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## PARENTS' INFLUENCE IN CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN SPORT: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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**ABSTRACT** The aim of the present study is to present and discuss the findings of the literature related to parental influence on children (aged 6-18) in both competitive and recreational sport. Current findings support that parents belong to the reasons that motivate children in participating in competitive sport as well as in recreational sport. However, parental behavior needs further investigation, since parents can support the psychological parameters in sport as well as create extensive pressure which results in dropping out. Finally, the relationship between parent and coach is a very interesting one but it needs further research for its evaluation. There is also an overall evaluation of the results concerning the development of child and teenage personality.

**Key words:** Parents, Motivation, Pressure, Goals, Athletic personality.

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