

Recreational Attitudes of Konya-People According to Gender: A Survey Study

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Abstract

About individuals' outdoor recreation, gender is a quite determinant factor regarding to the preferences and requirements. Surveys about this topic show that there are differentiations result from the gender at the preference and tendency of the outdoor recreation and show that for instance women participate less to the activities of outdoor recreation in general. In this research, a survey has been conducted in order to investigate the possible differentiation, results from the gender about the people's in Konya outdoor recreation requirements and preferences. A questionnaire was applied to 384 people living in the city and central district.

At the result of survey, statistically important differentiations has been found out about the places preferred for outdoor recreation, the types of activities, how often they do these activities and in which season generally, the reasons why not they join to activities and outdoor recreational activities they wished in the city and its vicinity.

Keywords: recreation; outdoor recreation; leisure; recreational attitude; recreational demand.

INTRODUCTION

According to World Health Organization, quality of life is defined as; "individuals' perception of their position in life in the context of culture and value system and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns" [1]. Leisure is an important concept for the quality of urban life [2]. There are a lot of literature which emphasize the importance of "leisure" about quality of life [3,4,5]. A good recreation experience in leisure time, creates positive values. Such good after-feelings are essential to persuade the visitor to return. By this way, recreational activity become a component of life quality together with environment, climate, housing, health, crime, transport, education, art and economy [6]. Therefore, especially in urban life, recreational areas must be considered within a definite planning discipline not only for their creation but also effective use.

In Turkey, studies about recreation planning are not sufficient to answer people's requirements and expectations. Studies mostly at academic level, related to planning and concerning with people's outdoor recreation expectation and requirement have been made by some academicians such as [7], [8], [9], [10], [11], [12]. A great part of these studies have been done for the college students' leisure time attitudes. In addition to these specific studies searching for a relationship between recreational demand and destination, residence location decisions, studies were also conducted to look for the relationship between recreational demand and gender [13, 14, 15, 16, 17].

Recreation-Outdoor Recreation and Gender

The most comprehensive description of recreation was made by Kraus [18]: "recreation consists of activities or experiences carried on within leisure, usually chosen voluntarily by the participant either because of satisfaction, pleasure or creative enrichment derived, or because of perceived certain personal or social values to be gained from them. It may also be perceived as the process of participation, or as the emotional state derived from environment" [19]. As for outdoor recreation, it can be defined as its existence depends on only outdoor. In an urbanised society, especially urban green areas are important for people as places for recreation, and contact with nature [20]. In natural places far away from intensive rhythm of city, the converse qualities of chaos, lack of control, absence of geometry, quietness, cleanness and solitude are very charming [21]. Since the unhealthy urban places concurring with the urban development boost the demand of the people to outdoor recreation, supply and demand to especially urban parks with the other natural areas and ecosystem services is likely to grow in the future with citizen awareness [22, 23]. On the contrary of indoor recreation, outdoor recreation presents more social profit in terms of education and aesthetics. For instance, most private education and recreation consultants and planners seem to agree that especially green spaces (parks, nature preserves, nature centers, outdoor laboratories etc.) provide social benefits because of the functions of open spaces. A park provides a place for quiet relaxation or active physical activity. On the other hand land itself can be a teacher [24]. However outdoor recreation, in addition to its social advantages it offers a wide range of activities to user. When many

recreative activities place at outdoor, their value increases. For some, outdoor activities mean emotional and spiritual award, and for some they mean adventure, risks, and excitement [25]. They provide the opportunities of active and passive spare time such as sport programs, camps, neighborhood parks and other parks and other green areas, outdoor adventural activities, doing exercise, relaxing and social interaction and positive contribution to health and welfare of people and create restorative effects reducing mental fatigue [26, 27, 28]. Especially physical activity outdoors is defined as being outside in natural or cultural landscapes for the purpose of well-being and encounters with nature without any demand for competition [29].

