# SOCIO - MORAL ASPECTS OF PROFESSIONAL BOXING

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#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Boxing appeared for the first time in the Olympic Games in Ancient Greece. Fairly static fighting of two players dressed in leather protectors on the back of the hand, were very brutal and often ended with the death of one of the combatants. Sport was based on physical strength and athletes endurance, and the fight took place without any specific codified rules. Boxing, as a noble, "gentlemanly" sport was born in 1719. In the same year American, James Figg founded on Tottenham Court Road in London "academy" of boxing. Figg was also the first champion in boxing history. Also, at the time the fight were held on bare fists and without any specific rules (Osmólski, 1989, p 27). course, there have fatal endings fights. It should be stressed that at this time, head the accumulated experience-hungry audience, cheering loudly and close the two boxers.

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What makes contemporary boxing (it should be noted that it is primarily a professional boxing [heavyweight and medium], amateur boxing is marginalized in the major media coverage) is so spectacular and attracts boxing arena and million of veiwers? Already cited A. Ziółkowska believes that boxing is a sport discipline in which are present elements of aesthetics, "starting from the entrance to the boxing hall of boxer through a break between rounds and for aesthetic sensations of spectators ending" (Nail, 2003, p 307). Also the audience gathered in the auditorium is an integral part of the event. The boxers enter the ring to the characteristic sound of music, are dressed in a shimmering, colorful costumes, have hoods on their heads, so that for a moment to reveal their character already in the spotlight on the ring. Announcer with a protracted voice utters the name or nickname of the player. An important element of the show are beautiful, almost naked model, which in the intervals between rounds go around the ring celebrating boards with the number of the next round (Tomasulo, Raging Bull: postmodern violence and masculinity in a furious bull, http://www.racjonalista.pl/pdf.php/ s, 4096).

Fully professional sport covers only "sports star", which, thanks to the talent and work reach the peaks of perfectionism in the discipline. Counts only those who not only achieve the highest results, but often thanks to tedious workouts master the fighting techniques that make the sport fascinating spectacle, attracting stadiums and sports halls hundreds and thousands of spectators eager for fun, sports performance, full of drama variable often not devoid of brutality and violence (Krawczyk, 1990, pp. 72-73).

However, boxing as a sport also has its social and moral face. Despite the physical presence of three men in the ring, the fight takes two competitors. Each of them is the same to the other, as single and lonely, a passed only on each other - which means more anyone else but me, myself and bare body and arms, prepared to attack and defend. Nobody is additionally equipped with nothing, absent are any, even the simplest tools, extending the inherent properties of the body - both those that help the attack, as well as those that strengthen the defense potential. Strike hands and only your hands, get hard and fast movements, supported

by the dynamics of the whole body, are depreciated slightly by gloves. You cannot hide behind any shield, but only bare extremities at the same time using various evasions (bounces, rotation, tilt), depreciation and clinch not allowing the adoption of blows, especially on the jaw and the most sensitive points of the body.

Meetings of boxers are direct reference to the original. Operators share rings just passed on his direct, nothing improved and for unmodified originality in the strict sense. Relying only on each other - receives here the simplest possible interpretation. You need to deal effectively alone in the ring, so no one to help, to work, to the to throw off all responsibility and burden on someone else's shoulders. You can count only on yourself in full literalness of the term - not having a completely nothing for effective protection against the aggression of others, anything serving to elevate their own firepower, any device capable exploit human cunning, intelligence, the Hegelian "cunningness of reason" (Krawczyk, 1974, pp. 53).

