

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. We'll be talking today about violence in sports. Most of us have seen the television pictures of the rioting at a soccer match in Belgium in May. That riot left 38 people dead and 437 others injured. Meantime, the soccer game was played. Violence among the spectators and on the playing fields is not new, of course. It is, some say, a natural byproduct of the competitive spirit that accompanies sporting activities. But should people be killing other people at a soccer match? Indeed, what about prize fighting, in which the object is for one boxer to knock down, or even render unconscious, his opponent? How about ice hockey? American football? Or even tennis, for that matter? We'll consider these questions, and many other concerned with the combative nature of our sports, as we talk today with a group of four faculty members at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Three of our roundtable participants are sociologists; the fourth is the director of women's athletics. As I introduce my guests, you may want to ponder why it is that women are seldom involved in sports violence.

The sociologists are Dr. Lyle Hallowell, a faculty member in Stony Brook's Department of Sociology; Dr. Colin Martindale, a sociologist who is a faculty member in the Department of Physical Education; and Dr. David Bouchier, a sociologist at the University of Essex in England, who has been a visiting faculty member this year at Stony Brook. The director of women's athletics is Professor Sandra Weeden, herself a former athlete and coach. Let's meet our panelists.

Dr. Hallowell, you've made a study of violence in ice hockey. I dare say there is as much physical activity in the spectator areas as there is on the ice.

Dr. Martindale, you are a former ~~professional~~ soccer player -- what the British call football -- in ~~your native~~ England. Is *British* soccer really as tough as we've been hearing in the United States the past few weeks?

Dr. Bouchier, you will be heading back to England soon. Do you expect to find the British taking a different attitude about violence in soccer?

Professor Weeden, we haven't said it so far but it should be clear that we are talking about male athletes and, with only an occasional exception, male spectators. Why don't we associate women with violence in sports?

ROUNTABLE INTERVIEW:

- DEFINE VIOLENCE*
- Cultural differences in Europe and U.S. sports
 - Socio-economic factors
 - Discuss riot in Belgium as specific example for:
 - * Team, town loyalty
 - * Ethnicity
 - * Police control
 - * Television coverage
 - * Alcoholic beverages
 - * Those who attend expressly to fight

14:00

AFO: We'll return in a moment for more on violence in sports.

Please stay with us.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

AFO: Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with a faculty roundtable discussing violence in sports. With me are Professor Sandra Weeden, director of women's athletics at Stony, and three sociologists. They are Dr. Lyle Hallowell, who has made a study of violence in ice hockey; Dr. Colin Martindale, himself a former British soccer player and a faculty member in Physical Education; and Dr. David Bouchier, who has been a visiting professor in Sociology at Stony Brook and who is on the faculty at the University of Essex in England. So far we have talked pretty much about the soccer riot in Belgium on May 29. Soccer is not the only sport given to violence, nor is England alone in being associated with sports violence. (See USNews & World Report re Mexico, Peru, Honduras, China.)

ROUNDTABLE INTERVIEW:

- Tennis: McEnroe, Wimbledon (See Mike Royko)
- Baseball: Drinking at Mets, Yankee games (Joy Browne column); players erupting from dugouts; World Series aftermath
- Ice hockey (Bruins at MSG)
- American football
- Prize fighting
- Golf (Jerry Ford)
- Solutions: Dr. Hallowell's federal commission
 - Police control
 - Drinking regulations
 - More television

29:00

OUTRO