In today's cities there are differences in people's requirements, demands and tendencies which are to be in line with the societies' socio-cultural and economic structure [30]. The same situation is also valid for recreation. Recreational demands are not only related with environmental and recreational activities, but also with the societies idiosyncratic characteristics such as individual motivations and needs, personal preferences, participation rates and constraints, physiological and psychological benefits, and factors affecting access to opportunities [31]. Some of these issues are in relation to gender directly. For this reason, gender has a significant role for occurrence of recreational demands

"Gender is an ongoing process rather than an inborn biological trait. The meaning of gender is constructed by society and each of us socialized into that construction. Thus gender is a socially constructed relationships which are produced and reproduced through people's actions [16]". "Historically much of the reseach conducted in leisure and recreation studies has ignored experiential differences between men and women. By contrast with feminist researches places a critical focus on female roles in society and culture" [32].

According to [33], [34], [35], there are important differences between males and females about being active in leisure times. Studies indicate that access to free time is influenced by a variety of factors social roles, socioeconomic status, ethnicity together with "gender". A lot of research has indicated that working women often have fewer opportunities for free time than working men [36].

Generally, the women's leisure times are regarded as the routines of houseworks and child-care from the spare times and therefore their attendance to leisure time activities and preferences and the quality of spare times show an alteration

depending upon their multiple social role [37, 38]. It is suggested that the restricted things about the attendance of women to recreational activities are not just because of the biologic factors, also there is an effect of taking social roles to the women at this point.

The aim of this study is to research the differences resulting from gender regarding the preference and tendencies of outdoor recreation in the city of Konya which is chosen as case study. Outdoor recreation tendencies in the city, are based on vine cultivation, dating back Seljuk's Era (XI.-XII. Century). Unfortunately today most of the vineyards are irrecoverably sacrificed to the increasing demand of urbanisation [39]. Moreover, the deep rooted human being-plant-soil relationship led to the preference of parks and other green areas as outdoor recreation as seen on the weekends. If the preferences are considered in terms of gender, it can be seen that women do gardening on a small scale in the yards of their apartment buildings. Furthermore, women can also be seen doing exercises with sports implements installed in the park and walking for fitness.

Konya is a rapidly developing city in terms of urbanization and modernisation. Out of the total 2.038.555 population in Konya province, 1.527.937 live in the city and the remaining, 510.618 in the districts. The ratio of male and female population in the city centre in the towns and villages is close. Whereas the number of females is 769.968, male's is 757.969 in the city [40]. According to the interview with the Konya Metropolitan Municipality Director of Parks and Gardens Department Mr. Senayi Adiyaman, no studies have been conducted in order to determine the leisure time attitudes and outdoor recreation facility demands and expectations [41].

The aim of the present study is to research the outdoor recreational attitudes and demands of the people living in Konya city as well as gender based, differences in the use of the facilities present and its frequency. Hence, the opinions of both sexes related to this topic from different socio-economic and socio-cultural layers have been investigated. The findings obtained could be important data in the planning and administration of outdoor recreation facilities in the rapidly developing Konya City that is sensitive to gender based preferences. To determine gender related differences and to reveal the conditions that motivate males and females to use these facilities and those that hinder them are among the aims of the present study. By this way, spesific desicions can be made concerning the allocation of recreation resources.

