
A thesis submitted to the School of Graduate Studies of Addis Ababa University in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Social Psychology

BY: BRHANU WELDIE

JUNE, 2009
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PREJUDICE AND DE-INDIVIDUATED AGGRESSION AS SOURCES OF INTER-GROUP CONFLICT AMONG AAU MAIN CAMPUS FOOTBALL FANS: THE CASE OF THE FANS OF THE 'BIG FOUR'

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Abstract

Investigating the effects of prejudice, group identification, states of de-individuation, and interpersonal aggression on conflicts or intergroup conflicts among football fans of the Big Four in AAU main campus was worth studying. A survey study was conducted among the fans through a questionnaire. A total of 266 fans participated in the study including 104 Arsenal, 27 Chelsea, 40 Liverpool and 95 Manchester United fans. Social Identity Theory and Self Categorization Theory were at the heart of the issues under scrutiny. Stratified random sampling was employed to select the sample participants. The objectives of study mainly included; (a) examining the formation of fan groups based on club types which lead to intergroup competition and prejudice, (b) to assess the extent of prejudice, aggression and de-individuation among fans, (c) to investigate the effects of prejudice, de-individuation, anger and aggressiveness, and aggression on conflicts or intergroup conflicts among fans.

There was no significant effect of club type on prejudice, de-individuation, aggression and intergroup conflicts. This keeps the Self Categorization Theory as non-determinant and that self categorization had no effect on the variables. However, Social Identity Theory was found to have effect on prejudice, states of de-individuation, aggression, anger, and intergroup conflicts. Furthermore, tests of LSD and Scheffé revealed that high identifiers were significantly different from low and medium identifiers on the above constituents. On the other hand, prejudice, de-individuation, anger and aggression were best predictors of conflicts among groups of fans.
I. INTRODUCTION

People are born, on one hand, from a category what they do not choose as being Oromo, Tigre or Amhara, etc, male or female. On the other hand, people choose to be a member of a group (s) on their will as becoming and affiliated to becoming fans of football club. Such grouping enhances social categorization with the sense of out-group homogeneity effect, all in terms of behavior and attitude (Franzoi, 2000) thereby leading to inter group competition (Sherrif, cited in Franzoi, 2000) and prejudice (Spaaij, 2008). As far as groups exist, there is a high likelihood of individuals to submerge themselves into the group identification where individual behaviors go undetectable or individuals are not held responsible for the crowd behavior, engage in atypical behaviors as using obscene languages, breaking conventional norms, expressing oneself in extreme ways, and criticize each other due to anonymity, arousal and diffused responsibility in the group (Zimbardo in Forsyth, 1990; Lea, Spears and de Groot, 2001).

Prejudice, any negative attitude toward out-group members merely because they are members of other groups and the sense of de-individuation in groups will eventually and inevitably lead to aggression (Stenstrom et al., 2008). Thus the vicious circle of causation and interwoven chain of crowd behavior gives birth to inter group conflicts by a mass.

1.1 Background

Week in and week out, groups of fans chant songs (may be local) of clubs they support showing how much they identify themselves with the groups and derogating and disdaining other fans. Though football is among the most ubiquitous and important social
institutions—where the primary concern surrounding revolves around the continued presence of racism that is one form of manifestation of prejudice (Goodman, 2006). In this sense, the prejudice gives birth to different behavioral and motivational expressions as blaming, hostility and desire to revenge (Brown, Wohl and Exline, 2008; Plant, Butz and Tartakovsky, 2008) with the motion of protecting collective identities that leads to appraise events into in-group bias, even minimal affiliation as football fans or second hand groups (Stenstrom et al., 2008).

All the hypes around watching the matches are one of the high conflict situations where anonymity, arousal and social identity process (Lea, Spears and de Groot, 2001) are central to de-individuation. These events would take the group a pace forward where they lose their self awareness and even lose the self and be in an altered state of experiencing.

In a study of inter-group dynamics, social identity and collective disorder in world cup finals, example in France 1998 (Stott, Hutchison and Drury, 2001), revealed that in football and in-group contexts, the result of the study highlights as out-group activities were illegitimate as understood by in-group members. Nonetheless, in group members' violent activities toward out group fans are identified to be legitimate by the own group members.

