

# Study of the Social Acceptance and Self-Esteem Levels of High School Students Who Do Sports towards Disabled Students

## Estudio de los niveles de aceptación social y autoestima de estudiantes de secundaria que practican deporte hacia estudiantes discapacitados

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## Summary

Education is everyone's right. This right has been emphasized in many national and international legal texts. Based on this fact, it is extremely important to consider the fact that disabled individuals also have equal rights arising from citizenship as a social acceptance and self-esteem principle. In this sense, social acceptance and self-esteem levels of students who fulfill the special aims of education and do sports towards the students with disabilities emerge as an important issue. Therefore, the aim of this study is to examine the possible relationship between social acceptance and self-esteem levels of different high school students who do sports towards the students with disabilities in Turkey. In this study including high school students doing sports, Social Acceptance Scale and Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory were used to evaluate various variables of students towards disabled students. "Mann Whitney U" and "Kruskal Wallis 1 Way ANOVA" tests were used in the analysis of the scores obtained from the research scales of the students. Also, social anxiety results were determined by using the "Dunn's Nonparametric Comparison" test for significant differences. Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) and Shapiro-Wilk (SW) tests were used to examine the Coopersmith self-esteem inventory and its sub-dimensions. There is no statistically significant difference between the total score averages of the social acceptance and subscales of the students according to their age, gender, number of siblings, father and mother's education ( $p > .05$ ). Social acceptance scale total score averages of students differ according to sports branches ( $p < .05$ ). Students' Coopersmith self-esteem inventory and subscale total mean scores do not differ according to age, gender, number of siblings, income levels of their families, and educational status of the mother and father ( $p > .05$ ). Students' Coopersmith self-esteem inventory and subscale total scores differ according to sports branches ( $p < .05$ ). There is no statistically significant relationship between students' "social acceptance scale" and "coopersmith self-esteem inventory" ( $p > .05$ ). According to the data obtained from this study, we can say that sports affect the emotions and thoughts of the students, and this has a positive attitude towards disabled students in the classroom. Sport enables individuals to socialize. Regardless of the type of disability, we can say that every individual is valuable for athletes. Sport is brotherhood. Students who play sports can empathize. By directing our students to sports branches according to their abilities, we can change their feelings and thoughts towards disabled people and as a society, we can be more sensitive to disabled people.

**Keywords:** High School Student, Sports, Disabled, Social Acceptance, Self-esteem.

## Resumen

La educación es un derecho de todos. Este derecho ha sido enfatizado en muchos textos legales nacionales e internacionales. Con base en este hecho, es de suma importancia considerar el hecho de que las personas con discapacidad también tienen iguales derechos derivados de la ciudadanía como principio de aceptación social y autoestima. En este sentido, los niveles de aceptación social y autoestima de los estudiantes que cumplen con los fines especiales de la educación y hacen deporte hacia los estudiantes con discapacidad emergen como un tema importante. Por lo tanto, el objetivo de este estudio es examinar la posible relación entre la aceptación social y los niveles de autoestima de diferentes estudiantes de secundaria que practican deportes con los estudiantes con discapacidad en Turquía. En este estudio, que incluyó a estudiantes de secundaria que practican deportes, se utilizó la Escala de Aceptación Social y el Inventario de Autoestima de Coopersmith para evaluar diversas variables de los estudiantes hacia los estudiantes discapacitados. Las pruebas "Mann Whitney U" y "Kruskal Wallis 1 Way ANOVA" se utilizaron en el análisis de las puntuaciones obtenidas de las escalas de investigación de los estudiantes. Además, los resultados de ansiedad social se determinaron mediante la prueba de "Comparación no paramétrica de Dunn" para detectar diferencias significativas. Se utilizaron las pruebas de Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) y Shapiro-Wilk (SW) para examinar el inventario de autoestima de Coopersmith y sus subdimensiones. No existe diferencia estadísticamente significativa entre los promedios de puntajes totales de aceptación social y subescalas de los estudiantes según su edad, género, número de hermanos, educación del padre y de la madre ( $p > .05$ ). Los promedios de la

puntuación total de la escala de aceptación social de los estudiantes difieren según las ramas deportivas ( $p < .05$ ). El inventario de autoestima de Coopersmith de los estudiantes y las puntuaciones medias totales de la subescala no difieren según la edad, el sexo, el número de hermanos, los niveles de ingresos de sus familias y el nivel educativo de la madre y el padre ( $p > .05$ ). El inventario de autoestima de Coopersmith de los estudiantes y los puntajes totales de la subescala difieren según las ramas deportivas ( $p < .05$ ). No existe una relación estadísticamente significativa entre la “escala de aceptación social” de los estudiantes y el “inventario de autoestima de Coopermith” ( $p > .05$ ). Según los datos obtenidos de este estudio, podemos decir que el deporte afecta las emociones y pensamientos de los estudiantes, y esto tiene una actitud positiva hacia los estudiantes discapacitados en el aula. El deporte permite a las personas socializar. Independientemente del tipo de discapacidad, podemos decir que cada individuo es valioso para los deportistas. El deporte es hermandad. Los estudiantes que practican deportes pueden sentir empatía. Al dirigir a nuestros estudiantes a las ramas del deporte de acuerdo con sus capacidades, podemos cambiar sus sentimientos y pensamientos hacia las personas con discapacidad y, como sociedad, podemos ser más sensibles con las personas con discapacidad.

