

Abstract

Announced by the NCAA, about 6.5% of all high school seniors playing football will go on to play at the collegiate level. According to research at the University of Birmingham, “Athlete’s perceptions of competence are dependent on outdoing others, he or she may be more likely to break the rules and behave in an unsportsmanlike fashion when winning is at stake.” Partnered with the Medical College of Wisconsin, The High school of Health Sciences, and Milwaukee Academy of Science, we will conduct a study to determine the amount of aggression and egocentricism in athletes. We hypothesize that athletes who convey an egocentric persona will lead to aggressive behavior on the field and daily life.

Contact sports



- Less mature moral reasoning
- Higher reports of aggressive behavior in daily life

- Ego-Oriented athletes are more pronounced.
- Ego-Oriented athletes find competency through winning



Goal

To identify causes of bad decisions making, then raise the awareness of hostility and violence, informing athletes and coaches how an excessive amount of aggression can increase the possibility of bad decision-making.

Methods

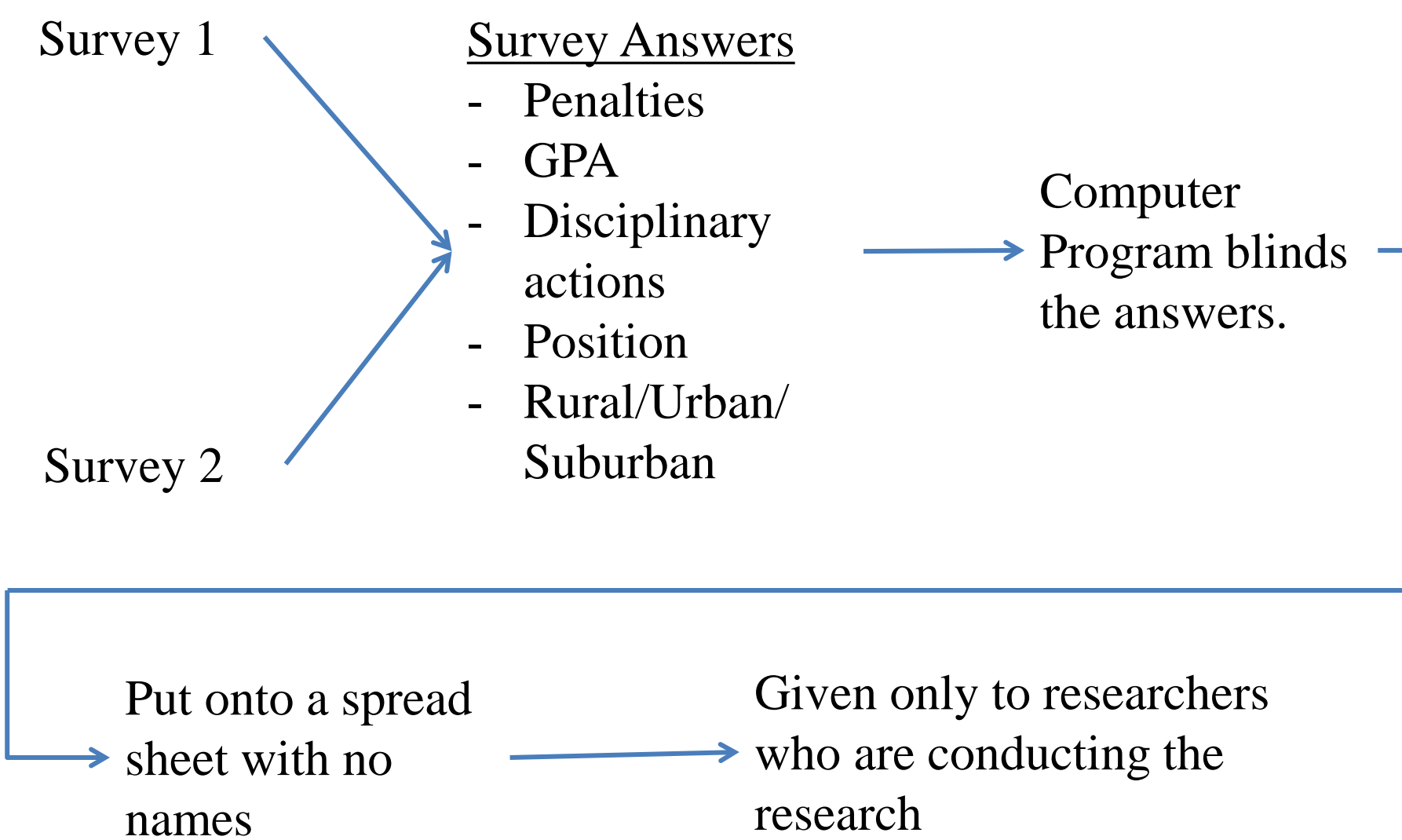
Ego Survey (Triantis, 1998)

- Vertical Collectivism: Seeing the self as a part of a collective and being willing to accept hierarchy and inequality within that collective
- Vertical Individualism: Seeing the self as fully autonomous but recognizing that inequality will exist among individuals and that accepting this inequality.
- Horizontal Collectivism: Seeing the self as part of a collective but perceiving all the members of that collective as equal.
- Horizontal Individualism: Seeing the self as fully autonomous and believing that equality between individuals is the ideal.

