



Hooliganism: a social phenomenon

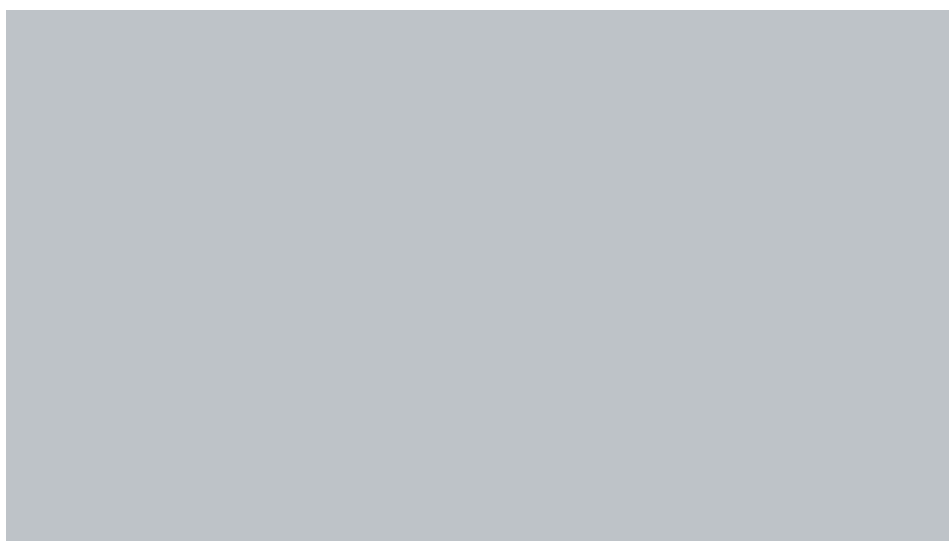


Warm-Up

- What is hooliganism?
- Is hooliganism a new problem or has it been around for a long time?
- Why do you think hooliganism is on the rise in the 21st century?
- Have you ever witnessed or experienced hooliganism firsthand?



1) Watch the following video and mark the sentences with T/F.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09LPa5kZg-8>



Statements:

1. Age segregation in football grounds began to occur in the 90s.
False - It began to occur in the 60s, 70s, and 80s.
2. Hooliganism emerged when there were lots of uncertainties about identity. **True**
3. Uncertainty about ethnicity was not a factor in the emergence of hooliganism. **False - It was a factor.**
4. Football offered young men a stage upon which they could test out their identities. **True**
5. Gang rivalries in local working-class communities were not well established. **False - They were well established.**
6. The school playground used to be the place where you became a man and tested yourself as a man. **True**
7. Going to football and traveling with mates to football became a place where you could say, "I am a man." **True**
8. Football in Britain was not popular in the 60s, 70s, and 80s.
False - It was popular in Britain in the 60s, 70s, and 80s.
9. Hooliganism emerged because of a lack of policing function of the older generation over the younger generation. **True**
10. Football was not used as a way to hold on to old certainties of the past. **False - Football was used as a way to hold on to old certainties of the past.**



2) Fill in the blanks to discover some interesting facts about hooliganism.

coordinated, subculture, national problem, alcohol consumption, rowdy, engage, contributed, disorderly conduct, surge, are rising, protests, strict laws

1. The term hooliganism originated in the late 19th century and referred to **rowdy** (1) behavior by young workers in London.
2. Today, hooliganism can refer to violent or **disorderly conduct** (2) at sporting events, concerts, or in public places.
3. Hooliganism is often linked to **alcohol consumption** (3) and tribalism.
4. Russia has seen a **surge** (4) in hooliganism associated with football matches, including fights between rival fan groups.
5. In 2019, hooligans attacked police officers and tourists in Barcelona during **protests** (5) over the imprisonment of Catalan separatist leaders.
6. In the UK, football hooliganism became a **national problem** (6) in the 1970s and 1980s, leading to the creation of **strict laws** (7) and regulations to prevent violence.
7. Casuals, a **subculture** (8) of football fans in England, were notorious for hooliganism in the 1980s and 90s.
8. Hooliganism is not limited to men – women have been known to **engage** (9) in violent behavior at events as well.
9. According to a 2018 report, incidents of hooliganism **are rising** (10) in Eastern European countries including Croatia and Serbia.
10. The use of social media has **contributed** (11) to the spread and organization of hooligan groups, leading to more **coordinated** (12) and dangerous attacks.



3) Brainstorm the causes and effects of hooliganism with your partner.

4) Now read the following text. What are the causes and effects of hooliganism according to the text?

Hooliganism is a phenomenon that has plagued sports for decades. It involves violent and disorderly behavior by fans, often leading to vandalism, destruction of property, and physical harm to individuals. Hooliganism can be seen in many sports, but it is most commonly associated with football. The causes and effects of hooliganism are complex and multifaceted.

One cause of hooliganism is the **tribal nature of sports fandom**. Fans often identify strongly with their team and see opposing teams and their fans as enemies. This mentality can lead to aggression and violence towards rival fans. Additionally, **alcohol consumption** is often a contributing factor to hooliganism. Many fans drink excessively before and during games, which can impair judgment and lead to reckless behavior.

Another cause of hooliganism is **social and economic factors**. In some cases, hooliganism may be a form of protest against perceived injustices or inequalities. For example, fans from economically disadvantaged areas may feel marginalized and use hooliganism as a way to express their frustration and anger. Additionally, hooliganism can be fueled by **political ideologies or extremist views**, as seen in some instances of far-right or nationalist groups using football matches as a platform for their beliefs.