In our case there is a gap in literature, that it is needed to bridge, regarding prejudice, de-individuation and aggression, albeit inter-group conflicts and ethno centrism— one way of letting prejudice exhibited. In his study of Ethno-centrism and peer relationships among Addis Ababa University students, Demewoz Ayalew (1997) found out that the students
portray ethnic (own ethnic group favoritism) bias and peer preference of own ethnic member. He further identified that there are derogations among groups of differing ethnic groups (example, a student who belonged to Amhara ethnic group had a positive and justifiable attitude to the own group member but not to others). This knowledge of the inter-group ethno-centrism, one aspect of prejudice, can be transferred onto the current study given that there are four competitive groups of fans (students). The groups are no more individuals by instilling the sense reduced inner “restraints”.

The de-individuation process model shows how de-individuated behaviors are expressed in an atypical, extreme and polarized actions (Forsyth, 1990) and negative consequences, resulting in disinhibited and aggressive behaviors (Lea, Spears and de Groot, 2001). There is a sense of ‘we-they’ tag in the fans foreseeing the in and out group identification and labeling with such traits bring people to competition and categorization. The extent of identification to the group (high versus low identifiers) negatively affects the attitude to out-group members as high identifiers are involved in aggressive behaviors. Brown, Wohl and Exline (2008) indicated that participants, in their study, who highly identified with the victimized groups (second hand groups) were less forgiving which was accompanied by strong revenge and avoidance motive of second hand offense. On the other hand when the person knew those around are too similar, the desire shifts to personal uniqueness than group identification. Another variable related to identification with group and behavioral aftermaths is the success and/or failure of the clubs the groups support (Goodman, 2006; Crisp et al., 2007) specifically in prejudice and inter group conflicts emanating during or after the clashes.
1.2 Objectives

Whenever there are groups, the possibility for conflicts is imminent, whether or not constructive. Pertaining to this study, the subliminal triggering factors for conflicts and aggression of inter groups of fans (Stott, Hutchison and Drury, 2001) are the clashes and competitions among the big four clubs of the English Premier League is one interesting example. This competition paves the way for group categorization, identification and larger size of groups showing the birth of de-individuation. This is mainly not due to personal attack or being wronged but it is due to the “authority” figures or one member of the group (Stenstrom et al., 2008) in a form of vicarious retribution.

These three variables of prejudice which is the negative attitude toward out-group members, the subsequent loss of oneself in the group and finding the true “ecstasy” and aggression as dynamics in the inter-group process will lead to inter-group conflicts. They are all intertwined, one of which leaving the door open for the next conflictual behavior or its propensity to take place.

General objective of the study is to find out the relationships and effects of prejudice, states of de-individuation and aggression with and on conflicts among groups of fans of the Big Four of the English Premier League in our context.

Specific objectives of this study are to:

1. Examine how the voluntary formation of groups of fans leads to inter-group competition and prejudice among themselves.
2. Assess the extent to which the groups exercise prejudice, de-individuation during and after matches/clashes and interpersonal aggression and intergroup conflict.

3. Investigate the relationship of group identification, prejudice, and de-individuation with group aggression.

4. Identify how secondary group identification leads to inter group conflict among football fans of the main campus students.

5. Identify if there is relationship between ethnic group and fan group identification.

1.3 Significance and Justification

Season after season and every time football clubs are involved in the hot sport of the English Primer League largely and consistently dominated by the ‘Big Four’ Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United (Goodman, 2006). This sport, football, is one of the hottest and breathtaking games that catch the eyes and attention, even the soul of people around the world. Football related to violence (hooliganism) is a complex, heterogeneous and dynamic phenomenon that should be studied in different social and historical contexts (Spaaïj, 2008). These complex phenomena mixed with formation of groups of fans who are vicariously competitive of ‘their’ respective clubs of the Big Four that leads to prejudice, de-individuation in a group membership resulting in football related violence and aggression. AAU is a judicious mixture of differential entitativity, there by bringing the fuel and firewood for more dangerous forms of inter-group conflicts.
When there is competition of any type, directly or indirectly, and unrealistic scarce resources or football club bounded competitions, obscenities, breaching the inhibited norms, and doing atypical behaviour are inevitable and pervasive. For example, Fanna FM radio 98.1(8 April, 2009, around 10:30 am) reported that there were many conflicts among fans of Arsenal and Manchester United, and to the extent of homicide.