**Palabras clave:** Estudiante de secundaria, deportes, discapacitados, aceptación social, autoestima.

## Introduction

Education is the process of preparing the growing generations for social life. Younger generations learn the history, culture and values of the society in which they live through education. In this respect, education emerges as a process of transferring culture and values. This reality in education is reinforced by the following quotation: “Children born today will live tomorrow, raise your child for tomorrow” (Doğan, 2018). In this sense, it is necessary to educate young people, who are the adults of tomorrow, to be sensitive about certain issues. Especially, the issue of behaviors of young people who do sports and have a guiding mission to the society in every sense is an important issue.

There are general and specific purposes of the education at school. Teaching new knowledge and skills in the world creates general purposes. General purposes process the human dimension that is open to the world. They aim at the development of human biological, mental and emotional characteristics. Every state in the world makes regulations for its citizens to develop in this direction. The special purposes of education are to teach the unique needs of the society and cultural values. Special purposes create the national dimension of education. Society’s expectations and needs are determined via specific purposes. The answer to the question “how to raise people who are beneficial to their country and society” was sought in special purposes. In other words, it is aimed to raise happy people who contribute to the society and humanity, who can establish the balance of body and soul, who are hardworking, productive, and able to establish the balance of body and soul through the special purposes of education (Doğan, 2018). According to this definition, young people who do sports are in the category of young people who strive to achieve the special goals of education. On the other hand, the disabled people form a significant proportion of the world population. Similarly, there are students with mental, visual, physical and hearing disabilities in schools. Because every individual has the right to receive an equal education. Despite this, disabled people face problems in this regard compared to non-disabled individuals. Some attitudes towards disabled people make it difficult for disabled students to integrate into the school. In this sense, the social acceptance and self-esteem level developed by the students who are equipped with the special purposes of education towards the students with disabilities emerge as an important issue. Therefore, the aim of this study is to examine the social acceptance and self-esteem levels of high school students doing sports towards disabled students.

It is emphasized in many national and international legal texts that everyone has the right to get education. In our country, education services are a right for individuals and a duty for the state, which is guaranteed by the statement “no one can be deprived of the right to get education and training” in the forty-second article of our constitution. The right to get education, which is

guaranteed by national and international laws, is undoubtedly indispensable for all individuals regardless of their religion, language, race, gender, physical condition and mental differences. Based on this fact, it is extremely important to consider the fact that disabled individuals also have equal rights arising from citizenship as a social acceptance principle (Selimoğlu & Aydın, 2019). Especially young people who do sports are expected to be more sensitive about this issue in the context of the special aims of education. Social acceptance can be defined as an attitude that reflects the collective values of group members' feelings towards individuals such as liking and disliking (Buhs & Ladd, 2001). All people feel the need for a positive and continuous social relationship. Social acceptance is important for establishing a positive social relationship between people. Leary said that social acceptance has a wide range from tolerating the existence of another to making an effort to communicate with someone (Cited in: DeWall & Bushman, 2011). Although they differ from their peers in certain areas, social acceptance is also very important in the lives of disabled individuals (Bıyıklı, 1989 cited. Aktaş and Küçüker 2002; Öcal, 1999). For this reason, the environments where they are together with their peers play an extremely important role in the education of the disabled. The concept of social acceptance, which is generally understood as accepting others by an individual, can be a little more complicated in the acceptance of disabled individuals who are disadvantaged when the features mentioned above such as social awareness, friendship and maintaining communication are considered (Karataş & Arslan, 2018). Therefore, Özyürek (2006) He emphasized the importance of accepting disabled people by non-disabled individuals by defining social acceptance as positive attitudes of the individuals not affected from disability towards individuals affected from disability and seeing them as others.

According to Coopersmith who explains the concept of self-esteem, which is very important personally, socially and psychologically, self-esteem is an individual's evaluation which he/she makes his/her self and continues as a habit. The level of self-esteem determines the individual's attitudes that approve or disapprove of his/her own self and the belief that the individual is talented, important, successful and valuable. In summary, Coopersmith defines self-esteem as an evaluation of the individual's own dignity (Coopersmith, 1974). Rosenberg also emphasized that the self-esteem of the individual has a central importance in psychological sense, giving special importance to the concept of self-esteem. Self-esteem is the result of self-evaluation. The judgment reached by the individual as a result of his/her self-evaluation determines the level of self-esteem. Self-esteem is the valence judgment reached by an individual regarding the self-concept (Rosenberg, 1965). It is expressed with different terms such as self-esteem, self-respect, self-respect (Kuzgun 2000, Coopersmith 1974, Yiğit, Yılmaz 2011). People with high self-esteem are those who are self-confident, not afraid of criticism, have realistic goals, strive for these goals, are active and sociable, have a high acceptance level, are successful academically and socially, and have a positive perception of themselves. People with low self-esteem are those who seek approval, have fears, are more fragile in the face of criticism, are dependent, cannot act like themselves when the need for approval is high, do not take risks, set modest goals, and are full of their own problems (Pişkin, 2000; Mağden & Aksoy, 1993; Cohen, 1959). In the studies conducted, we can explain that sport has an impact on students because of the high self-esteem levels of individuals who do sports and their positive attitudes towards disabled individuals.

As a result, it is seen that sport has an important place on students because it affects emotions and thoughts. Therefore, this study is an important study in order to determine the attitudes of students who do sports regularly towards disabled students and to determine whether sport has an impact on students' feelings and thoughts. For this reason, in this study, it is aimed to examine the relationship between social acceptance of high school students engaged in sports and their self-esteem levels towards disabled students.

## **Methodology**

### **Research Model**

In this study, descriptive and relational survey methods, which are general survey models, were used.

### Forming Volunteer Groups

Students who were studying at different high schools in Turkey in the 2019-2020 academic year participated in the study voluntarily.

### Data Collection Techniques

As data collection techniques, Personal Information Form, Social Acceptance Scale and Coopersmith Self-Esteem Scale were used.

