

Establishing a Definition

- Six properties were identified in a scoping review and a theoretical definition of contribution was proposed
- Contribution involves acting on beliefs and the behaviors that an individual performs purposefully with the intent of positively influencing other individuals, groups, or broader society to bring about a positive outcome for the beneficiaries. These actions involve moving beyond an exclusive self-interest or focus on oneself in order to benefit others or the common good. Additionally, an individual making a contribution to others may benefit directly or indirectly themselves. The specific behaviors that constitute contribution vary across contexts and reflect the values and social norms of each context.

Definition/Property	Mean rating	SD	Content-validity (Aiken's V)
Definition	5.60	0.60	.92*
Action	5.35	0.75	.87*
Intention	5.05	1.05	.81*
Self-transcendent	5.25	0.85	.85*
Mutually beneficial	5.70	0.57	.94*
Contextually specific	5.58	0.77	.92*
Multi-level	5.55	0.60	.91*

Coaches' Perspectives on Contribution

- Focus groups with 13 youth sport coaches ($M_{age} = 33$ years old, $SD = 11.1$, 3 female, 10 male)
- Coaches' initial examples of contribution:
 - Were restricted to the context of sport (e.g., coaching, being a team player, officiating)
 - Focused on having a positive impact on others
 - Required acting with positive intent
- After being shown the definition from in the scoping review:
 - Coaches provided more non-sport examples (e.g., shoveling a neighbor's driveway, student government)
 - Strongly agreed with the first sentence of the definition
 - Felt the full definition was overly complex and confusing
 - Questioned the intentions behind a contribution behavior vs. the outcome.



Recommendations for Administrators

- Contribution can be focused in sport, even within a singular program (e.g., cross-age coaching)
- Coaches in your organization may need encouragement to realize they may influence contribution outside of sport
- When trying to integrate or promote contribution: keep it simple and focus on the idea of acting with purposeful intent to positively influence others



What's Next?

- How does contribution develop through youth sport participation?
- What experiences are critical 'flashbulb' moments that influence youth athletes to contribute?
- Why are some athletes so heavily involved in contribution while others do not contribute much at all?

