



# The Comparison of Physical Education course Equipments and Educational Space of Public and Private Girl's Guidance school in Tehran from the view of Physical Education Teachers and Managers

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## Abstract

The present study aimed to compare physical education course equipments and educational space of public and private girl's guidance school in Tehran from the view of physical education teachers and managers. The study population was 168 managers and 168 physical education teachers in public and private schools in Tehran in academic year 2012-2013, of which there were 114 managers of public and non governmental school and 114 teachers of public and non private schools were selected by cluster sampling method. The study was a field design and difference method was applied. The independent variable was the type of school and the researchers emphasized on its effect on educational factors of physical education. The present study was causal-comparative design. For data collection, a researcher-built questionnaire was applied in accordance with Goldani questionnaire (1996). Cronbach's alpha was used to compute the reliability. The reliability coefficient of the questions of the managers of the public schools was  $\alpha=0.91$ , the managers of private schools  $\alpha=0.89$ , the teachers of physical education of public schools  $\alpha=0.87$ , the teachers of physical education in private schools  $\alpha=0.89$  ( $P<0.005$ ). After the data analysis, the results of the study showed that there was a significant difference between the sport equipments from the view of the managers ( $t:6.6$ ), teachers ( $t:6.1$ ), educational space from the view of the managers ( $t=4.1$ ). However, there was no significant difference between educational environment from the views of the teachers ( $t:0.5$ ) ( $P<0.05$ ). Thus, educational space and equipments of physical education course in private schools from the view of managers and physical education teachers was better than that of public schools.

**Keywords:** Public schools, private schools, comparison of the equipments, physical education course, educational space.

## Introduction

Training and education is one of foundations of social life of a person and it is effective in human life. The relation between education and development of culture and promotion of the societies is as that we can say, the more developed the society, the better the role of education. According to Immanuel Kant, education and government administration are more difficult in all human being innovations. In other words, he believed that human being is only developed by education and a person is only formed by education<sup>1</sup>. Various theorists discussed about education and studied the different aspects of this phenomenon. Education institution in any society is responsible for fulfilling the education goals in the society and its mission is guiding the young generation. This institution follows various goals via educational organizations and the scope of its duties is exceeding the other institutions and organizations<sup>2</sup>. Education is of great importance from two aspects, one it is responsible to transfer cultural heritage from one generation to another one and it is responsible for the development of the talents, capabilities, creativities and establishment of spirituality and morale in the society and it is also responsible to meet the new and various demands of the society in accordance with the scientific, social,

economical progress and development of technology. Thus, education is of great importance in the societies and its duties is increased gradually as with the increase of the number of the students and increasing demand of education, the educational services and education system development are developed<sup>3</sup>.

The foundation stone of the sport of any country is in the schools, universities and academies. The school is education and training center. Sciences and techniques should be taught in the school and morality and spirituality should be developed because the school is the center of science and it is the center of human beings development. The children and teenagers in the school should consider two approaches. They should be familiar with the new information, knowledge and techniques in accordance with the present and future needs and learn them in theoretical and technical aspects, also learn how to write and read. They learn math and literature, physics, chemistry, mechanics and computer. They learn necessary skills and techniques to work in labor market in future and they can be prepared to continue higher education and they can develop their body and soul in accordance with the individual and social needs by above training and they understand the ethical principles, to love people and have healthy life with them. They

can have healthy body and be happy and respect the humanistic and Islamic values and protect them<sup>3</sup>.

In other words, the school should train healthy, wise, creative and religious people in order that they will be the foundation stone of a healthy society in future and pave the way for social development. The physical environment of the school plays an important role in fulfilling the constructive goals. Thus, there are two kinds of physical facilities and equipments.

Learning facilities as classroom, desk, chair, board, chalk, sport hall, lab, workshop, etc. Training facilities as prayer room, sport facilities, green space, audio-visual instruments, sport field, etc. These two approaches follow a single aim and without any of them the increasing trend to education goals is encountered with many problems.

In a good school, suitable facilities and equipments should be provided in accordance with the age and mental conditions of students to do educational and training activities well in order to reach the maximum productivity<sup>4</sup>. Based on the increase of the population and increasing demand of the society for education and for meeting the demands of education, the private schools law was ratified in Iran. This law was approved in 1988 in Islamic council parliament. There are various views about private schools. Some of them believed that the establishment of private schools caused that educational facilities are presented only to the rich people in the society. Thus, this group of students had high quality education and the students studying in public schools had low educational facilities in terms of skillful teachers. Other group believed that establishment of private schools not only didn't affect the equality of educational opportunities, but also it led into the equal educational opportunities. After the registration of rich students in private schools, the government eliminates the subsidy of education to these people and the capitation of other students in public schools is increased. Thus, the public schools managers can increase the quality of their educational programs<sup>5</sup>. In education department, the aim is the development of various dimensions of the personality of children and teenagers in all bodily, mental, social and spiritual aspects. Here, the bodily growth as a part of education process is emphasized because a comprehensive education plan with other educational programs can increase the physical and mental health during the academic year of the student even in his adulthood and prevent many shortcomings. The constructive effects are similar in most cases among the girls and boys. The similarity in educational and training features apart from the gender can give special meaning to the physical education and exercise<sup>6</sup>.