This study will be of great importance in identifying the causes of prejudice, de-individuation and aggression in the groups of football fans, their source of inter-group (non-realistic) competition, that can be justified by BIRGing (Basking In the Reflected Glory). This will open up the way for other research investigation in the future to rectify such unhealthy type of group behaviours.

1.4. Scope of the Study

This study is designed to study the attitude (Prejudice), collective behaviour (De-individuation) and football related ‘violence’ (aggression) of students with the main targets of students of the main campus. Here the effects of the aforementioned variables on academic performance related to the target groups are not studied but would give a clue. Similarly, out of students groups, example football fans outside the campus are not included in the study due to the fact that there are resource and time constraints. The nature of conflict that spring from football quandaries could be seen in other areas of interest as interethnic interaction and conflict. The tendencies of fans to alcohol consumption as a result of football results are to be noted. The effects of betting on such conflicts could be areas of interest which is not included in this study. Thus, this would
be limited to the main campus spectators, needless to say, however, this paves the way for others to conduct intensive study in the area.

1.5. Operational Definitions

1. **Aggressiveness**: Tendencies and predisposition of fans to aggress.

2. **Aggression**: Any intentional behaviour of participant fans that is directed on the opponent groups, who the targets are motivated to avoid such behaviour.

3. **Big Four**: Football clubs of the English Premier League that consistently dominate the table: Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United.

4. **De-individuation**: Atypical behaviours that are manifested by the group of participants by being anonymous, aroused, losing self awareness and with diffused responsibility.

5. **Fans**: Participants who are viewers of games or watch football matches every week, at least, or any time when the clubs they support have games; weekend or mid week.

6. **Group Identification**: The extent to which participant fans feel affiliated, friendly and belonging to the group of fans, star players and clubs.

7. **Inter-group Conflict**: the dissents that arise among the fans of differing groups due to competition or uninhibited speech.

8. **Prejudice**: The negative attitude participants have towards other clubs fans only because they are fans of other clubs, not based on individual attributes.
II. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Group processes and inter-group relations are drawing the center of social psychological research. Groups are sources of both positive and negative consequences as a result of interplay between groups (inter-groups) and/or within groups (intra-groups). Pertaining to the current study prejudice among competitive groups and out group members for that matter is evident. A sense of de-individuation by enjoying the true 'ecstasy' in the group, aggression among them in different forms as hostile or instrumental, and conflict are salient. These issues are prominent in the current research among football fans where football is one of the exploding social entertainments in the society with popularity. The EPL is one of the popular entertainment means at the age of adolescence and college years.

2.1. Theoretical Perspectives on Prejudice, De-individuation and Aggression: The Bird's Eye View

Social identity theory and self-categorization theory are the basic theoretical constructs of inter-group relationships that underpin inter group behaviors of prejudice, de-individuation, and aggression (Tajfel, 1982; Postmes and Spears, 1998; Klein et al., 2007; and Stott et al., 2001). Social identity theory was first developed to explain inter-group conflicts, violence, irrational behaviors and social influences (Postmes and Spears, 1998). Similarly, self-categorization theory explains the social categorization into a group can influence the perception of other's and one's self-including depersonalization and increased perception of homogeneity (Stenstorm et al., 2008).
With regard to these theoretical views, cascading of in/out group senses of competitions results favoritism and causes discrimination. Dobbs and Crano (2001) in their study of minimal group paradigm (MGP) suggested that simply grouping people is sufficient condition to produce in-group favoritism and cause discrimination among the competing groups. Congruent with the SIT and SCT, Bernache-Assollant, Lacassagne and Braddock (2007) in their study of highly identified soccer fans basking in the reflected glory (BIRGing) and blasting, individuals define themselves to a large extent in terms of their social group membership, a case in point is a member of fan groups.

Group actions are social actions that emanate from the social identity formed groups. Klein, Spears and Reicher (2007) studied the social identity performance. They revealed that identity performance is the core of group behaviors. The individual must identify with the social category and simultaneously the social identity, i.e., the group identity is salient in the present context. These laid rudiments inevitably and invariably will lead to group membership as a matter of collective self-construct of self categorization (Hogg, Abrams, Otten and Hinkle, 2004). Furthermore, Tajfel cited in Hogg et al., (2004) defined the social identity that result from categorization, which is the very least of social identity, as Social Identity is individual’s knowledge that he belongs to certain social groups together with some emotional and value significance to him of this group membership.