### Personal Information Form

In obtaining the data, the questions prepared by the researcher regarding demographic characteristics and including gender, age, education status of the mother and father, economic status, sports branch, number of siblings were used.

### Social Acceptance Scale

Social acceptance scale developed by Arslan (2010) consists of 32 items. The scale is a triple Likert type scale. The first of the three factors that make up the scale is defined as “Social Skills”, the second as “Student Behavior”, and the third as “Peer Attitude”. The high value obtained from the scale indicates that the students developed a “positive attitude” towards the inclusive students, while the lower value shows that the students developed a “negative attitude”. Cronbach Alpha internal consistency coefficient was found as .92 (Karataş & Aslan, 2018).

### Coopersmith Self-Esteem Scale

Coopersmith Self Esteem Inventory, developed by Stanley Coopersmith (1986) and then revised, consists of 58 items in total. The scale is a 2-point Likert type scale. The scale is a measurement tool with “Yes and No” options. The scale consists of 5 sub-items. The scale consists of items developed to measure an individual’s thoughts about himself in his social, academic, family and personal life. According to Güçray (1989), it was first conducted by Onur (1980). Later, the adaptation made by Güçray (1989) was carried out. The last adaptation of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory into Turkish was made by Pişkin (1996). Reliability coefficient of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory was found as .70.

## DISTRIBUTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES

Table 1. Distribution of the Demographic Characteristics of the Student Participating in the Study

Variable	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
<b>Age</b>		
15	91	22,5
16	105	26,0
17	109	27,0
18	99	24,5
<b>Total</b>	404	100,0
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	319	79,0
Female	85	21,0
<b>Total</b>	404	100,0
<b>Mother's Educational Level</b>		
Primary Education	30	7,4
High School	126	31,2
Undergraduate	146	36,2
Postgraduate	102	25,2
<b>Total</b>	404	100,0

<b>Father's Educational Level</b>		
High School	100	24,8
Undergraduate	217	53,7
Postgraduate	87	21,5
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Sport Branch</b>		
Individual Sports	143	35,4
Team sports	261	64,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Number of siblings</b>		
1	102	25,2
2	215	53,3
3 or more	87	21,5
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Level of Family Income</b>		
2001-4000 TL	4	1,0
4001 - 5000 TL	86	21,3
5001 - 6000 TL	175	43,3
6001 TL and above	139	34,4
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>100,0</b>

The distribution of findings related to the socio-demographic characteristics of the individuals participating in the study is given.

### **SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE SCALE**

“Social Acceptance Scale” consists of 32 statements. There are three possible options for each question (yes, undecided, no) and the minimum score for each question is 1 and the maximum score is 3. Therefore, the minimum score that can be obtained from the scale is 32 and the maximum score is 96.

Evaluation for positive statements; (1) no, (2) undecided and (3) yes

Evaluation for negative statements; (1) yes, (2) undecided and (3) no

Negative statements; 4 - 12 - 15 - 17 - 18 - 25 - 29 - 30 - 32

Social acceptance scale consists of 3 subscales;

- i. Social skills: 1 - 2 - 8 - 9 - 11 - 16 - 19 - 21 - 22 - 23 - 24 - 26 - 27 - 28 - 29 - 31
- ii. Student behaviors: 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 10 - 13 - 14 - 20
- iii. Peer attitude: 12 - 15 - 17 - 18 - 25 - 30 - 32.

### **Scale Reliability**

The answers given to the scale by a group of 404 students who were applied the “Social Acceptance Scale” has a direct effect on the reliability of the scale.

**Table 2. Cronbach's Alpha Values of "Social Acceptance Scale" and "Subscales"**

Scale and Subscales	Cronbach's Alpha Value
Social Acceptance Scale	0,908
Social skills	0,863
Student Behaviors	0,872
Peer Attitude	0,677

According to Alpha value of group was found the highly

the subscales of the scale, the subscales of "Social Skills" ( $\alpha = 0.863$ ) and "Student Behaviors" ( $\alpha = 0.872$ ) can be evaluated as "quite reliable", and the "Peer Attitude" ( $\alpha = 0.677$ ) subscale can be evaluated in the "acceptable" reliability category. .

the table, the Cronbach's the scale applied to the study to be  $\alpha = 0.908$ . The scale is in reliable category. Considering

***Interpreting the Relationship Between "Social Acceptance Scale" and Subscale Total Scores with Correlation Coefficient***

**Table 3. Kendall's tau-B Correlation Coefficient Values**

	Social skills	Student Behaviors	Peer Attitude	Social Acceptance Scale
Social skills	1,000	0,502** (0,000)	- 0,154** (0,000)	0,442** (0,000)
Student Behavior	0,502** (0,000)	1,000	-0,056 (0,196)	0,479 ** (0,000)
Peer Attitude	- 0,154** (0,000)	-0,056 (0,196)	1,000	0,444** (0,000)
Social Acceptance Scale	0,442** (0,000)	0,479 ** (0,000)	0,444** (0,000)	1,000

\* The correlation is significant at the 0.01 level.

When looking at the table, there is no statistically significant relationship between the "student behaviors" levels of the individuals and their "peer attitude" levels. On the other hand, there is a reverse relationship between "social skill" level and "peer attitude" level. As the "peer attitude" levels of individuals decrease, their "social skill" levels increase. There is a statistically significant positive (same) directional relationship between all other subscales and between subscales and social acceptance scale at the level of 0.01.