Aggression Survey (Maxwell, 2003)

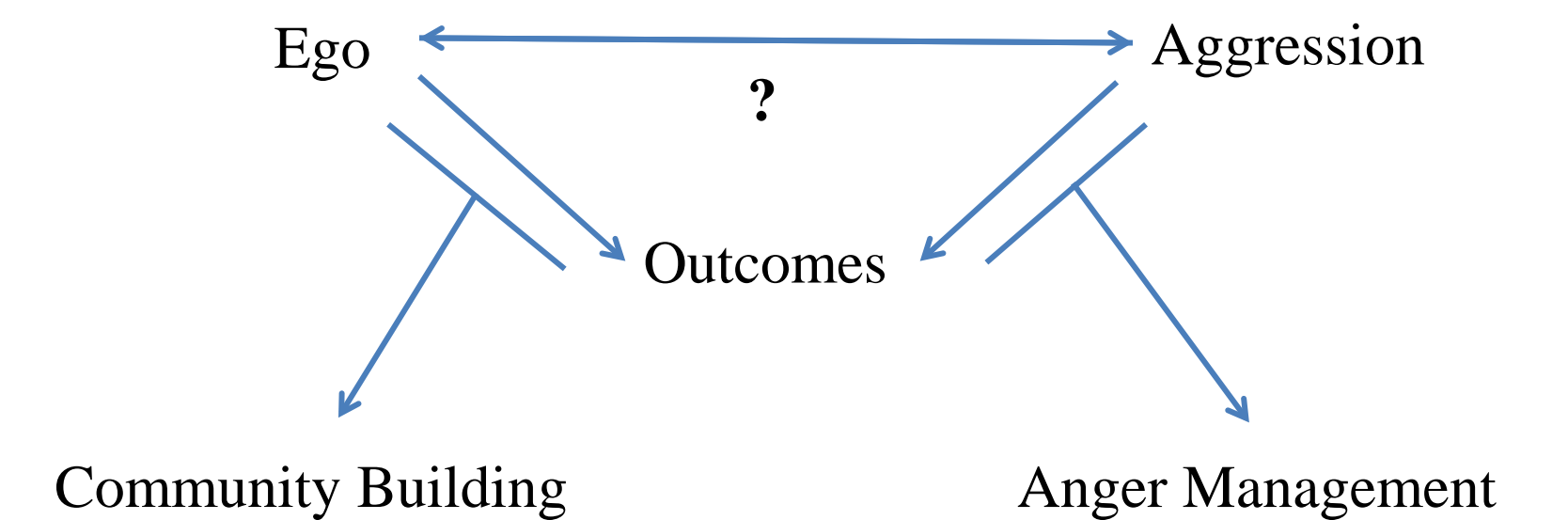
- Breaks down answers to give scores for:
 - Anger
 - Aggression
- GPA
- Penalties
- School Suspensions and Detentions
- Game Suspensions

Outcomes



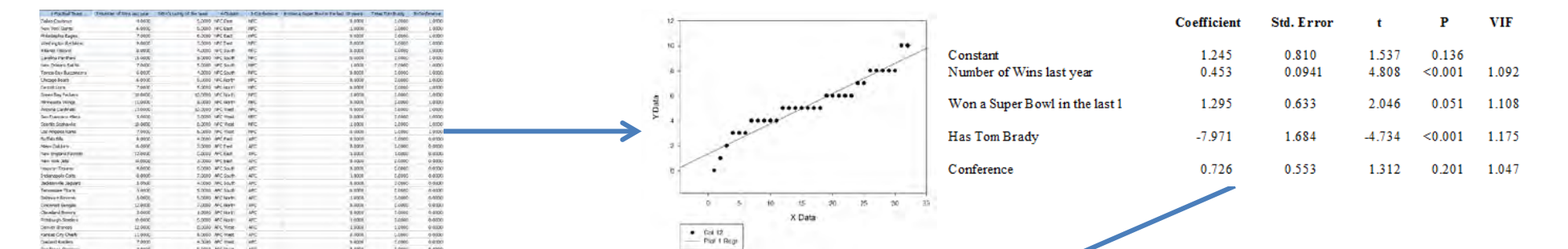
Expected results

If we find correlations, we can test interventions to improve outcomes



Multiple Linear Regression Model Example

- Describes the relationship between multiple independent variables and a single dependent variable



Eric's rating of the team = 1.245 + (0.453 * Number of Wins last year) + (1.295 * Won a Super Bowl in the last 10 years) - (7.971 * Has Tom Brady) + (0.726 * Conference)

References

Kavussanu, M., & Ntoumanis, N. (2003). Participation in sport and Moral Functioning: Does Ego Orientation Mediate Their Relationship [Abstract]. *Journal of Sport & Exercise Psychology*, 5, 501-518. Retrieved February/March, 2015

Maxwell, J.P, Moore, E (2003) The development of a short scale measuring aggressiveness and anger in competitive athletes. Retrieved September 30, 2015, From <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1469029206000252>.

Triantis, H. C. & Gelfland, M. J. (1998). Converging measurement of horizontal and vertical individualism and collectivism. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 74, 118-128.