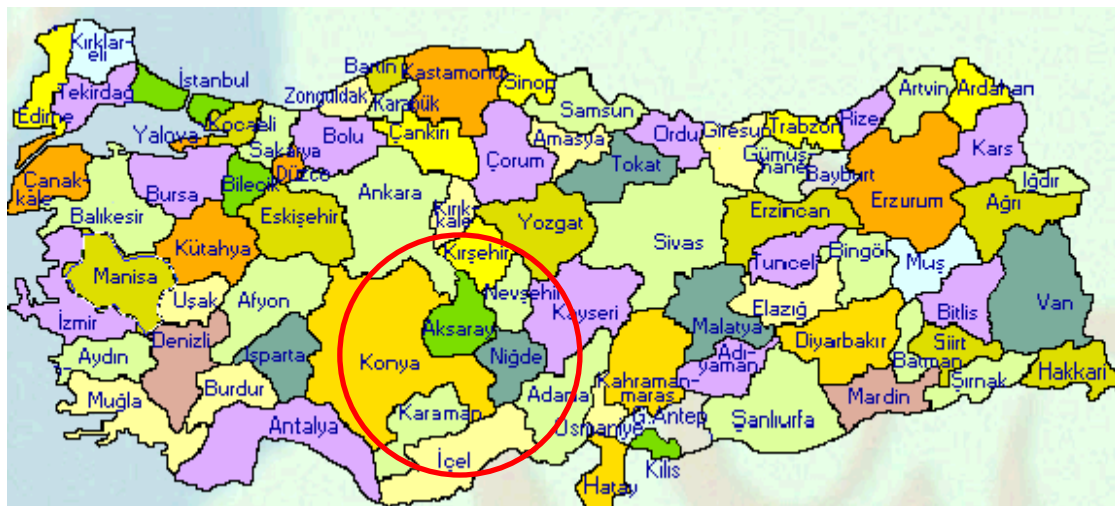


Figure 1. Konya City and its location in the country (<http://www.egitimogretimci.com/haritalar-ve-harita-turleri.html>)

Study Area

Konya Province is in the Central Anatolia Region of Turkey. The altitude and longitude of Konya is: 37° 51' 56" N / 32° 28' 57" E. The first locations in the city are said to be dating as back as even B.C. 7000-8000. In ancient times, the city became a vital centre during Roman, Byzantine, Seljukian and Ottoman eras [42].

This study was conducted in Konya City center. The questionnaire was filled out by the residents living in the center provinces (Meram, Karatay and Selcuklu).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In determining recreational attitudes, the survey results are valuable resources providing information about human attitudes for the planners of recreational areas [43]. The questionnaires are one of the significant methods of surveys as a potential data in determining future trends. In this study, to investigate the role of the gender about changing attitudes and demands, a questionnaire was carried out for data collection.

Data Collection and Analysis

To collect data, a questionnaire was developed that included questions to examine the relations between recreational attitudes and gender. While determining the types of outdoor recreation activity types in the questionnaire with the questions, the questions and outdoor recreational activities in the studies made by [19, 44, 45, 46, 47, 7] were analyzed and some of them were included within the present study in accordance with socio-cultural structure of the Konya people and the geography of the city. Some questions and recreation activities have been developed by researcher herself.

In the survey, questions related to the recreational attitudes, the usage of recreational facilities, and demands and necessities were researched comparatively in terms of gender. Hence in this context;

- Mostly preferred places (indoors or outdoors) for recreation
- Seasonal use of outdoor recreation opportunities
- Frequency of attendance to outdoor recreation activities
- Mostly preferred outdoor recreation activities
- Preferred accompanying persons for outdoor recreational activities
- The reasons why they attend or not to the outdoor recreation activities
- Other activities they wish to see in city have been asked.

Face to face interviews were conducted to carry out the questionnaire and thus the rate for return was 100%.

The questionnaire was first applied to a group (40 people) as a pilot study. Incoherent questions were reviewed, some omitted, and some revised. Data was collected with a questionnaire made of 32 items. The first part of the questionnaire consists of 6 questions related to demographic informations. The second part of the data collection tool consisted of multiple choice questions. The survey was conducted in 2011.

Study Sample (Participants)

In the questionnaire, people living in Konya City were the target group. Hence, the total population living in the

central districts of Konya, namely in Meram, Karatay, and Selcuklu, constituted the population of the present study. The total population of Konya City central district is 1.073.791. The size of sample has been determined according to the calculations made by Alpteki et. al. [48]:

n (the size of sample)

$n = N z^2 p q / Nd^2 + z^2 p q$

N = the size of population (1.073.791)

z = the confidence coefficient (1,96)

p = the possibility of the feature availability in the population to be measured in the sample (0.5)

q = 1-P (0,5) the possibility of feature unavailability in the population to be measured in the sample

d = relative error (0.05)

" n " can be calculated as:

$n = 1.073.791 \times 1,96^2 \times 0,5 \times 0,5 / 1.073.791 \times 0,05^2 + 1,96^2 \times 0,5 \times 0,5$

$n = 384$

The survey questions have been answered by 384 participants living in Konya City center, and thus the sample size is decided as 384. Out of these, 184 were female and 200 male.