**ANALYSIS OF TOTAL SCORES OF "SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE SCALE" ACCORDING TO THE DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS**

In the tables below, summary statistics based on demographic characteristics of the scale total scores, p-values obtained from the "Mann Whitney U" and "Kruskal Wallis 1 Way ANOVA" tests are given. The mean and standard deviation of each subscale are given according to the related grouped variable. In addition, in cases where there is a significant difference, the scales of the differences were determined by using the "Dunn's Nonparametric Comparison" test.

**Table 4. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by Age**

	Age								p-value Sig.(
	15		16		17		18		
	Mea n	SD	Mea n	SD	Mea n	SD	Mean	SD	
Socialskills	40,40 66	6,202 1	40,94 39	5,762 3	40,48 60	5,916 6	40,98 99	5,357 6	0,498
Student Behaviors	26,03 30	2,778 6	25,99 07	2,856 6	26,18 69	2,282 5	26,38 38	1,833 4	0,848
Peer Attitude	18,02 20	2,250 8	17,28 97	2,426 3	17,85 98	2,221 0	17,91 92	2,439 7	0,116
<b>Social Acceptance Scale</b>	84,46 15	8,894 8	84,22 43	8,713 8	84,53 27	8,420 9	85,29 29	6,998 9	0,631

There is no statistically significant difference between the subscales and social acceptance scale total score averages of the students according to their ages. ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 5. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by Gender**

	Gender				p-value (Sig.)
	Male		Female		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Social skills	41,639 5	5,5330	40,988 2	6,7161	0,097
Student Behaviors	27,253 9	2,0607	24,752 9	3,5920	0,000*
Peer Attitude	17,705 3	2,3312	16,964 7	2,4075	0,237
<b>Social Acceptance Scale</b>	86,598 7	7,8473	82,705 9	9,7392	0,000*

Individuals' levels of "social skills" and "peer attitude" do not differ according to their gender. ( $p > .05$ ). However, "student behaviors" subscale total scores and "social acceptance scale" are higher in men than in women. ( $p < .05$ ).

**Table 6. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by Mother's Education Level**

	Mother's Education Level								p-value Sig.(
	Primary		High School		Undergraduat		Postgraduate		
	Mea n	SD	Mea n	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Social skills	41,20	5,665	42,00	5,738	42,22	5,0919	38,764	6,7313	0,024*
Student Behaviors	26,23	1,430	26,34	1,843	26,33	2,1823	25,607	3,4986	0,086
Peer Attitude	17,96	2,235	17,62	2,300	17,97	2,3384	17,549	2,4479	0,241
<b>Social</b>	85,40	7,690	85,98	7,557	86,54	7,1622	81,921	10,350	0,007*



Individuals' "student behavior" and "peer attitude" subscale total scores do not differ according to the education level of their mothers. ( $p > .05$ ). However, the total scores of the "social skills" subscale and the "social acceptance scale" of individuals whose mother's education level is graduate is lower than that of individuals whose mother's education level is primary, high school, and undergraduate ( $p < .05$ ).

**Table 7. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by Father's Education Level**

	Father's Education Level						p-value Sig. (
	High School		Undergraduate		Postgraduate		
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	
Social skills	40,7100	5,2035	40,6544	6,2156	40,8621	5,3963	0,326
Student Behaviors	26,2300	2,4240	26,0922	2,5167	26,1954	2,4104	0,758
Peer Attitude	17,7700	2,2956	17,5945	2,4611	18,1609	2,0735	0,334
<b>Social Acceptance Scale</b>	84,7100	7,7202	84,3410	8,8821	85,2184	7,2823	0,799

Individuals' 'total scores from the "social acceptance scale" and its subscales do not differ according to their fathers' educational level ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 8. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by the Number of Siblings**

	Number of siblings						p-value (Sig.)
	1		2		3 and above		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Social skills	40,6765	5,8532	40,7953	6,0058	40,5517	5,2268	0,488
Student Behaviors	26,1961	2,5641	26,1442	2,4404	26,1034	2,4401	0,501
Peer Attitude	17,8725	2,4237	17,7209	2,3514	17,7241	2,2654	0,783
<b>Social Acceptance Scale</b>	84,7451	8,6433	84,6605	8,3856	84,3793	7,5870	0,577

There is no statistically significant difference between the subscales of the individuals according to the number of siblings and the total score averages of the social acceptance scale ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 9. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by Income Status**

	Income status								p-value Sig. (
	2001-4000		4001 - 5000		5001 - 6000		6001 TL and above		
	Mea	SD	Mea	SD	Mea	SD	Mean	SD	
Social skills	27,7	12,23	40,3	5,833	40,80	5,811	41,21	5,101	0,004
Student Behaviors	14,5	5,744	26,1	2,556	26,14	2,308	26,50	1,495	0,000
Peer Attitude	19,0	2,708	17,6	2,495	17,69	2,281	17,87	2,336	0,465
<b>Social Acceptance Scale</b>	61,2	15,30	84,1	8,935	84,64	8,131	85,58	6,712	0,013

Individuals’ “social skills” and “student behavior” subscale total scores and “social acceptance scale” total scores were found to be lower in individuals with an income of 2001 - 4000 TL compared to individuals with higher income ( $p < .05$ ). In addition, individuals’ “peer attitude” subscale total scores do not differ according to their income levels ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table10. The Results of Social Anxiety Scale towards Disabled Students and Subscales of High School Students Doing Sports by Sports Branch**

	Sport Branch				p-value (Sig.)
	Individual Sports		Team sports		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Social skills	41,937 1	5,4594	39,590 0	5,9772	0,559
Student Behaviors	27,335 7	2,1261	26,046 0	2,6322	0,381
Peer Attitude	18,776 2	2,3629	17,751 0	2,3425	0,835
<b>Social Acceptance Scale</b>	88,049 0	7,4184	83,387 0	8,7036	0,002*

The total scores obtained by individuals from “social skills”, “student behavior” and “peer attitude” subscales do not differ according to sports branches ( $p > .05$ ). However, the total scores of “social acceptance scale” of individuals dealing with individual sports were higher than those dealing with “team sports” ( $p < .05$ ).

