

Review of a dissertation about
“Educational aspects of group music and movement activities for 6-7 year old children”

for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”

Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski“

Faculty of educational studies and the arts

Branch of higher education: 1. Pedagogical sciences

Professional dimension: 1.2. Pedagogy

Department: „Pre-school and media pedagogy“

Author: Gergana Marinova Minkovska

Scientific manager: Prof. Lucia Malinova Angelova, Ph.D

Reviewer: Prof. Milena Velichkova Alexieva, Ph.D

Information about the author of the thesis

Gergana Marinova Minkovska presents diplomas for two master degrees: from NSA “V.Levski”-Teacher faculty, Major: Physical education and sport; and from SU „St. Kliment Ohridski”; Major “Primary school pedagogy”. Also two specializations from these institutions.

Since October 2016 she is an assistant in department “Pre-school and media pedagogy” – FESA and teaches several disciplines: Pedagogy of physical culture in preschool age, Didactics of physical education and sports, Physical education in kindergarten, Rhythmics and dance, Callanetics and stretching, Aerobics and others.

Founder and coach of the cheerleading team for 15 years of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ”.

This gives me a reason to believe that based on her practical experience she successfully interprets the theory and practice of physical education and sports, which successfully leads to the formation of concepts on the researched problem.

Possesses the necessary computer literacy.

Information about the doctorate

At the department session on 09.12.2020. from 12.00 an internal discussion on the dissertation was carried out and a decision was taken on admission to civil protection as defined by RDP-386-19-1898 / 23.12.2020, including the composition of the scientific jury.

No procedural irregularities or doctoral deficiencies have been identified.

Information about dissertation and abstract

The topic of the dissertation work of Gergana Marinova Minkovska is in accordance with the research in the branch of pedagogical sciences, as well as with the requirements of the Regulations of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions. An interpretation of the synergy between music, dance and sport represents interest to me as a supervisor of a doctoral student, whose topic is “Impact on mental and physical qualities with means of dance art”.

The choice of the topic and the development of the dissertation work are based on the personal experience of Gergana Marinova Minkovska as a teacher in higher education.

Dissertation work is structured according to the requirements of those types of scientific developments. It contains an introduction, an exposition in three sections - a theoretical statement of the problem; purpose, tasks, hypothesis, organization and research methodology; analysis of the research results; conclusions, recommendations, scientific contributions and appendices and has a total volume of 194 pages, of which 177 pages are subject to review.

The bibliography includes 156 titles, of which 118 in Cyrillic, 17 in Latin and 21 on the Internet.

The dissertation is illustrated with 39 figures and 6 tables and 3 questionnaires in appendices, which demonstrate the correct selection of texts

suitable for illustration, as well as the author's mastery of modern technical means.

The first section "Problem statement" (71 pages) includes eight subsections.

They provide a detailed analysis of the information from theoretical, scientific-applied and practical publications of proven Bulgarian and foreign authors about the problem of the study. The anatomophysiological and psychophysical characteristics of 6-7-year-old children are presented, as well as normative documents justifying the activity mainly in the fourth preparatory age group.

Interest is provoked by subsection 7. - "Innovative motor activities with musical accompaniment - a means of physical education in kindergarten for 6-7-year-old children" - cheerleading and aerobics. Considering cheerleading dances, the author shares that: "there are kindergartens in which this type of dance is practiced and the desire to perform them is great" (p. 66). And on page 72, assistant Gergana Minkovska summarizes that "..as both cheerleading and aerobics would find their place in the sports holidays in kindergarten."

This logically increases the value of the work and helps determine the object, subject, purpose and objectives of the study.

The second section of the dissertation "Purpose, tasks, hypothesis, organization and methodology of the research" has a volume of 12 pages.

Subsection 1 provides information on the preliminary preparation and conditionality leading to the conduct of this study, but in my humble opinion, it does not relate to the topic of development. The purpose of this text is probably to demonstrate the practical knowledge of the author in the branch, as well as to prove that the choice of the research topic is natural from this point of view.

The personal opinion of the doctoral student, based on extensive experience in the branch of sports and in particular-of cheerleading, is evident

from the proposed professional and personal profile of the creator and leader of the cheerleading team.

The purpose, tasks, object, subject of the research are correctly defined.

The formulated five tasks direct the research work in the direction corresponding to the topic of the dissertation.

Two studies were conducted - at the beginning and the end of the experiment, and at the beginning the subjects were 63 in number, of which 31 in the experimental group (15 girls; 16 boys) and 32 (17 girls, 15 boys) in the control group, and at the end - 23 in the experimental group (14 girls, 9 boys) and 25 in the control group (13 girls, 12 boys) or a total of 48 children. A model for educational impact "Dance and play" is attached, and that model includes "Boryano, Boryanke", hand step, waltz steps, aerobic steps, cheerleading movements.

The doctoral student used frequency and graphical analysis to process the data.

In section 3, assistant Gergana Minotovska offers an analysis of the results obtained and summarises: "Children know music-moving games, comply with games and tasks, monitor activity in the performance of games and assigned tasks and skills for the performance of musical interplay activities in the various parts of the pedagogical situation" (page 104), illustrated in Table 2. Diagnosis (p. 103).

From this conclusion arises my question to Assistant Gergana Minkovska:

What methods, what indicators and what units of measurement have been used to account for this 100% in the rised summary?

In this section, the responses from the surveys among current teachers in kindergarten and students majoring in "Physical Education and Sports" are analyzed.

Seven conclusions are derived from the results obtained. However, I believe that the development would benefit if some of them are merged and

concretized, which will reduce their total number and will meet the exact tasks presented in the Research Methodology.

Notes and recommendations:

The first section contains too many subsections-in my opinion some of them could be combined. There is also a content of well-known and basic facts, which increases the volume of theoretical analysis unnecessarily.

The review of the origin, condition and success of the cheerleading team of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "would probably be suitable for another type of research.

The work would increase its value if in section two (after object, subject, goal and tasks) the surveyed persons and their number are described, and the hypothesis of the research is formulated at the end of section one.

The abstract summarizes the content of the dissertation, it contains all the chapters of the dissertation and correctly presents the main research results. It contains conclusions, recommendations for the sports-pedagogical practice, presents the scientific contributions of the dissertation and provides a list of the scientific publications on the problems of the dissertation.

Scientific contributions

1. For the first time is presented a study, examining cheerleading dances not only as a type of musical-motor activity, but also as a means of education.
2. The developed model can be implemented in the situations of physical culture in the fourth preparatory group.
3. Group musical-movement activities can be used to lay the foundation for a healthy lifestyle in adolescents and to develop their aesthetic education.

Publications and participation in scientific forums

The candidate presents three independent publications, which are in specialized editions.

Conclusion

The relevance of the problem examined, the scientific and practical application value of the development, as well as the conclusions reached in the dissertation work, are sufficient to **assess it with a positive assessment and propose to the respected Scientific Court to award the educational and scientific- grade "doctor" to assistant Gergana Marionova Minkovska** in Higher Education Area: 1. Pedagogical sciences; Professional referral: 1.2. Pedagogy.

16.02.2021

reviewer:

(Prof. M. Aleksieva, Ph.D)