



Journal of Recreation and Tourism Research

Journal home page: www.jrtr.org

ISSN:2148-5321

INVESTIGATION OF FREE TIME MOTIVATION ACCORDING TO SOME DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES OF TOURISM FACULTY STUDENTS: A STUDY OF AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY

Sercan YILDIZ^a

Mithat Zeki DİNÇER^b

^aİstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul Gelişim Meslek Yüksek Okulu, İstanbul, Türkiye
(seyildiz@gelisim.edu.tr)

^bİstanbul Üniversitesi İktisat Fakültesi, İstanbul, Türkiye (mzdincer@istanbul.edu.tr)

EXTENSIVE SUMMARY

Leisure time activities, which have an important place in social life, have become the most necessary field for today's assets as it was in the ancient times. Of course, individuals who are in the process of evaluating their leisure time within the framework of recreational activities have different preferences and expectations according to their own preferences. The question of why individuals participate in recreational activities is a matter that has been debated for a long time. Numerous studies on recreation and motivation have provided a comprehensive literature on the concept of leisure time motivation. Some of these studies were on university students and often aimed at bringing factors that motivate university students to participate in recreational activities in their leisure time. Thus, the aim of study is to determine meaningful differences in leisure time motivation levels according to some demographic characteristics of Akdeniz University, Faculty of Tourism students. Quantitative research methods have been used in this research in accordance with this aim. The data were collected with survey method from 230 university students and the scale questions in this study was translated from Leisure Motivation Scale (LMS) developed by Beardand Ragheb (1983). This scale developed by Beardand Ragheb (1983) frequently used in international and national literature. In all measurement instruments, a five-item Likert type scale was used (1-Absolute Disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Neither Agree Nor Disagree, 4-Agree, and 5-Strictly Agree). The students who participated in the survey were determined by using the convenience sampling method and 52.2% (120) of the participants were male and 57.4% (132) of the participants are between 21-24 years old and finally 32.2% (74) of the participants are senior students. Independent Sample T-Test and One-Way Variance (ANOVA) analysis were used for testing of study hypotheses. Study results shows that there were a significant difference in two factors for perception of participants' leisure time motivation levels according to gender. In "Stimulus Avoidance" factor the perceptions of female students are more positive than the perceptions of male students but in "Social" factor the male students are more positive than the female students. Due to the fact that, during the busy university years, female students are more likely to escape from stress and tension, to rest, to relax, to be more alone than male students. Also it's seen that male students are more enthusiastic when it comes to establishing close friendships and / or meeting new, different people. Only one significant difference was found in "Social" factor in perception of participants' leisure time motivation levels according to age

characteristics. According to the test results, a significant difference found for participants perceptions between aged 20 and below and aged 25 years and over and the perceptions of participants aged 20 and below were found to be more positive. It will not be a surprise that, younger students will participate recreational activities to meet new people and socialize. Finally, study results shows that there were a significant difference in four factors for perception of participants' leisure time motivation levels according to students class characteristics. Senior students participate more often in recreational activities to relax, some times to be alone and to avoid the tire some daily routine. Also its shown in the study results that, senior students participate recreational activities to togain more respect and to have a sense of belonging and / or demonstrate more of their abilities. The sample of this study constitutes students studying in the departments of Travel Management, Hospitality Management and Food and Beverage Management of the Faculty of Tourism in Akdeniz University. This is a limitation for study. In addition, the data of the study are collected in the 2015-2016 academic year. For this reason, similar studies with wider participation will give more generalizable results.