Frequency tables, crosstabs and reliability tests were used to analyze the data obtained with the survey. Packaged software system version 17.0 was used to evaluate the data. Crosstabs and Chi-Square tests were applied in order to determine whether the outdoor recreational preferences become different in terms of gender. The statistical analyzes of survey data made an understanding of how different responses compare and what their relationships are to gender possible.

The reliability of the questionnaire used in the survey was analysed using Cronbach Alpha and its reliability was determined as 0,72. Hence, it is possible to assume as the reliability of variables are above the acceptable level of 0,70, all items in the questionnaire measure the same entity and the entity measures is of homogenous quality. The questionnaire was analysed by experts in the field and several change were made in line with their opinions.

RESULTS

Demographic Structure

According to Table 1., % 40 of the participants is 18-30 aged, % 41,5 of them is 31-50 aged, % 14,8 of them is 50-70 aged, % 3,8 of the participants are older than 70 years. Among the participants, 31-50 aged ones (% 41,5) constitute the highest rate and 70 and over aged (% 3,8) constitute the lowest rate. The youngsters 18-30 aged and in the age of 31-50 middle aged ones constitute the most of the participants. % 48,5 of participants are female and % 52,5 of them are male. Since the survey will be evaluated in terms of gender, it has been endeavored that the rates of male and female are almost equal. The college graduates constitute of vast majority of participants (% 37,8). Middle and high school graduates follow this with the rate of % 17,5. % 14,5 of participants are elementary school graduates and % 12,8 of them are graduates. % 61,3 of the participants are married and % 38,8 of them are single, large majority of participants are married.

Table 1. The demographical qualities of participants

		NUMBER	PERCENTAGE (%)
Age groups	18-30	154	40,0
	31-50	164	41,5
	50-70	55	14,8
	Over 70	11	3,8
	Total	384	100,0
Gender	Female	184	48,5
	Male	200	52,5
	Total	384	100,0
Educational background	Elementary school	55	14,5
	Middle school	65	17,5
	High school	67	17,5
	College	148	37,8
	Graduate	49	12,8
	Total	384	100,0
Marital status	Married	237	61,3
	Single	147	38,8
	Total	384	100,0
Total personal monthly income	Not definite	61	16,0
	Less than 500 YTL	32	8,8
	500-1000 YTL	98	25,3
	1000-2000 YTL	121	31,0
	Over 2000 YTL	72	19,0
	Total	384	100,0
Existence of private car	Yes	214	55,5
	No	170	44,5
	Total	384	100,0
Total leisure time in a week	10 hours and less	97	25,0
	11-20 hours	164	41,8
	21-30 hours	71	18,5
	31-40 hours	27	7,5
	Over 41 hours	25	7,3
	Total	384	100

% 16 of the participants have not definite monthly income. As monthly income % 31 of them have 1000-2000 TL, % 25,3 of them have around 500-1000 TL, % 19 of them have over 2000 TL, % 8,8 of them have less than 500 TL. Most of the participants have limited income and this condition shows that this could cause to restrict the recreational activities based on high expenses. % 55,5 of participants have private vehicles, while % 44,5 of them have not. % 41,8 of participants have 11-20 hours leisure times. The ones having 10 hours leisure time and under with the rate of % 25 follow this. % 18,5 of participants have 21-30 hours leisure times, % 7,5 of them have 31-40 hours and % 7,3 of them have 41 hours and over.

The places preferred for recreational activities

The places mostly preferred for recreational activities mostly preferred recreational places of males and females and their rates are seen in Table 2.

It is seen that the preference of recreative place significantly differentiate in terms of gender according to analysis results. It has been observed that males prefer outdoors for recreation while females prefer indoors.

Preferred outdoor recreation activities in the city and it's vicinity

In Table 3, outdoor recreation activities were given in terms of gender in the city and its vicinity.

According to survey results, it is seen that the outdoor recreation activities meaningly differentiate in terms of gender. According to this, females prefer strolling for shopping outdoors in their spare times (% 25,3) relaxation in the city park and outdoor sports follow this. Males with the rate of % 21,6 prefer picnic and relaxation in the city park with the rate of % 19,3 follow this.