The effects of hooliganism are far-reaching and damaging. Firstly, it creates an unsafe environment for fans, players, and staff. Violence and destruction can lead to injuries and even fatalities. Secondly, hooliganism damages the reputation of the sport and the clubs involved. It can deter fans from attending games and tarnish the image of the sport as a whole. Finally, hooliganism can have significant financial implications. Clubs may face fines or bans, and the cost of repairing damage caused by hooligans can be substantial.

Efforts to combat hooliganism have been ongoing for many years. Stadiums now have improved security measures, including CCTV and increased policing. Clubs also work to promote positive fan behavior and discourage hooliganism through education and awareness campaigns. However, the problem persists, and there is still much work to be done to eradicate this destructive behavior.

In conclusion, hooliganism is a complex issue with many causes and effects. It is a problem that affects not only sports but society as a whole. Addressing the root causes of hooliganism and promoting positive fan behavior is essential in creating a safe and enjoyable environment for all involved in sports.



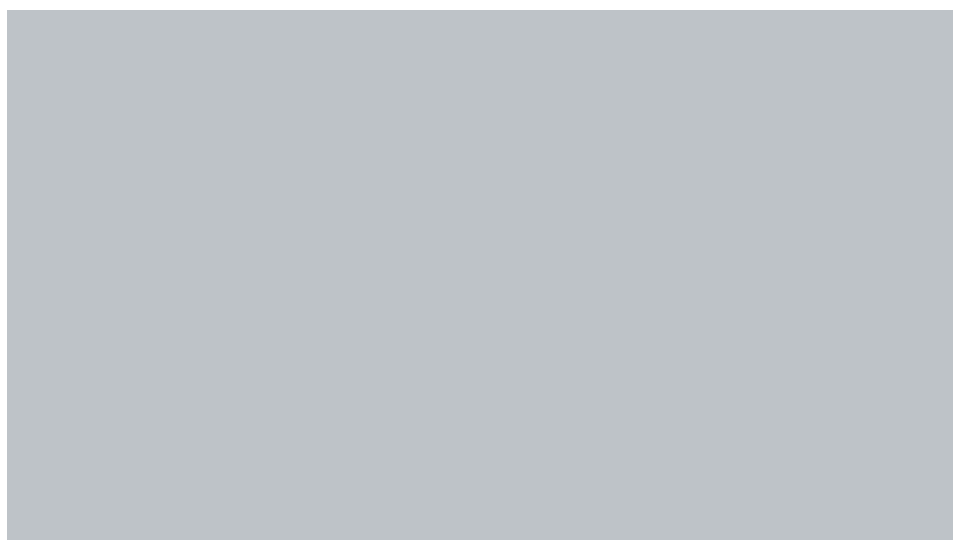
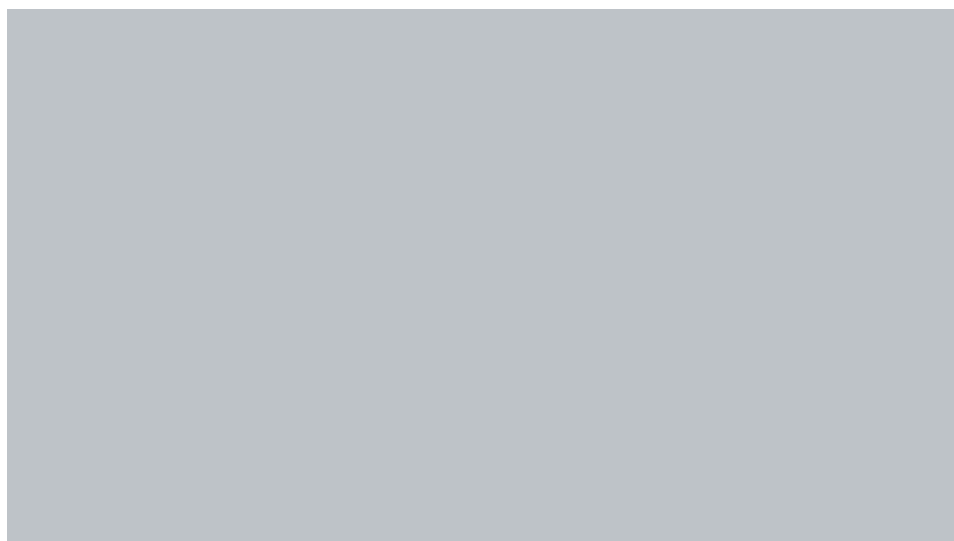
5) After watching the following videos act out a scenario where hooliganism occurs, and discuss how you would respond and what actions you would take to prevent or address the situation. You will take on the following roles:

- football fan
- football player
- security personnel
- club representative

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzFDJOH1kcA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ub1e9Jc205k>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zukD4VEqr4M>





6) Writing: Choose one of the following topics and write an essay for an international sports blog. (180-250 words)

- Some people argue that harsh punishments are the best way to deter hooliganism. Others believe that more preventative measures, such as education and community outreach, are more effective. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.
- In recent years, there has been a trend towards increased surveillance and policing of public spaces to prevent hooliganism. To what extent do you think this infringes on individual rights and freedoms?
- Hooliganism often occurs in the context of organized sports events. Should sports organizations be held responsible for preventing hooliganism among their fans?
- Hooliganism is often linked to other forms of violence and criminal activity. To what extent do you think addressing underlying issues like poverty and inequality can help reduce hooliganism?