Physical education in the schools is considered as one of the subsets of education courses for full development of human aspects namely physical, intellectual, spiritual, mental and motor aspects and it is mostly important for the development of the soul of a person. By qualitative and quantitative importance of physical education in various academic courses as the most

important years of anatomy development of the teenagers, the real role of sport and its real concept in the schools is clarified. The emphasis on fitness of the children and teenagers is the aim of the school authorities. Also, it is a factor to help the shy children to be socially active<sup>6</sup>.

The author attempted to compare the educational space and equipments of physical education among public and private schools from the view of the managers and physical education teachers. Goldani<sup>7</sup> in a study compared the educational factors of physical education course from the view of the managers and teachers of public and private boys' high schools in Tehran on all the managers and teachers of physical education in private and public high schools of Tehran by questionnaire and descriptive study. They found that there is a significant difference between the sport space consistency with sport equipments in public and private high schools. But there was no significant difference between the budget dedicated to the sport in public and private schools and public schools were better in terms of educational factors of physical education course than private schools. Farias Júnior JC, Lopes Ada S, Mota J, Hallal PC<sup>8</sup> conducted a study "Physical activity practice and associated factors in adolescents (public and private schools in Northeastern Brazil)". The sample was composed of 2,874 high school students (public and private schools) aged 14 to 19 years in Northeastern Brazil. Based on the questionnaire and prevalence ratio as association, it was found that in public schools, educational factors and movement of adolescents were better compared to private schools. This question is raised whether in the current conditions; the schools in Iran could play their role in providing the health and physical growth of the students? How are the dimensions of this role in public and private guidance schools? Are there any similarities in playing this role in public and private schools? Or one of them is preferred to the other?

Now that the private schools are increased gradually and based on their high intuition compared to public schools and the authorities mostly focus on physical education course in the schools by using skillful teachers and implementation of the educational plans for each level of academic year (Jump rope plan (One of the national education plans to train jump rope to the students), swimming plan (One of the national plans to train swimming to the students), etc), it was attempted to conduct a study in public and private girls' guidance schools to describe the condition of physical education in public and private schools and then the difference between them was evaluated<sup>9</sup>.

## Methodology

Based on the goals, hypotheses and main questions of the study, the difference assessment (casual-comparative) was applied. The study population was the managers and physical education teachers of five districts (districts 18, 13, 11, 5, 4) of 19 districts of education department of Tehran province (The managers and physical education teachers of public schools of each group as

112 people, the managers and physical education teachers of private schools of each group was 56) during the academic year 2012-2013. The study sample was 76 managers and physical education teachers of public schools, 38 managers and physical education teachers of private schools consisting of 68% of total study population and the samples were selected by cluster random sampling (multi-stage, close). The data collection instrument in this study was researcher-built questionnaire in accordance with Goldani questionnaire (1996). To compute the reliability of the questions, Cronbach's alpha was applied.

The reliability coefficient of the questions of the managers of public schools was  $\alpha=0.91$ , The reliability coefficient of the questions of the managers of private schools was  $\alpha=0.89$ , The reliability coefficient of the questions of the teachers of public schools was  $\alpha=0.87$ , The reliability coefficient of the questions of the teachers of private schools was  $\alpha=0.89$

( $P<0.005$ ) significance level

It was including two types of close questionnaire, the first was managers' questionnaire with 25 questions and the second was physical education teachers' questionnaires with 20 close questions. After the data collection of the questionnaires, the data analysis was done by descriptive and inference statistics. The mean and standard deviation (descriptive statistics) were applied for the questions of the managers and physical education teachers of public and private schools and to evaluate some of the relations and significant difference between the responses, independent t-test (inference statistics) was applied. Column chart was used to present the results better.

