game team	45	14,5
	Individual gaming	22	7,1
	Total	310	100,0

Table 2. Distribution into groups

Group number	Name/characteristics	Number of respondents	% of the entire sample
1	No sports	77	24,8%
2	Combat and power	89	28,7%
3	Individual and cyclical	77	24,8%
4	Gaming (all types)	67	21,7%

Table 3. Descriptive statistics of the "Constructive Patriotism Questionnaire" method

Data	«Blind» patriotism	Constructive patriotism
Valid	287	254
Missed	23	56
Average	18,03	27,41
Median	18,00	29,00
Moda	28	31
Standard Deviation	7,235	6,496
Minimum	7	5
Maximum	30	35



Sports activities among respondents



men of conscription age who are and are not involved in sports.

Methods and structure of the study. The study was carried out on the basis of the military commissariat with young men of military age, students of educational institutions in Kaliningrad. The respondents were 310 young men of military age (17-18 years old). Diagnosis was carried out using questionnaires of constructive patriotism (S.V. Vasilyeva, A.V. Miklyayeva), attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland, and methods for assessing the level of formation of civic consciousness.

Results of the study and discussion. The sample of respondents consisted of 310 young men of military age. The presence of sports in their lives is 75.2%, see figure.

Table 1 presents the types of sports that respondents are involved in:

All respondents were divided into the following groups 1, 2, 3, 4.

Let us present an analysis of data from the “Constructive Patriotism Questionnaire” method among the entire sample. So, let’s look at descriptive statistics in Table 3:

Table 4. Statistics of the “Constructive Patriotism Questionnaire” methodology by group

Group	«Blind» patriotism				Constructive patriotism			
	Average	Moda	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Moda	Minimum	Maximum
1	15,57	23,00	10	28	23,20	24,00	13	33
2	20,00	22,00	8	30	25,50	24,00	20	35
3	17,33	18,00	5	28	26,83	24,00	19	30
4	19,30	23,00	7	30	30,34	28,00	22	34

Table 5. Mann-Whitney U calculations using the “Constructive Patriotism Questionnaire” method

Comparison line	Mann–Whitney U test		Statistician significant differences	
	«Blind» patriotism	Constructive patriotism	«Blind» patriotism	Constructive patriotism
Group 1 and 2	1996,500	1875,500	0,027	0,164
Group 1 and 3	1573,000	1633,500	0,203	0,000
Group 1 and 4	1947,000	918,500	0,232	0,000
Group 2 and 3	2546,500	1958,000	0,894	0,249
Group 2 and 4	1947,000	1918,500	0,232	0,221
Group 3 and 4	2178,000	1391,500	0,140	0,025

Table 6. Results of the “Formation of civic consciousness” methodology

Question	Yes (%)	More likely yes than no (%)	Difficult to answer (%)	More likely no than yes (%)	No (%)
I know the flag, coat of arms and anthem of the Russian Federation	100%	-	-	-	-
I have a civil position	81,9%	3,9%	7,1%	3,5%	3,5%
I express and defend my civic position	57,1%	21,3%	10,6%	11,0%	-
Ready to cooperate with people of a different race, nationality, religion, etc.	78,7%	14,2%	3,5%	3,5%	-
Ready to take responsibility in difficult situations	68,1%	17,7%	7,1%	7,1%	-
I actively participate in the life of a group, school, college, university	42,9%	21,3%	10,6%	17,7%	7,4%
I often carry out public errands	35,5%	32,3%	17,7%	-	14,5%
Ready to take care of my parents (older generation) and children	92,6%	7,4%	-	-	-
Ready to take responsibility for my actions	92,9%	3,5%	-	3,5%	-
I always behave in society in accordance with accepted standards of behavior	61,0%	28,4%	10,6%	-	-
I always keep order in public places	75,2%	21,3%	-	3,5%	-
I always follow the traffic rules	60%	29%	7,1%	-	3,5%



Analyzing Table 3, we note that among the entire sample of respondents:

- on the “blind patriotism” scale Moda = 28 points (above average level);
- on the “constructive patriotism” scale Moda = 31 points (high level).

Let us present the descriptive statistics of the “Constructive Patriotism Questionnaire” method by group:

To compare the significance of differences between groups, we used the Mann–Whitney U method. Let us present the Mann–Whitney U calculations using the “Constructive Patriotism Questionnaire” method in Table 5:

A comparative analysis of data on the indicators “blind patriotism” and “constructive patriotism” between groups showed statistically significant differences:

– Blind patriotism (U=1996.500, p=0.027). Thus, the formation of blind patriotism is significantly higher among respondents of group 2 (combat/strength sports) than among respondents of group 1 (no sports);

– Constructive patriotism (U=1633.500, p=0.000). Thus, the formation of constructive patriotism is significantly higher among respondents in group 3 (individual/cyclic sports) than among respondents in group 1 (no sports);

– Constructive patriotism (U=918.500, p=0.000). Thus, the formation of constructive patriotism is significantly higher among respondents in group 4 (game sports) than among respondents in group 1 (no sports);

– Constructive patriotism (U=1391.500, p=0.025). Thus, the formation of constructive patriotism is sig-

Table 7. Mann–Whitney U calculations using the “Formation of civic consciousness” method (by group)