Taking the perspective further, social identity development theory is one of the plausible explanations of inter-group processes in children and adolescent (Gini, 2007). It also enhances identification among the competing groups thereby bringing about inter-group
categorization, in-out group treatment reactions, and avoidance behaviors in favor of own
groups. It results in the mentality of in and out of group members, and minimal social
categorization (Hong et al, 2004; Tajfel, 1982).

There are also different perspectives and assumptions with regard to de-individuation and
group behaviors. It is one of the salient group behaviors with components in it. Self-
categorization as a result of anonymity weakens social inhibitions (Postmes, Spears,
Sakhel, and de Groot, 2001). Mainly anonymity (Postmes, Spears, Sakhel, and de Groot,
2001), responsibility diffusion (Forsyth, Zyzniewski and Giammanco, 2002), and losing
self-awareness in groups (Mullen, Migdal and Rozell, 2003) are core to the state of de-
individuation.

Aggression is also one of the basic components of and easy to be imminent in social
behaviors. Aggression can take different forms as physical, verbal, relational and/or
hostile and instrumental as per to the means and goals (Dill and Anderson, 1995; and
Berkowitz, 1989). There are varying theoretical perspectives on aggression; frustration-
aggression hypothesis, heat theory, social learning theory, biological perspectives and
cultural practices for dominance are a few to mention. For the purpose of the current
research, the means that fans use to aggress against each other among groups whether
physical, verbal or relational will be under scrutiny. Aggressive beliefs, attitudes;
perceptual schemata; aggressive behavioral scripts and desensitization all increase in
aggressive personality according to the General Aggression Model (GAM) of Anderson
and Bushman (Bushman and Anderson, 2002). There are also different forms of
aggression/FOA) (Verona et al., 2008).
Merging these variables together: prejudice, de-individuation, aggression to the football fans result in segmented or collective forms of intergroup conflict which is worth studying among main campus students. Ostensibly, among the group of fans of the ‘Big Four’ while watching games almost every week lead fans to, at least, one incident of interpersonal or intergroup conflict against each other. These behavioral and emotional repertoires are the results to the social interaction, competition, giving belongingness to group identity and wronging others who intend to avoid such actions. By and large, intergroup relationships are influenced by complex interactions of social beliefs, forces, interindividual and group dynamics mixed with individual motivation and cognitive process.

2.2 Prejudices and Group Competition among Football Fans

To be definitive and precise, prejudice is a favorable or unfavorable attitude, mostly the latter, toward people based on their social group membership (Franzoi, 2000). Prejudice further takes the concept into more perceived out-group invariability where individuals are seen on the basis of group membership than self-contained entities (Tajfel, 1982). Hence, minimal social categorization exerts discriminatory intergroup effects by highlighting the “positive in group distinctiveness” according to Tajfel.

As far as there is competition and/or the need for dominance among differing social categories, during interactions having unusual but common negative feelings and fuzzy perceptions prevail. Prejudice is a feeling or emotional reaction, most of the time negative, toward a member or members of groups merely because they are in an out group category. The sense of competition in football scenarios leads to a state of high levels of joy and hostility (Griffiths, 2007), a manner in which prejudice is manifested,
especially after big loses of the archrivals. The same is true when the Big Fours clash against each other that lead to peaked hostility.

Prejudice widens the gap rather than narrowing it when comparing the in and out group members. People incorporate prototypes with self-categorization which are fuzzy sets of attributes (perception, attributes, feelings and behaviors) that make groups distinctive by maximizing the inter-group difference and in-group similarities and distinctiveness (Tajfel, 1982) with certain types of behaviors. Many studies focusing on inter group prejudice (Voils et al., 2002; Tropp, 2003; Tapias et al., 2007) pinpointed that prejudice can be developed by the mere establishment of two or more groups or natural dichotomies and differences as ethnicity, race and football/sports fan groups.

The negative attitude that is associated to specific group members brings about emotional and behavioral ramifications. These related behaviors vary from one specific to another situation, from groups to groups and the basis for bigotry. Competition is one of the igniting factors escalating prejudicial attitudes among groups gunning for supremacy over each other. Kreindler (2005) stated that individual tendencies of manifesting prejudice are products of group dynamics that incorporate the senses of blurred categorical differentiations of attributes. The goals of the competitions can either be realistic to the person at the disposal or imagined to vicariously enjoy the dominance.