**COOPERSMITH SELF-Esteem INVENTORY**

General Information

“Coopersmith self-esteem inventory” consists of 58 statements. There are two options for each statement: Yes or No. The Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory consists of 4 subscales;

- i. General self-esteem (1 - 3 - 4 - 7 - 10 - 12 - 13 - 15 - 18 - 19 - 24 - 25 - 27 - 30 - 31 - 34 - 35 - 38 - 39 - 43 - 47 - 48 - 51 - 55 - 56 - 57)
- ii. Social self-esteem (5 - 8 - 14 - 21 - 28 - 40 - 49 - 52)
- iii. Home-family self-esteem (6 - 9 - 11 - 16 - 20 - 22 - 29 - 44)
- iv. School-academic self-esteem (2 - 17 - 23 - 33 - 37 - 42 - 46 - 54)

Fake items not included in the total score (26 - 32 - 36 - 41 - 45 - 50 - 53 - 58)

Scale Reliability

The answers given to the scale by a group of 404 students on the “Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory” has a direct effect on the reliability of the scale.

**Table.11 Cronbach's Alpha Values of the "Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory" and "Sub-Scales"**

Scale and Subscales	Cronbach's Alpha Value
Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory	0,913
General Self-Esteem	0,807
Social Self-Esteem	0,818
Home-Family Self-Esteem	0,888
School-Academic Self-Esteem	0,627

Cronbach's Alpha value of the scale applied to the study group according to the table was found to be  $\alpha = 0,913$ . The scale is in the highly reliable category. Looking at the subscales of the scale, "General self-esteem" ( $\alpha=0,807$ ) is very reliable, "social self-esteem" ( $\alpha = 0.618$ ) is quite reliable, "home-family self-esteem" ( $\alpha=0.888$ ) is quite reliable, and "School-Academic Self-Esteem" ( $\alpha=0.627$ ) subscale can be evaluated in the "acceptable" reliability category.

**Interpreting the Relationship Between "Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory" and Subscale Total Scores with Correlation Coefficient**

Since the scale and subscale total scores did not conform to the normal distribution, Kendall's tau-B correlation coefficient was used again. In the table below, Kendall's tau-B correlation coefficient values between all subscales and the general scale are given. The value in the cell shows Kendall's tau-B correlation coefficient, and the value in parentheses shows the p-value of whether the relationship is significant or not. The fact that the correlation coefficient between the two variables is not statistically significant indicates that the two related variables are independent from each other.

**Table 12. Kendall's tau-B Correlation Coefficient Values**

	General Self-Esteem	Social Self-Esteem	Home-Family Self-Esteem	School-Academic Self-Esteem	Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory
General Self-Esteem	1,000	0,610** (0,000)	0,571** (0,000)	0,695** (0,000)	0,844** (0,000)
Social Self-Esteem	0,610** (0,000)	1,000	0,667** (0,000)	0,511** (0,000)	0,760** (0,000)
Home-Family Self-Esteem	0,571** (0,000)	0,667** (0,000)	1,000	0,432** (0,000)	0,691** (0,000)
School-Academic Self-Esteem	0,695** (0,000)	0,511** (0,000)	0,432** (0,000)	1,000	0,665** (0,000)
Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory	0,844** (0,000)	0,760** (0,000)	0,691** (0,000)	0,665** (0,000)	1,000

\* The correlation is significant at the 0.01 level.

Looking at the table, there is a statistically significant positive strong relationship between all subscales at 99% confidence level. Total scores a student obtained from subscales have the same directional relationship. As one increases, the other increases, or as one decreases the other decreases. In addition, there is a positive and very strong relationship between all subscales and

the general scale. As the subscale total scores of the students increase or decrease, the overall scale total scores also increase or decrease.

**ANALYSIS OF TOTAL SCORES OF THE “COOPERSMITH SELF-ESTEEM INVENTORY” ACCORDING TO THE DEMOGRAPHIC PROPERTIES OF STUDENTS**

In the tables below, summary statistics based on demographic characteristics of the scale total scores, p-values obtained from the “Mann Whitney U” and “Kruskal Wallis 1 Way ANOVA” tests are given. The mean and standard deviation of each subscale are given according to the related grouped variable. In addition, in cases where there is a significant difference, the scales of the differences were determined by using the “Dunn’s Nonparametric Comparison” test.

**Table 13. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Age**

	Age								p-value Sig.(
	15		16		17		18		
	Mea	SD	Mea	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
General self-	19,28	3,364	18,84	3,979	19,28	3,2932	19,171	3,3837	0,985
Social self-	6,033	1,846	6,112	2,029	6,037	1,8219	6,2525	1,8089	0,829
Home-family	4,736	2,827	4,887	2,713	4,700	2,9435	5,0404	2,7327	0,900
School-	6,175	1,338	6,009	1,469	6,121	1,3082	6,1313	1,2506	0,934
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	36,2308	8,0692	35,8505	8,8443	36,1402	8,0287	36,5960	7,7524	0,977

Individuals’ total scores from the “Coopersmith self-esteem inventory” and its subscales do not differ according to age ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 14. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Gender**

	Gender				p-value (Sig.)
	Male		Female		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
General self-esteem	19,1097	3,5088	19,2471	3,5620	0,795
Social self-esteem	7,0752	1,8583	5,2353	1,9496	0,028*
Home-family self-esteem	4,1649	2,8291	5,7294	2,6805	0,030*
School-academic self-esteem	5,1129	1,3387	7,0824	1,3646	0,029*
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	35,4627	8,2161	37,2942	8,0252	0,761

Individuals’ “general self-esteem” levels and “Coopersmith self-esteem inventory” total scores do not differ according to gender ( $p > .05$ ). However, men’s “social self-esteem” levels were higher than women, while women’s “home-family self-esteem” and “school-academic self-esteem” levels were higher than men ( $p < .05$ ).