## Results and Discussion

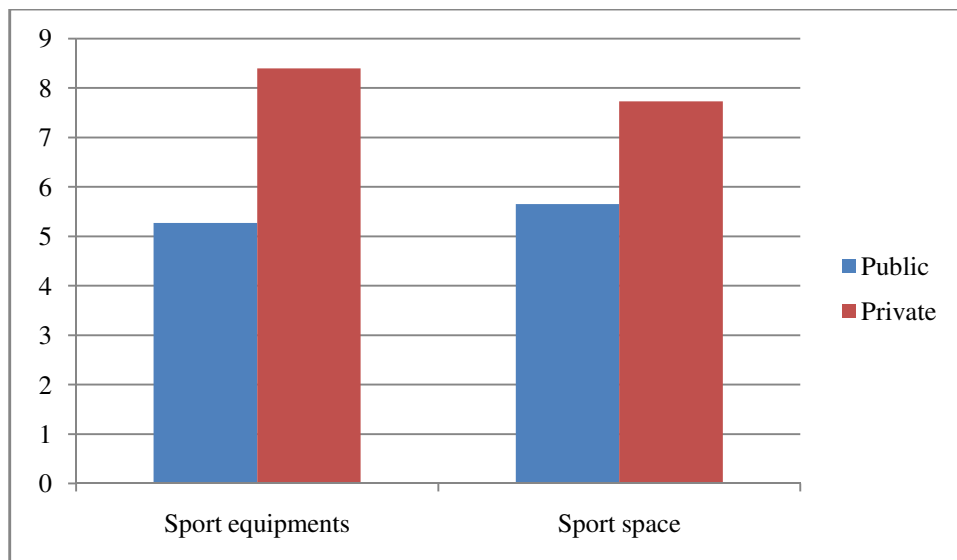
After the investigation of the responses by study sample, in accordance with the nature of each item (each question of the questionnaire), the question of each of the components was combined with each other to define the sum of each of them. Based on the comments of people, the mean and standard deviation of the components were presented based on the comments of managers separately based on the public and private schools.

The comparison of the views of public and private schools managers.

According to table-1 and figure-1, there was a significant difference between the views of the managers of public and private guidance schools about educational factors of physical education as based on the views of the study sample, the sport space and equipments of physical education were more in private schools compared to public schools.

**Table-1**  
**The mean and standard deviation of the views of the managers of public and private schools about the equipments and educational space of physical education course**

Groups	Group			
	Public school managers (76 people)		Private school managers (38 people)	
Indices components	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Sport equipments	5.27	1.85	8.40	0.99
Sport space	5.65	1.74	7.73	1.16



**Figure-1**

**The comparative chart of the comments of the managers of public and private guidance schools about the educational space and equipments of physical education course**

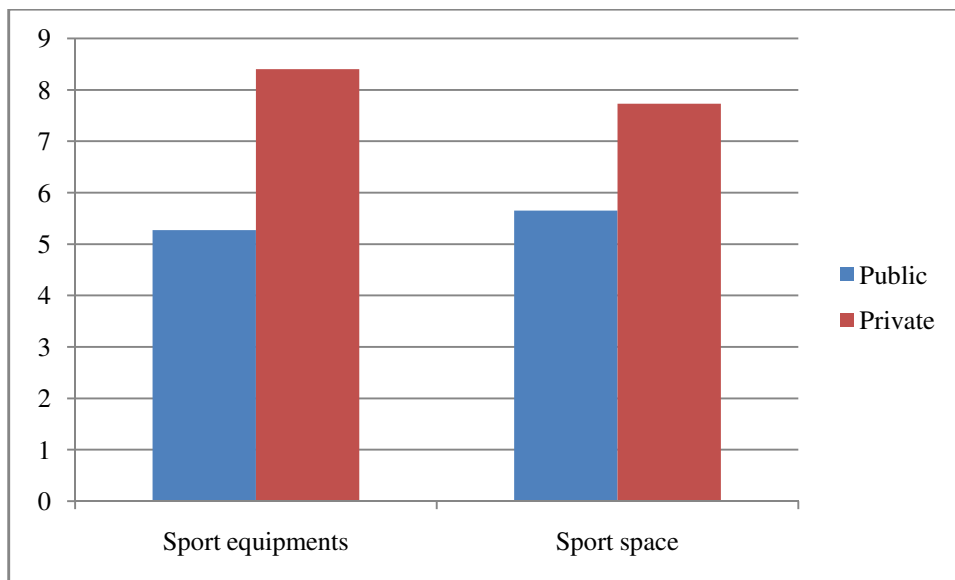


Figure-2

The comparative chart of the views of the teachers of public and private guidance schools about the educational space and equipments of physical education course

The comparison of the views of the teachers of public and private schools.

Table-2

The mean and standard deviation of the views of the teachers of public and private schools about the equipments and educational space of physical education course

Groups	Group			
	Public school teachers (76 people)		Private school teacher (38 people)	
Indices componets	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Sport equipments	5.38	1.39	8.20	1.42
Sport space	5.85	1.76	6.20	2.01

According to table-2 and figure-2 that there was a significant difference between the views of the teachers of public and private guidance schools about educational space and equipments of physical education as based on the views of the teachers, the educational factors were more in private schools than public schools.