Furthermore, Kreindler explained the social dominance orientation as it is reflecting category differentiation involving the evaluation of the person on the basis of their categorical membership, not on the individual qualities, behaviors and attributes as
distinctive. This route leads to out-group homogeneity no matter what (Franzoi, 2000) including out-group derogation, hierarchy enhancing creeds and competitive worldview (Kreindler, 2005) that is typical of football fans. In these cases fans use denigrating remarks as forms of identity conformation and declaring own group superiority over opponents (Scheepers, Spears, Doosje and Manstead, 2003).

Various studies reveal that even a single case of exposure to prejudice from out group members can bring forth the “lock horn” in any form of contact resulting in negatively dubbed hasty generalizations. Tropp’s study on the Psychological effects of prejudice (Tropp, 2003) depicted that exposure to prejudice can negatively affect group members’ emotional states in the inter group context or contacts. Forms of prejudice employed can be by explicitly showing or saying collectively representative negative attitudes.

Rivalries among groups make the way to foresee another scene of crowd behavior by clearly showing the boundary of in-group members and out-group ones. This is explained by the Elaborated Social Identity Model (ESIM) of crowd implying as their members know they can overcome the out groups where their actions will not be indiscriminating by remaining bounded to the collective unity (Drury and Reicher, 1999). When also comparing themselves, in group members have the attitude that they are stronger than out-groups as explained by Drury and Reicher. Conceivably, attitudes toward out-group members are related to anger and anxiety (Plant, Butz and Tartakovsky, 2008) and group attraction increases in-out group stereotyping (Lea, Spears and de Groot, 2001).
There have been researches conducted on college students showing that college students are at higher propensity to prejudicial attitudes. This has been revealed in the study by Voils et al. (2002) that many college students are prone to prejudice related discrepancies. As have been explained, the target of the study, main campus football fan students are in a high conflict situation. Supporting this idea high conflict situation those triggers groups have greater extent of bias. Analogous interethnic interaction studies of plant, Butz and Tartakovsky (2008) showed that negative expectations about inter group interaction as related to reported behavioral intentions of avoidance and externalizing blame as a result of anger and anxiety.

2.2.1 Group Identification and Prejudice: The Side of Football Fans

Group identification is the extent to how much group members feel they are similar to each other. It is the sense of belongingness to the group to define and evaluate who they are. Group processes undergo differing levels of identification on members as high or low. Therefore, there will be a discrepancy between the high and the low identifiers pertaining to the prejudice that is held toward competing others. Relevant to the identification, prejudice and perceived discrimination escalate group identification (McCoy and Major, 2003; Leonardelli and Tormala, 2003).

Identifying with groups influence the cognitions, emotions and behaviors, as posited by Tajfel and Turner, of people who thereby interpret events based on their group membership and the structural relations that existed between in-groups and out-groups. Their desire to protect the collective identity leads them to appraise events in a biased
ways that benefits the in groups, even with minimal affiliation (in Brown, Wohl and Exline, 2008).

In-group identification has got positivism in the group. The study by Stenstrom, Lickel, Denson and Miller (2008) revealed that in-group identification of social identity makes groups to evaluate own group positively that define their self-concept. In-group identification is also facilitated by out-group entitativity. These high levels of belongingness with own affiliates leave much room for prejudice to exponentially rise. In-group empowerment which is a product of and a precondition to collective action is related to the out group treatment (Drury and Reicher, 1999). The social identity theory also posits that there is a positive-negative asymmetry bias in inter-group discriminations (Dobbs and Crano, 2001) stressing the concept of favoritism to own group members. As a result of identity confirmation, in-group favoritism brings pride on one hand, and anger and out-group derogation (Scheepers et al., 2003).

It has been mentioned emotional and behavioral reactions antecede prejudice. Inter group emotions and in-group identification among soccer fans studied by Crisp, Heuston, Farr and Turner (2007) showed that identification with soccer fans increased negative affects. And further the studied revealed highly identifying fans feel angry about their club results are falling where as low identifiers feel simply sad. Loss and/ or draws of their teams lead to lowered happiness (Moore et al., 2007).