**Table 15. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Mother's Education Level**

	Mother's Education Level								p-value Sig.(
	Primary		High School		Undergraduate		Postgraduate		
	Mea	SD	Mea	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
General self-	19,03	4,072	19,31	3,243	19,06	3,6657	19,05	3,4920	0,964
Social self-	6,974	1,814	6,627	1,884	6,037	1,8331	5,531	1,9511	0,001
Home-family	5,133	2,648	4,754	2,819	4,897	2,8204	4,784	2,8201	0,931
School-	5,233	1,454	5,190	1,263	6,441	1,4136	6,658	1,3112	0,000
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	36,37 39	8,247 6	35,88 90	8,035 8	36,43 70	8,2174	36,03 33	8,3453	0,944

Individuals' levels of "general self-esteem", "home-family self-esteem" and "coopersmith self-esteem inventory" do not differ according to the education level of their mothers ( $p > .05$ ). It is observed that individuals' 'social self-esteem' levels decrease as the education level of their mothers increases. In addition, the "school-academic self-esteem" levels of the individuals were found to be higher in individuals whose mother's education level was undergraduate or graduate compared to individuals with primary or high school education ( $p < .05$ ).

**Table 16. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Father's Education Level**

	Father's Education Level						p-value Sig.(
	High School		Undergraduate		Postgraduate		
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	
General self-esteem	19,2100	3,5570	18,9908	3,6413	19,4253	3,1498	0,690
Social self-esteem	6,0300	1,9093	6,1429	1,8616	6,1149	1,8950	0,868
Home-family self-esteem	4,7500	2,8652	4,8065	2,7937	5,0345	2,7595	0,871
School-academic self-esteem	6,1700	1,3031	6,1382	1,3503	5,9540	1,3717	0,483
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	36,1600	8,4300	36,0783	8,2275	36,5287	7,8010	0,861

"Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" and subscale total scores of individuals do not differ statistically according to their fathers' educational status ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 17. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Number of Siblings**

	Number of siblings						p-value (Sig.)
	1		2		3 and above		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
General self-esteem	19,166 7	3,2581	19,362 8	3,2220	18,551 7	4,3768	0,646
Social self-esteem	6,0098	1,8747	6,1907	1,8127	6,0230	2,0401	0,673
Home-family self-esteem	4,4059	2,8652	4,8605	2,8017	5,2540	2,7403	0,048*
School-academic self-esteem	6,0784	1,2561	6,1070	1,3264	6,1379	1,4877	0,722
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	35,660 8	8,0048	36,521 0	7,8685	35,966 6	9,1049	0,698

Individuals with 3 or more siblings have higher “home-family self-esteem” levels than individuals with fewer siblings ( $p < .05$ ). All other subscales and “Coopersmith self-esteem inventory” do not differ according to the number of siblings of individuals ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 18. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Income Status**

	Income status								P-value Sig.(
	2001-4000 TL		4001 - 5000 TL		5001 - 6000 TL		6001 TL and above		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
General self-esteem	20,75 00	3,774 9	18,77 91	3,746 0	19,14 86	3,856 7	19,30 22	2,865 7	0,752
Social self-esteem	7,750 0	0,500 0	6,104 7	1,795 6	6,182 9	1,903 0	5,971 2	1,903 2	0,007 *
Home-family self-esteem	7,250 0	0,957 4	4,534 9	2,864 3	5,108 6	2,702 6	4,625 9	2,869 8	0,000 *
School-academic self-esteem	6,000	2,449 4	5,872 1	1,516 9	6,182 9	1,326 4	6,158 3	1,205 4	0,360
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	41,75 00	7,135 5	35,29 07	8,372 0	36,62 29	8,481 5	36,05 76	7,636 4	0,000 *

Individuals’ “general self-esteem” and “school-academic self-esteem” levels do not differ according to their income levels ( $p > .05$ ). However, the total scores of “social self-esteem”, “home-family self-esteem” and “Coopersmith self-esteem inventory” were higher in individuals with an income of 2001 - 4000 TL compared to individuals with higher income ( $p < .05$ ).

**Table 19. The Results of the Coopersmith Self-Esteem and Sub-Inventory of High School Students Doing Sports towards Disabled Students by Sport Branch**

	Sport Branch				p-value (Sig.)
	Individual Sports		Team sports		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
General self-esteem	19,744 8	3,2979	18,580 5	3,6349	0,786
Social self-esteem	6,7378	1,7879	5,5383	1,9231	0,000*
Home-family self-esteem	5,4161	2,7488	4,3008	2,8309	0,001*
School-academic self-esteem	6,6888	1,2215	5,5613	1,4046	0,001*
<b>Coopersmith self-esteem inventory</b>	38,587 5	7,7553	33,980 9	8,3961	0,000*

Individuals' "general self-esteem" levels do not differ according to sports branches ( $p > .05$ ). However, individuals dealing with individual sports have higher levels of "coopersmith self-esteem inventory", "social self-esteem", "home-family self-esteem" and "school-academic self-esteem" than individuals engaged in team sports ( $p < .05$ ).