Table 2. Mostly preferred places for recreational activities

		Outdoor (the activities such relaxation in the city park, outdoors sports, gardening, walking-strolling, picnic)	Indoor (the activities such as reading, watching TV, internet, handicrafts, cinema, theatre, indoor spots, musical engagements, artistry courses, strolling indoor shopping areas, entertainment)	Both are equal	Chi-square	p
Gender	Female (%)	29,4	38,7	31,9	22,694	0,000*
	Male (%)	53,4	19,9	26,7		

*p<0,05

Table 3. The outdoor recreation activities preferred in terms of gender in the city and its vicinity

	Relaxation in the city park	Outdoor sports	Strolling-walking	Strolling for shopping	Gardenning and home hobbies	Picnic	Hiking	Bird watching and other nature studies	Camping	Fishing	Other	Chi-square	p
Female (%)	21,2	15	12,8	25,3	6,1	13,4	0,5	1,5	2	0,5	1,7	40,505	0,000*
Male (%)	19,3	13,6	15,5	13,1	6,5	21,6	0,8	2	2,9	3,5	1,2		

*p<0,05

Mostly preferred accompanying persons to carry out recreational activities

If it is taken a look at with whom males and females participate to outdoor recreational activities, there has been found a big difference in terms of gender according to outdoor recreation activity. For example, it has been observed that females prefer relaxation in city parks with their family with the rate of % 35,4 while males prefer their friends in the city park (% 49,5). Females also tend to go to the city parks with their friends. It is also observed that males tend to go to city parks with their families too. It is seen that males and females do exercise with their friends outdoors at most, a statistical difference has not been found in terms of gender at this point. In addition to this, males and females tend to do exercise alone also. According to Table 4, males and females mostly stroll and walk with their friends.

A tendency of strolling for shopping alone follows the tendency of shopping with the family for females. But, for males' strolling for shopping with friends is their second preference. In terms of gender, a significant statistical difference has not been observed about the preference of accompanying person for strolling for shopping. Whether the types of conducting the gardenning and home hobbies have difference in terms of gender or not is researched, it is seen that a statistically important relationship has been found between the types of males and females conducting gardenning and home hobbies. When the table is examined,

it can be seen that females want to conduct gardenning and home hobbies with their family, also they tend to do this activity lonely. When it is examined the tendency of males at this point, even if they tend to do them with their family or lonely, they show the tendency of doing with their neighbors and friends. Females mostly prefer having picnic together with their family firstly and "alone" secondly.

Since there are not adequate participants to the activities of hiking, birdwatching, camping and fishing, chi-square relevance value has not been taken into consideration. But according to frequency distribution, for instance, males conduct hiking activities mostly with "group organization", tendency of participating with their friends is the second preference. But females have given the responses of with "my friends" and "group-organization" at an equal basis. The most of males and females conducting birdwatching and other nature works as outdoor recreation carry out this activity with a group/organization. The tendency of conducting this activity "with friends" and "alone" follow this. Males and females participate to camping activity mostly with a group/organization. The tendency of conducting this activity with "family" and "friends" respectively follow this. Males go fishing with their friends in their spare times while females go with their families and friends at equal basis. There are some groups in males different from females going to fishing with their neighbors, children, relatives or alone.

Frequency of conducting the outdoor recreation activities

In table 5, Frequency of conducting the outdoor recreation activities is given.