Question	Groups 1-2		Groups 1-3		Groups 1-4	
	Mann–Whitney U test	Meaning	Mann–Whitney U test	Meaning	Mann–Whitney U test	Meaning
1	3426,500	1,000	2964,500	1,000	2579,500	1,000
2	2552,000	0,000	2964,500	1,000	2211,000	0,001
3	2854,500	0,050	2359,500	0,021	737,000	0,000
4	2579,500	0,000	1694,000	0,000	2156,000	0,000
5	3173,500	0,288	1996,500	0,000	2326,500	0,167
6	1523,500	0,000	2057,000	0,001	1034,000	0,000
7	1644,500	0,000	2480,500	0,068	1655,500	0,000
8	2964,500	1,000	2326,500	0,167	2579,500	1,000
9	3426,500	1,000	2117,500	0,000	2579,500	1,000
10	3426,500	1,000	2326,500	0,167	2964,500	1,000
11	2871,000	0,009	2541,000	0,031	1925,000	0,002
12	3206,500	0,359	2816,000	0,613	1166,000	0,000

Table 8. Contingency table using the “Formation of civic consciousness” method (by groups)

Question	More likely no than yes (number of respondents)				No (number of respondents)			
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
I have a civil position	11	0	0	0	11	0	0	0
I express and defend my civic position	21	5	5	3	0	0	0	0
Ready to cooperate with people of a different race, nationality, religion, etc.	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ready to take responsibility in difficult situations	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I actively participate in the life of a group, school, college, university	22	11	11	11	11	4	4	4
I often carry out public errands	23	10	4	8	12	11	11	11
Ready to take responsibility for my actions	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
I always keep order in public places	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I always follow the traffic rules	11	3	4	4	3	3	3	2



Table 9. Spearman correlation analysis (entire sample)

Formation of civic consciousness/constructiveness of patriotism and attitude towards military service		«Blind» patriotism	Constructive patriotism	Attitude to military service
I express and defend my civic position	Pearson correlation	-0,175**	0,067	0,003
	Meaning	0,003	0,287	0,962
Ready to cooperate with people of a different race, nationality, religion, etc.	Pearson correlation	0,235**	0,250**	0,067
	Meaning	0,000	0,000	0,287
Ready to take responsibility in difficult situations	Pearson correlation	0,295**	0,233**	0,147**
	Meaning	0,000	0,000	0,010
I actively participate in life groups, schools, colleges, universities	Pearson correlation	0,159**	0,090	0,148**
	Meaning	0,007	0,154	0,009
I often carry out public errands	Pearson correlation	0,395**	0,022	0,446**
	Meaning	0,000	0,728	0,000
Ready to take care of my parents (older generation) and children	Pearson correlation	0,194**	0,295**	-0,017
	Meaning	0,001	0,000	0,765
Ready to take responsibility for my actions	Pearson correlation	0,311**	0,735**	-0,089
	Meaning	0,000	0,000	0,119
I always behave in society in accordance with accepted standards of behavior	Pearson correlation	0,380**	-0,017	0,518**
	Meaning	0,000	0,765	0,000
I always keep order in public places	Pearson correlation	0,333**	-0,089	0,890**
	Meaning	0,000	0,119	0,000
I always follow the traffic rules	Pearson correlation	0,308**	-0,152*	1
	Meaning	0,000	0,015	

nificantly higher among respondents in group 4 (game sports) than among respondents in group 3 (individual/cyclic sports).

Let us present the results of the “Formation of civic consciousness” method among the entire sample in Table 6.

Analyzing Table 6, we note that among the respondents, about a third often carry out public assignments, less than half actively participate in the life of the group/school/college.

Let us present the Mann–Whitney U-calculations using the “Formation of civic consciousness” method in Table 7:

Analyzing Table 7, we note that respondents from group 1 (those not involved in sports) demonstrate less maturity of almost every component of the formation of civic consciousness compared to groups 2-4 (involved in various sports). For clarity, let’s compare the occurrence of negative answers in the contingency table:

Next, we conducted a correlation analysis for the entire sample between indicators of achievements in sports, “attitude towards military service,” “formation of civic consciousness,” and “constructiveness of patriotism.” For this purpose, the Spearman correlation analysis method was used.

Analyzing Table 9, we note that:

– all elements of civic consciousness, except for “defending one’s civic position,” have a significant positive correlation with the formation of “blind patriotism.” “Standing up for your civic position” has a negative significant correlation. That is, the more formed the defense of one’s civic position, the lower the “blind patriotism”;

– such elements of civic consciousness as “readiness to cooperate with another nationality/race”, “readiness to take responsibility”, “readiness to care for elders” have significant positive correlations with the formation of “constructive patriotism”. That is, the higher the readiness for cooperation, responsibility, and care, the more “constructive patriotism” is formed;

– such elements of civic consciousness as “readiness for responsibility”, “activity in participating in the life of a university/college/school”, “following assignments”, “compliance with rules and order” have significant positive correlations with the formation of a positive attitude towards military service. That is, the higher the readiness for responsibility, activity in business, diligence and compliance with norms and rules, the more positive the attitude towards the service.

Conclusions. The study made it possible to identify the features of the development of patriotic values, the formation of civic consciousness and attitudes to-



wards military service and defense of the Fatherland among young men of military age involved in various sports. Sports have a positive impact on the development of patriotic values, the formation of civic consciousness and attitudes towards military service and defense of the Fatherland among young men of military age.

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