**Table 20. Kendall's Tau-B Correlation Coefficient of the Relationship between the Total Scores of the High School Students Doing Sports in Social Acceptance Scale towards Disabled Students and the "Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory"**

	Social Acceptance Scale	Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory
Social Acceptance Scale	1,000	0,069 (0,077)
Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory	0,069 (0,077)	1,000

\* The correlation is significant at the 0.01 level.

When looking at the table, there is no statistically significant relationship between the total scores of the "social acceptance scale" and the "Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" ( $p > .05$ ) and the answers given to these scales and the total scores obtained are independent from each other.

## Discussion and Conclusion

Within the scope of the research, it was aimed to examine the relationship between social acceptance and self-esteem levels of high school students doing sports towards disabled students.

There is no statistically significant difference between the total score averages of the social acceptance and subscale of the students according to their ages ( $p > .05$ ). In this study, it was found that age does not affect the social acceptance level. In the studies of Rosenthal et al. (2006) and Tervo and Palmer (2004), there are studies that found that age does not affect the attitude towards disabled people. We can say that students at any age have positive social acceptance or attitudes towards disabled students.

Students' "Social skills" and "peer attitude" levels do not differ by gender ( $p > .05$ ). However, "student behavior" subscale total scores and "social acceptance scale" are higher in men than in women ( $p < .05$ ). In the studies of İşcan et al (2014); Kargın and Baydık (2002), Karataş and Arslan (2018), it is stated that gender does not affect the disability attitude. In other

studies, Sarı et al. (2010); Sucuoğlu and Kargin (2006) found that there is a significant difference between the scores of attitudes towards disabled people and the average score of girls is higher than boys. We can say that the reason why female students' social acceptance or attitudes towards disabled people is higher than that of men is that they have equal opportunities thanks to their changing lifestyles and they can do sports freely and show themselves and are emotional. In the work we have done, we can mention that the reason why men have higher scored than women about social acceptance is that few women participated in the study.

Excluding the students' "social skills" subscale mean score ( $p < .05$ ) no significant difference was found in the other subscales and social acceptance scale total mean scores ( $p > .05$ ). It is seen that as the graduation degrees of the mothers and fathers of the students increase, the social skill levels of their children decrease inversely.

Individuals' "student behaviors" and "peer attitude" subscale total scores do not differ according to the education level of their mothers ( $p > .05$ ). However, the total scores of the "social skills" subscale and the "social acceptance scale" of individuals whose mother's education level is post graduate is lower than that of individuals whose mother's education level is primary, high school, and undergraduate ( $p < .05$ ). The finding that there is no significant difference about social acceptance according to education level of mother is seen in the studies of Dolanay (2016), Aydoğan (2017), Ayrıl et al. (2015), Arslan and Karataş (2018). There are also studies in the literature that have different results. Pettit et al. (2009); Şentürk (2007) found that the education level of the mother is effective in the social acceptance of her children. In our study, it was concluded that the level of education was not effective.

Students' total scores they got from the "social acceptance scale" and its subscales do not differ according to their fathers' educational status ( $p > .05$ ). It is seen that there is no significant difference about social acceptance in terms of the education level of father in the studies of Dolanay (2016), Aydoğan (2017), Ayrıl et al. (2015), Arslan and Karataş (2018). They found that fathers' education levels were not effective in their children's social acceptance. In other words, we can say that the education level is not effective on the social acceptance levels of the child.

There is no statistically significant difference between the subscales of the students according to the number of siblings and the social acceptance scale total score averages ( $p > .05$ ). In similar studies (Karataş & Arslan, 2018; Ayrıl et al., 2013; Erdemir, 2015; Güngören, (2011); Sungur, (2010); Dağlı et al. (2017), Ayrıl et al. (2015) concluded that there is no relationship between the number of siblings and the level of social acceptance. Since the number of siblings is not effective on social acceptance, it is concluded that there is no relationship between social acceptance level and number of siblings. We can say that students' point of view to disabled students is not related to the number of siblings.

Students "peer attitude" subscale total score averages do not differ according to their families' income ( $p > .05$ ). Mean scores of "social skills", "student behavior" subscale and social acceptance scale differ significantly ( $p < .05$ ). Individuals' "social skills" and "student behavior" subscale total scores and "social acceptance scale" total scores were found to be lower in individuals with an income of s2001 - 4000 TL compared to individuals with higher income. In the studies it is seen that social acceptance differs according to socio-economic level and social acceptance, social skills and student behaviors increase as the socioeconomic level increases. In the studies conducted, it was concluded that the social acceptance of the students did not differ significantly according to the income level of the family. Similar studies also found that children with good socio-economic status develop a more positive attitude towards social acceptance (Parasuram, 2006; Robinson, Martin, & Thompson, 2007; Ayrıl et al, 2013; Ayrıl et al., 2015; Aydoğan, 2017). We can say that social acceptance has an effect on income.

The total scores obtained by individuals from "social skills", "student behavior" and "peer attitude" subscales do not differ according to sport branches ( $p > .05$ ). However, the total scores of "social acceptance scale" of individuals dealing with individual sports were higher than those dealing with "team sports" ( $p < .05$ ). In the findings of our study, a significant difference was found between the social acceptance levels of the students who participated in individual and team sports activities. There is no significant difference in other subscales. The reason why the



students who do individual sports are higher than team sports is that the social acceptance of the students who do individual sports is alone in sports, because they face everything alone. Social anxiety levels of students who do sports are lower. Regardless of the branch of sports the student is engaged in, we can say that sports are effective on social acceptance. No findings were obtained to support our study. Sports are extremely effective for individuals to communicate with other individuals in a healthy way and to reach self-confidence. Due to this situation, social acceptance is higher in individuals who do individual sports. An individual who does sports does not discriminate people. Every individual knows that he/she is valuable. He/she helps people regardless of their disability and knows that people with disabilities are part of a society.