Becoming a real combat, a man performs an act of radical self-disclosure. Unveiling is dropping the suit, the mask and the role in which we perform before and after of the fight, and that we recognize - for ourselves and for the acquiescence of others - requiring form of person. It is not however only transformation in the sphere of intentionality, some reinterpretation of our identity, breaking conventions and adopt a new, contractual features in the structure of ring fact. The unveiling is breaking the real curtains and the introduction to a new, on top of the extreme situation of the real man in a real relation to other and other people. Above all, it is a threat of exposing yourself to the defeat, destruction, suffering, humiliation, ridicule, or vice versa - to present yourself as the perpetrators of these states in relation to another person, that is, the exaltation of yourself by the enemy. The result of each meeting can be, and I think they must be numerous - immediate, close, but distant in time - the consequences of a fight. This is in particular the effects of certain fundamental biophysical imbalances, characteristic for a fist fight, namely the ability to apply objectively the strengths of impact offensive, certainly the most powerful of defensive ability to counter and neutralize punches. Although the strength of shares equal to the reaction force is unevenly distributed, after receiving instruction by the experience. The fist is clearly less sensitive to contact with the chin than the chin to a fist. Fortunately confrontation between power of a fist and resistance of opponent's body include the equally both rivals, sentenced to theoretically identical, separate fairly pure naturalness.

Each of the fighting sides can make anything he wants to the rival, of course, with some relatively minor physical limited possibilities by convention, rules and ethics of sports (July, 2005, pp. 177-179).

There are areas of life that put in front of people such tasks that it is impossible to meet them without action requires courage, bravery, uncompromising, fortitude and take risks, sometimes huge, and multiple high level of uncertainty. The problem affects both the likelihood of adverse effects, the expected frequency, and equally important, the enormity of their severity, and even tragic definitivness of possible effects. Just like in life, so it is in sport, particularly those of the domains that mimic life or are its variant, or an extension. Man acting in the ring must be undoubtedly brave. For several reasons, at least, forming a mixture of confidence and uncertainty at the same time. Firstly that the boxer is not quite sure of his abilities, especially meeting the unknown challenges, even not accomplished in implementation. Secondly, he is sure of weak and strong points, such as resistance to blows, shortages of fitness, the effects of previous injury. Thirdly, he is uncertain of opponent possibilities, not only unknown, but fully "worked out" competitor. Fourthly has a lot of confidence, as to the known advantages of an opponent, strength and speed of his strokes, efficiency, flexibility, resistance to blows. Fifthly knows that the rule parallels a mass of individuals, and thus emitted aggression directed towards an opponent, leading to a probabilistic principle of indeterminacy as a result of any battle in the ring. Sixthly, we have many reasons to be afraid of playing the hardest cases violate the rules and allowing for arbitrary triumph over correctness. What seemed inevitable (for example, far better boxer win over less-equipped by nature and training) may be undermined by a completely unexpected twist of events, a desperate single blow, a trauma, an unfortunate step or lack of attention from due to self-sufficiency triumphing player. One should be afraid of both the inevitable and what unexpected, because after all we are not in control any of them. The balance of these possibilities, and inevitably tensioning adversity becomes the courage (Smith, 2011, p 37-38). Sports rules impose some restraint in military tactics and in use of technical measures to fight. This does not change the fact that boxing - one of the few, or say simply: one and a completely unique competition allows for extreme situations, that behold, certain types of the most spectacular victories completely eliminate the losing player from further play. He cannot claim for the chance of instant replay, he indeed does not return normally to the sphere of privacy outside the ring when after being defeated he is directed either to the hospital or for a longer rest at home. In boxing and in life, failure precludes the immediate right to continue, particularly in the rematch. Boxing is therefore within the limits of risk, with a broad spectrum of health effects, ethical and social issues. Taking this challenge must be preceded by an act, not only authentic, great fortitude, but precise calculation of all possible gains and losses.

Discussing the social and moral aspects of professional boxing should discuss briefly several factors or phenomena occurring in the (but not only) sport, which are related to the socio-ethical.