The frequency of participating to outdoor recreation activities was given in Table 5. A significant statistically difference was found about the frequency of participating to most recreation activities in terms of gender at this point. Since there are not adequate participants in the hiking, birdwatching, camping, fishing activities, chi-square relevance value is not taken into consideration. For instance, females conduct the activity of relaxation in city park at least "once a week"; following this, they tend to go a city park for relaxation "a few times a week and a month". Males substantially go to city parks "once a week" and "a few times a week". In terms of the frequency of relaxation in city parks males proportionally have more tendency than females. It is seen that females doing exercise "a few times a week" outdoors and at the same time they tend to do this activity "once a week". For males, the frequency of doing exercises outdoors is less than the females do, the rate of males outdoor sports "a few times a week" is less than females, additionally this rate is so close to the rates of outdoor sports "a few times in a year" or "very few". Males substantially do exercise outdoors "once a month". According to Table 5, females mostly stroll and walk "once a week", the frequency of "a few times a week" follows this. The frequency of the tendency of conducting the activities is similar to females, but males' strolling and walking are substantially more than females. Females mostly stroll for shopping a few times a month outdoors, the frequency of "once a week" follows this. Most of the males "very few" conduct this activity. Females conduct gardening and home hobbies "very few"; the frequency "once a week" follows this. Males "very few" do this activity too, but they are substantially more than females. Males and females mostly in the tendency of barely going to picnic, for females the frequency of once a month follow this. The rate of females pointed out that their frequency of having picnic is "very few" and it is higher than that of males, the males having "a few times a month", are substantially more than females, at this frequency. When it is observed the distribution for the activities of hiking, birdwatching, camping and fishing, it is seen that the females conducting hiking as outdoor recreation activity, tend to conduct "a few times in a year" and "very few" for being at an equal basis. Males "very few" do this activity with a high rate. Females "very few" conduct birdwatching and the other nature sports at most. The tendency of males at this point is "very few" too. While males show the tendency of conducting this activity "biweekly" and "a few times in a year" at equal basis, females tend to conduct "a few times in a year" and "a few times a month" on the contrary of females at equal basis. The tendency of males and females preference of camping in their spare times as outdoor recreation is "very few". Female's participating to this activity is substantially more than male's participation at the same frequency. Females pointed out that they all barely fishing and also males are barely going to fishing at most. In addition to this, males tend to go fishing "a few times in a year" and "once a month" on the contrary of females.

When it is seen the frequency of participation of males and females to outdoor recreation activities in general, it is

seen that males are more active than females for the frequency of "everyday", the rates of their participation are nearly the same for the frequency of "a few times a week" and "once a week", males are more active for the frequency of "biweekly", females are more active for the rate of "a few times a month", males are more active for the rates of "once a month" and "a few times in a year", females are more active for the rate of "once a month" and "a few times in a year", females are more active for the rate of "once in a year", males rate are more than females for the frequency of "very few". In which season the participants conduct the outdoor recreation activities at most is pointed out in Table 6.

The season mostly conducted outdoor recreation

In Table 6, the seasons that the people mostly Females say that "it's summer" with the rate of % 70,4 about the season that they participate to outdoor recreational activities. Males conduct these activities in summer with the rate of % 58,5. The spring follows the summer season preferred as outdoor recreational activities. A significant differentiation is seen about in which season preferred recreative activities in terms of gender.

Reasons for insufficient participation to outdoor recreation activities

Reasons for insufficient participation to outdoor recreation activities are mentioned in the table 7. This question is answered by females and males who replied as "indoors" to the question of "what is the qualifications of the places you chose for recreation?".

According to table 7., women can not join these outdoor recreation activities usually because of no enough time. Other reasons following this reason are unqualified outdoor recreation places and financial impossibility. On the other hand men indicated that -less than women- they have no enough time and the rate is equal to the financial impossibilities.

Looking the reasons which are cause insufficient participation to outdoor recreation activities it is observed that there is an important difference between gender.

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Attractive ways of outdoor recreation

Answers which were gained after the question "what are the attractive sides of outdoor recreation is mentioned in Table 8.

Researching reasons to participate to outdoor recreation %41 of women and %34,4 of men are indicated as a reason that its relieving effect and restfulness of fresh air. There is no exact difference in terms of gender at this point.

Outdoor recreation activities which are desired in the city and its vicinity

Outdoor recreation activities which are desired by participant in the city and its vicinity are mentioned in table 9.

When it is asked women "which activities additionally do they want in the city and its vicinity", %43,3 of them answered as "parks and green areas" on the other hand %31,7 of men it is the highest percentage replied as "social activity areas".

Table 4. At most who/with whom participate to recreational activities.