The students' total score averages from the Coopersmith self-esteem inventory and its subscales do not differ according to their age ( $p > .05$ ). In this study, it was found that age did not affect self-esteem. In the study conducted by Ünlü (2015), Yılmaz and Ekinci (2001), it was concluded that there was no relationship between age and self-esteem. We can say that different age groups are not effective on self-esteem.

Students' "general self-esteem" levels and "Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" total scores do not differ by gender ( $p > .05$ ). However, men's "social self-esteem" levels were higher than women, while women's "home-family self-esteem" and "school-academic self-esteem" levels were higher than men ( $p < .05$ ). When looking at the studies conducted by Avşaroğlu (2007); Emil (2003); Suner (2000), it is seen that male and female students had similar self-esteem levels. In the subscales, we can say that some items are effective on gender. We can say that men are more social because their "social self-esteem" levels are higher than women as women stay in the background and men come to the forefront due to social differences. On the other hand, women have higher levels of "home-family self-esteem" and "school-academic self-esteem" than men because women give more importance to family structure than men, and the place of women at home is different and important, and high school-academic self-esteem is the result of women's success and attitude at school and. In addition, women's doing sports increased awareness. It has brought confidence in themselves. Male and female students have a high level of self-esteem due to regular exercise. There are differences in some items. Students' perspectives change because sports affect students' self-esteem, empathy and emotional intelligence. In short, sport is effective on emotion and thought.

Students' levels of "general self-esteem", "home-family self-esteem" and "Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" do not differ according to the education level of their mothers ( $p > .05$ ). It is observed that individuals' "social self-esteem" levels decrease as the education level of their mothers increases. In addition, the "school-academic self-esteem" levels of the individuals were found to be higher in individuals whose mother's education level was undergraduate or post graduate compared to individuals with primary or high school education ( $p < .05$ ). In some of the results of the research examining the effects of the mother's educational status on self-esteem, it was found that as the mother's education level increases, her child's self-esteem increases (Ayvalı, 2012; Çetin, 2015; Erbil et al.2006; Aktaş; Honey, 2005; Aydoğan, 2010).

Students' "Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" and subscale total scores do not differ statistically according to the education level of their fathers ( $p > .05$ ). In the results of the study done, it has been found that there is no significant difference between education level and self-esteem and its subscales in the results of the study examining the self-esteem and subscales of the father's education (Dilek, 2007; Ceylan, 2013; Sarıkaya, 2015). We can say that the father's education level has no effect on self-esteem and its subscales.

Individuals with three or more siblings have higher "home-family self-esteem" levels than individuals with fewer siblings ( $p < .05$ ). All other subscales and "Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" do not differ according to the number of siblings of individuals ( $p > .05$ ). In the study conducted by Ceylan, (2013); Yücel, (2013); Çetin, (2015); Yılmaz et al. (2012), it is stated that the number of siblings does not make a significant difference on self-esteem. We can say that the number of siblings does not affect self-esteem. We can state that the reason why individuals with three or more siblings have higher "home-family self-esteem" levels than individuals with fewer siblings is due to the higher number of siblings. As the number of siblings increases, it affects the feelings and thoughts of siblings towards each other. As the number of siblings increases, it encourages sharing and being tolerant and respectful to each other.

Individuals' "general self-esteem" and "school-academic self-esteem" levels do not differ according to their income levels ( $p > .05$ ). However, the total scores of "social self-esteem", "home-family self-esteem" and "Coopersmith self-esteem inventory" were higher in individuals with an income of 2001 - 4000 TL compared to individuals with higher income ( $p < .05$ ). The studies of Asıcı (2013), Kahriman (2002), Balat and Akman (2004) reveal that self-esteem does not differ according to income level. We can say that some items are effective in income level on self-esteem, and some items are not.

Students' "general self-esteem" levels do not differ according to sports branches ( $p > .05$ ). However, individuals dealing with individual sports have higher levels of "coopersmith self-esteem inventory", "social self-esteem", "home-family self-esteem" and "school-academic self-esteem" than individuals dealing with team sports ( $p < .05$ ).

Self-esteem is higher in team sports than individual sports. We can say that the reason for this is that the athletes in team sports have a higher level of self-esteem compared to individual sports because they appear as a team in sports matches and fight together with an opponent. There is a team spirit in team sports. They fight in the team as a whole. They are never desperate, they are combative and support each other and close the gap. We can say that the general self-esteem levels among the subscales do not differ according to sports branches, because both of them have high general self-esteem levels. In the study of Dalbudak & Yiğit (2019); Aktop & Erman (2002), no significant difference was found between team sports and individual sports athletes' self-esteem levels. Sport contributes to self-esteem positively on the individuals who are engaged in individual and team sports. Since sports affects individuals' emotions and thoughts positively, we can mention that they live more in peace with themselves and look at life more positively.

According to the statistical results, there is no statistically significant relationship between the total "social acceptance scale" and the "coopersmith self-esteem inventory" and the answers given to these scales and the total scores are independent from each other ( $p > .05$ ). Accordingly, there is no relationship between social acceptance level and self-esteem (self). They do not affect each other. We cannot say that individuals with high self-esteem have high social acceptance. No findings were obtained to support our study.

Considering these results, it can be said that the importance of sport is great because it is effective in students' lives. Since sport affects not only body but also emotions and thoughts, it adds difference to students' perspective towards individuals in society. Students who do sports are sensitive to people with disabilities. They know they are part of society. All of this is due to the influence of sport on personality. Sport enables them to live in peace with all individuals in the society and to look at life more positively.

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