Corruption in sport is undoubtedly a serious social problem. Not only distorts the base of sports fair play which has long been regarded as a guarantee of purity and integrity of sport, but also is a form of fraud directed against (maybe not consciously) all those, without which sports would lose its attractiveness, against the fans. Fight with it using the existing anti-corruption regulation in most cases was, as emphasized impossible because of behavior that are generally considered pathological, did not exhaust the statutory elements of criminal offenses typified in the Penal Code (Żurowska, Piskorski, 2003, p 21).

When it comes to issues of doping is to look at boxing, through this prism that makes everyone the best result loses credibility when contaminated by drugs. This raises an uncertainty, whether that something is not found, due to the fact that he they not really know how and what to look for. There is a loss for the athletes, sports, lose the idea of genuine heroic rivalry, paradoxically gains a spectacle.

Certainly aggression is one of the many ways to respond to a negative stimuli. Different fields of science: psychology, education, psychiatry, criminology present a very wide range of an aggressive behavior. "Social psychologists define as the deliberate action of aggressive behavior intended to cause physical or mental suffering" (Aronson, 2002, p 235). Aggression is often equated with the concept of violence. In contrast, J. Pospieszyl believes that "the aim of aggression is to harm the victim," while the aim of violence is to "exert some influence" (Pospieszyl, 1994, p 112) on the victim in order to force it to act in accordance with the will of the aggressor.

T. Adamek, the undisputed star of Polish and world professional boxing, spoke about the violence in the sport in an interview: "At conferences before the fight boxers sometimes say such words that they will knock the other boxer out in the second ... fifth round. Boxers suggest different things. But this is just a show. These athletes are generally good people. I personally go out to the ring to fight, show good boxing and win. I never think to hurt somebody, becauseit is not the point of the sport. Yes, it is a contact sport and, unfortunately, it is impossible to avoid all the punches, especially when a player is good. But there should be no anger "(Gasior, 2007, p 37).

In every society there are people who find pleasure in the destruction of someone's property, assault someone or causing permanent harm. This is due to someone's temperament and desire to raise the level of adrenaline. It is good, if pleasurable motivation is directed towards the violent passion sports as boxing, as well as the usual rivalry. Participation in various tournaments or competitions induces participants increased level of adrenaline in the blood. Players just by physical or mental effort unload his aggression, acting out of frustration. However, how to explain casus Mike Tyson, who in the ring commits such acts, as biting off the ear piece of the opponent, and outside the ring used the violence against women, and even he was sentenced for rape? This question can be left unanswered.

The practice of sport affects creating personality, however, is not always a beneficial effect on the development of the individual. More and more often we hear a statement that the use of inappropriate methods to athletes and educational techniques (measures) gives them incentive too good conditions, which do not always meet the needs of training and also the education way different from the rest of the youth is simply amoral. Sport is an integral part of contemporary culture, of great importance for human development, is a social phenomenon, in which an important role play moral values.

Increases the number of sports discplines which are dangerous to health and life, e.ex.: boxing, motor and car sports etc. In the sport also present is brutal and unhealthy rivalry (Cynarski, Litwiniuk, 2007, s. 84-95). It is more often noted "raising" exercise capacity, recognized for doping. Doping is used in the modern sport in almost all disciplines. It is designed to push the boundaries of human capabilities. There have not been quoted all aspects of modern sport, it should be noted that professional sport can cause serious damage to health and, consequently, to human life (Sas-Nowosielski, 2009, p 186).

Claiming that boxing educates belong to the axioms of the theory of sport, dealing with the discipline of the sport. It is obvious that there are in boxing an educational processes, since it brings together young people are in the biological, psychological, social, personality training period.

In the modern world sporting events, watched by millions of viewers from different continents, thanks to direct a live broadcast would indicate that the ideals of sport will be respected, because it is difficult to avoid them or to hide.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

In conclusion, setting up matches, boxing fights, giving the opponents poisoned food, taking of drugs and finally direct injury is a phenomenon observed very often. Attempts to control these negative effects in the form of rules and regulations limiting the possibility of such attempts are, unfortunately, only a paper record often omitted

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