By Kolmogrov-Smirnov test, it was defined that the data distribution was natural and independent t-test was used for data analysis.

By independent t-test, the sport equipments in public and private guidance schools from the views of the physical education managers and teachers were evaluated.

Based on the results of table-3 and t-test statistics, the t value for the managers was 6.06 and for the teachers was 6.1 and both t values were bigger than critical table t value (2.02) with degree of freedom of 112 and then there was a significant difference of the views of the managers and teachers of public schools on sport equipments and views of managers and teachers of private schools (P<0.05). It can be said that there was a significant difference between the sport equipments in public and private guidance schools from the views of the managers and physical education teachers and the study hypothesis was supported.

By using independent t-test, educational space of physical education in public and private guidance schools from the view of the physical education managers and teachers was evaluated.

Table-3

The result of independent t-test to compare the sport equipments of public and private guidance schools from the views of physical education managers and teachers

Sport equipments	Public schools		Private schools		Independent t-test		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	t ratio	Degree of freedom	Significance level p
Managers	5.27	1.85	8.40	0.99	6.069	112	0/001
Teachers	5.38	1.39	8.20	1.42	6.198	112	0/001

**Table-4**

**The result of independent t-test to compare educational space of public and private guidance schools from the views of managers and physical education teachers**

Physical education educational space	Public schools		Private schools		Independent t-test		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	t ratio	Degree of freedom	Significance level p
Managers	5.65	1.74	7.73	1.16	4.113	112	0/001
Teachers	5.85	1.76	6.20	2.01	.589	112	.559

Based on the results of table-4 and t-test statistics, the t value for the managers was 4.11 and for the teachers was 0.58 and the obtained t for the managers was bigger than t value of critical table (2.02) with degree of freedom of 112 and then there was a significant difference of the views of the managers of public schools on educational space and views of managers of private schools ( $P < 0.05$ ),  $H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$ ; But there was no significant difference between the views of the teachers and they were close.  $H_1: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$

### Conclusion

The results of the present study showed that there was a significant difference between the sport equipments in public and private guidance schools from the views of managers and physical education teachers and the study hypothesis was supported ( $P < 0.05$ ). The results were consistent with the results of the study of Mojtahedi<sup>10</sup>, Karimi<sup>11</sup>, Shayegan<sup>12</sup>, Torabizade<sup>13</sup>, Park et al.<sup>14</sup> who found that in public schools, the shortage of the sport facilities and equipments is observed. But they were inconsistent with the results of Rezayi<sup>15</sup>, Eftekhari<sup>16</sup> who found that sport facilities in public schools were better than private schools. The reason of inconsistency of the results of the study with the present study was the difference of cultural factors and study method.

Thus, providing the sport equipments can be effective in quality of physical education course in the schools. Because the physical education teachers fulfill the physical education aims by sport equipments and cause the effectiveness of physical education and more learning among the students and this is only provided by assigning the adequate budget to physical education course by the authorities.

There was a significant difference between the educational space of physical education course and the views of the managers of private schools ( $P < 0.05$ ). There was no significant difference between the views of the teachers in this regard. From the view of the managers of schools and teachers of physical education, the educational space of physical education course was better in private schools than public schools and the result was consistent with the results of the study of Mojtahedi<sup>10</sup>, Karimi<sup>11</sup> and Jalili<sup>17</sup> who found the was the shortage of sport facilities in the schools. The results were inconsistent with the results of the study done by Eftekhari<sup>16</sup>, Pourahmad Ghale Jugh<sup>19</sup>, Khavari and Yusefian<sup>20</sup>, Park et al.<sup>14</sup> who found that sport space in public schools was better than

private schools. The reason of this inconsistency was the culture of the study population. The suitable sport space for the students is the standard place in terms of security and health and it should be in accordance with the global criteria in terms of consistency with the number of students. Thus, the authorities should construct multi-purpose halls inside the schools.

The results of the study showed that there was a significant difference between the view of the managers (t:6.6) and teachers (t:6.1), educational space from the view of the managers (t:1.4) and there was no significant difference between the educational space from the view of the teachers (t:0.5) ( $P < 0.05$ ) (to critical t 2.2). It seems that private schools from the view of the managers and teachers of physical education.

**Recommendations:** As the sport equipments in private schools were better than the public schools, it is recommended that the managers of the public schools equip the schools based on the number of the students. As public schools have low educational space based on the number of the students, it is recommended to use the sport space built by the municipality and organizational sport facilities of physical education to eliminate this problem temporarily. Based on the study population that is only restricted to the managers and physical education teachers of public and private girls' guidance school of Tehran, it is recommended to conduct the study on the students and parents of the students. Based on the study population as public and private girls' guidance school of Tehran, it is recommended to study in various levels and also boys' schools.

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