Uncovering the Power of Sport: Navigating the Field of Sport for Development and Peace

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What is at the root of the power of sport?

What is at the core of sport for development and peace?
Sport for Development and Peace

“The intentional use of sport, physical activity and play to attain specific development objectives in low- and middle-income countries and disadvantaged communities in high-income settings.”

Separate is not Equal
Social Justice

"The goal of social justice is full and equal participation of all groups in a society that is mutually shaped to meet their needs. Social justice includes a vision of society that is equitable and all members are physically and psychologically safe and secure."

- Adams, Bell & Griffin, 2007
“The sport, recreation and play domain, far from being trivial, is essential for fully realizing the human rights promise.”

- Hubbard, 2004
(in)Visibility of (dis)Ability

- DePauw, 1997
"Disability is not a 'brave struggle' or 'courage in the face of adversity' .... Disability is an art. It's an ingenious way to live."

- Marcus, 2011
“Rollaball” - Ghana
“Sport doesn’t care”
#howcoolisthat campaign & video contest

TRUE CHANGE TAKES TIME
OUR TIME HAS COME
Olympism

Olympism is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind. Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example, social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles.

- Principles of Olympism, Olympic Charter, 2011
The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity.

The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.

- Principles of Olympism, Olympic Charter, 2011
Olympic Rings

“It belongs to everyone... It’s one of the most striking and important symbols...It’s an expression of universality and brotherhood of the world.”

- Rogge, 2008
Olympian / Paralympian
Femalympian
Activism

“Activism is as vast as the human imagination, as deep as the human mind, as bold as the human heart. Activism should not be confused with specific tactics; it is rather a particular stance in the world, one that draws attention to the need for repair....
Activism, cont’d

...In the first place, activists act. They engage, participate, contribute, stand up, sit in, initiate, and move. These are the signature characteristics. They question received wisdom, they wonder what could be but is not yet, and then they act...
Activism, cont’d

...They open their eyes, identify injustices, and bring them to light so that they and others might see the truth of things more clearly, might feel the weight of them more fully. Sometimes they refuse to participate, and other times they participate in things forbidden to them, creating in that way the world they would like to live in.”

- William Ayers, Teaching Toward Freedom, 2004
"I define a leader as someone who stands up for justice and does not block its path."

- Lapchick, 2009
I Am Light

why should i
hide in darkness
when i am
brilliant and beautiful
why can't i
triumph or struggle
in public?
why can't i
laugh or cry
for all to see?
i am me
i am light
Solidarity in Sport Pledge
#solidarityinsport

Exclusion, inequality, and stigma exist in sport around the world.
Where are the voices speaking up?
We need inclusion, equality, and dignity for all athletes.
We need all voices.
We need all athletes to act in solidarity.
We need all athletes to be allies to one another.
We need all athletes to take action.
Sign the pledge, support your fellow athletes.
Let your voice be heard.
One Voice. One World. One Team.
Power of Sport

"Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to unite in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair."

- Nelson Mandela, 2004
Olympic Creed

"The most important thing is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well."

- Pierre de Coubertin, 1908
Better World
Rights from Wrongs

“As human beings have recognized the wrongs of such institutions as slavery, genocide, and religious oppression, they have constructed new rights to prevent the recurrence of old wrongs.”

"Rights do not come from God, nature, logic, or law alone. They arise out of particular human experiences with injustice.”

- Alan Dershowitz, 2004
SDP / Power of Sport DNA

Struggle  
Injustice  
Repair  
Inequality

Love  
Joy  
Friendship  
Respect
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Journey

- Disability in Sport / Inclusive Sports
- Olympism Project
- Athletes for Human Rights
- Rhythm & Flow
- Royce Fellowship for Sport and Society
- International Sport for Development and Peace Association
- SportsCorps – Students for Sport and Social Change
- Power of Sport Media Lab