	Gender	Alone	With my friends	With my family	With my relatives	With my neighbours	With my child(ren)	Group/organization	Chi-square	P
Relaxation in the city park	Female (%)	9,8	32,8	35,4	15,4	0	6,6	0	15,812	0,003*
	Male (%)	10,1	49,5	32,8	7,1	0	0,5	0		
Outdoor sports	Female (%)	32,7	39,0	10,3	2,1	8	6	1,9	6,288	0,279
	Male (%)	35,6	42,3	10,1	2,9	4,4	3	1,7		
Strolling-walking	Female (%)	29,1	34,1	24,1	3,8	0	7,6	1,3	9,815	0,133
	Male (%)	20,4	45,1	26,4	1,9	2,5	3,7	0		
Strolling for shopping	Female (%)	28,3	22,0	40,9	1,2	2,4	4	1,2	6,540	0,257
	Male (%)	15	20,7	39,5	3,8	0	1	20		
Gardenning and home hobbies	Female (%)	21,4	0	75,0	1,8	0	0	1,8	13,612	0,034*
	Male (%)	15,4	6,8	61,5	1,8	6,8	6,8	0,9		
Picnic	Female (%)	16,4	6,6	73,8	1,6	0	0	1,6	22,147	0,00*
	Male (%)	2,6	21,2	64,2	4,0	0	2,0	6,0		
	Male (%)	9,6	33,5	43,4	1,0	1,0	1,9	9,6		
Hiking	Female (%)	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	-	-
	Male (%)	0	24,3	0	0	0	0	75,7		
Bird watching and other nature studies	Female (%)	16,6	33	0	0	0	0	50,4	-	-
	Male (%)	5,2	28,5	0	0	0	0	66,3		
Camping	Female (%)	0	20,8	36,8	0	0	0	42,4	-	-
	Male (%)	0	26,6	26,2	0	0	0	47,2		
Fishing	Female (%)	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	-	-
	Male (%)	5,3	80,8	3,1	3	4,4	3,4	0		

*p<0,05

Table 5. How often they conduct the outdoor recreation activities

		Every day	A few times a week	Once a week	Once two weeks	A few times a month	Once a month	A few times a year	Once a year	Very few	Chi-square	P
Relaxation in the city park	Female (%)	1,2	17,1	25,7	9,2	17,1	8,7	3,3	11,3	6,4	62,157	0,042*
	Male (%)	1,5	22,1	28,2	12,9	10,2	10,0	6,7	0	8,4		
Outdoor sports	Female (%)	2,4	19,1	18,4	3	2	6	10	21	18,1	64,001	0,000*
	Male (%)	3,6	16,2	14,6	5,9	8,2	18,4	16,4	1,6	15,1		
Strolling-walking	Female (%)	5,1	16,1	18,6	8,4	11	11,5	6,1	8	15,2	72,212	0,033*
	Male (%)	7,4	19,2	25,5	10,2	17,2	4,1	3,1	1,2	12,1		
Strolling for shopping	Female (%)	0,3	8,9	22,1	5,3	32,9	17,9	0	3,4	9,2	117,494	0,005*
	Male (%)	0,4	6,2	15,4	3,3	5,8	4,6	5,0	1,2	58,1		
Gardenning and other home obbies	Female (%)	2,9	9,2	17,8	9,0	7,6	9,1	10,8	12,3	21,3	56,628	0,000*
	Male (%)	3,3	6,6	15,8	5,0	7,5	2,9	2,9	1,2	54,8		
Picnic	Female (%)	0	0,6	3,0	2,7	9,3	18,3	15,7	6,3	44,1	89,784	0,027*
	Male (%)	1,2	0,8	5,5	3,5	20,2	10,6	23,8	2,3	32,1		
Hiking	Female (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	50	-	-
	Male (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	33,5	0	66,5		
Bird waching and other nature studies	Female (%)	0	0	0	0	16,7	0	16,7	0	66,6	-	-
	Male (%)	0	0	0	12,5	0	0	12,5	0	75,0		
Camping	Female (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,7	83,3	-	-
	Male (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	75		
Fishing	Female (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	-	-
	Male (%)	0	0	0	0	0	14,3	21,4	0	64,3		

*p<0,05

Table 6. In which season conducting outdoor recreation activities in Konya city and district region.

	In Summer	In Winter	In Spring	In Fall	No difference	Chi-Square	p
Female (%)	70,4	3,5	13,0	0	13,0	10,835	0,028*
Male (%)	58,5	1,5	22,2	3,3	14,5		

*p<0,05

Table 7. Reasons for insufficient participation to outdoor recreation activities

	Not find time	Financial impossibilities	No interest for these activities	No need to goout for activities	The rarity and inferiority of existing outdoor recreation areas	Lack of friends and social environment	Lack of motivation to go outside	Other	Chi-square	p
Female (%)	54,3	11,4	3,8	4,8	19,0	1,0	5,7	0	47,527	0,000*
Male (%)	27,1	27,1	6,5	5,8	10,1	3,2	5,4	14,8		

*p<0,05

Table 8. Attractive sides of outdoor recreation

	That these activities attracts my attention	Relieving effect and restfulness of fresh air	Need for fresh air	Need for being with nature	That these activities present mre opportunity for being social	Other	Chi-square	p
Female (%)	18,8	41,0	17,9	6,8	12,1	3,4	7,780	0,169
Male (%)	21,1	34,4	24,1	11,5	6,3	2,6		

Table 9. Other recreation activities outdoor recreation activities which are preferred in the city and places close to city.

	Parks and green areas	Shopping centers	Clean environments	Playfields	Social activity areas	Other	Chi-square	p
Female (%)	43,3	20,1	0	10,1	23,3	3,3	20,554 ^a	0,002*
Male (%)	28,4	2,2	5,9	12,1	31,7	19,7		

*p<0,05

DISCUSSION

According to survey results, significant differences observed about outdoor recreative preference and tendencies of Konya city people in terms of gender. While more than half males who participated to the questionnaire conduct the recreational activities outdoors in their leisure times, almost one third of females prefer outdoors in their leisure times. Since females have more household responsibilities than males, this condition supports the idea that females do not have enough time to go out and spend time. The type of outdoor activities preferred by males and females significantly differentiate. While females are mostly conducting the activities of strolling for shopping outdoors and relaxation in city park, males mostly prefer relaxation in city park and picnic respectively. For males, strolling and walking follows these two activities and for females, picnic follows these activities. When mostly preferred accompanying persons examined, important differences have been found for some activities: While there are important differences for the activities such as relaxation in

city park, gardening and other home hobbies, having picnic, trekking, fishing in terms of gender; there is no differences for the activities such as outdoor sports, strolling and walking, strolling for shopping, birdwatching and other nature works and camping in terms of gender.

When the frequency of the participation to outdoor recreation activities is examined, it has been observed that participation of males are more frequent. The frequency of male's conducting outdoor recreation activity "everyday" and "biweekly" is more than females. The frequencies of female's and male's conducting at least one of outdoor recreation "a few times a week" and "once a week" are quite close to each other. Females rates only at the frequencies of "a few times a month" and "once a month" are more than males.

Although males and females conduct outdoor recreational activities in summer at most, a significant difference has been found in terms of gender since the frequency of females prefer this season for the activities more than males.

More than half of females are not adequately able to participate to outdoor recreational activities because they have not enough time, in addition to this, according to

females the places serving up recreative opportunity are unqualified and insufficient. Less than one third of males state a reason that they have not enough time and they have financial impossibilities. The difference found at this point is quite important. At the point of attractive sides of outdoor recreation, it wasn't found an important difference between the opinions of males and females. While females want mostly city parks as recreational places in the city and its vicinity, males want social activities; the difference found in terms of gender is quite important.

The awareness related to outdoor recreation serving pedagogically, recreational and esthetically more social advantage compared to indoors is ever increasing having importance more and more in Turkish cities. At this point, the leisure time attitudes, desires and tendencies which are differentiating in terms of gender have the characteristic of substantial data for urban design and recreational planning. Investigating about outdoor recreational activity choices will make major contributions about recreational resource supply and management especially in the cities which is developing and have new investments frequently like Konya City. For instance, in this study while females demand parks and green areas firstly, more social activity areas and shopping centers by turns; males demand mostly social activity areas and by turns they want parks and green areas. In the later recreational planning studies, more healthy decisions can be made by comparing the current data with the data related to the recreational attitudes gained from this kind of study.

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