Bias of any form is included in the components of prejudice. Comparing competing categories of groups, nugatory forms of biases are imminent. In-group members
significantly display negative bias against out-group members (Hong et al., 2004). Situations call for prejudice to take place among competing groups. Stemming from the scene of competitiveness, people in a prejudiced condition from out groups reported more feelings of hostility and anxiety (Tropp, 2003). Analogically, football fans are set to be on a condition that ushers them to prejudice and be prejudiced (when the teams they support are down providing room to be prejudiced) while those whose team they support are on the win situation are prone to prejudice. This is supported evidently in a higher level of collective identity and rivalry among fans by Spaaij (2008). In the inter group rivalry fosters a sense of solidarity and friendship looking after one another.

2.2.2. Prejudice, Identification and Competitiveness among Fans: The Interplay

In inter group relations, there are two forms of group identification which include the cognitive component that is awareness of the membership in the group and the other is evaluative comprising the value connotation of the group (Tajfel, 1982). This brings about the uniformity of behavior displayed against out groups in terms of the behaviors and attitudes.

Fans extent of belongingness and identification with owns group of fans leave the situation to a hot sense of competitiveness and prejudiced attitudes. Basking in the Reflected Glory (BIRGing) and Cutting of the Reflected Failure (CORFing) are highly associated to the competitiveness among the ‘grand’ teams and ‘second hand’ groups of fans with the reflected levels of affiliation to their teams. Fans seek to develop positive
social identity by group comparison on differing basis (Bernache-Assollant, Lacassagne and Braddock, 2007) showing the identification with collective football fans is voluntary and transient, reflecting cooler and post emotional forms of personal identity (Giulianotti, 2002). Giulianotti clearly also stated that fans are hot and of strong identification having solidarity with clubs.

Bernache-Assollant and associates also cleared the reflected forms of prejudice and identification among competitive fans where by fans use the term ‘WE’ after victory than defeats and the success of their respective clubs they support, (Bernache-Assollant, Lacassagne and Braddock, 2007; Crisp et al., 2007). Fans also showed their competitiveness by wearing clothing attires, jersey and caring placards (Drury and Reicher, 1999) that instill prejudice.

Social psychological approaches to prejudice explain it is the consequence of group membership and identification. However, there is a sustainability of these negatively charged attitudes to reiterate themselves in non-competitive but similar situations which are referred to as the lagged effect (Rees and Schnepel, 2008). This is explained by Voils et al., (2002) that prejudice in other similar situations can backfire purring about backlash. There is a tenet of dominance of one group over the other that springs prejudice, identification and bringing the sense of competition groups compete with each other to be superior and distinctive, where the competition is shaped by the believe of the inter group relations. Prejudice is, therefore, embedded in the group process (Kreindler, 2005).
Status of competing groups shade light on the extent of manifestations of negative attitudes toward each other. In the world of football, the status can be taken into the view with respect to the table value of clubs whom the fans are affiliated to. Gini (2007) explained participants perceive in-groups to have better level of status while out groups to be lower than they are. This sense of feeling ignites the fuel for prejudice to happen.

2.3. De-individuation and Group Categorization: from the Fan Groups’ Side

Crowds, when people are in a collective unity, act, behave and feel differently from the state they are individually with salient interpersonal comparison. This is a bit of far from the state of normalcy. Explained by self-categorization theory, being in a specific and competing groups change self perception and perception of individuals in the other groups (Hong et al, 2004). Le Bon was the first to give an empirical explanation of group behaviors pertaining to de-individuation (Drury and Reicher, 1999). It has been posited that crowds behave in such a way of experiencing an above all tremendous sense of power driving from immersing of selfhood into mass by shifting from individual to the collective identity that makes them enjoy the environment around the group in disguise.

In its broadest sense, de-individuation is a construct with specific environmental conditions as group involvement and arousing activities, that promote specific psychological states of lack of awareness (self in the public/group), and distortion paving the way for certain behaviors (uninhibited, impulsive and anti-normative behaviors) (Postmes and Spears, 1998). Thus involvement in the group escalated irrational and anti-
normative psychological variables. Cited in Forsyth (1990), Philip Zimbardo came up with three categories about de-individuation cascaded as conditions of de-individuation, states of de-individuation and de-individuated behaviors (are discussed later to this part).

De-individuation is therefore the by-product of group presence and size with two but related routes. The one is the chain of social arousal, decreased self-awareness and diffused responsibility while the other stems from group size and presence, physical anonymity and diffused responsibility resulting de-individuation. These routes end up in bringing the consequence which are peaked sensitivity to any of the situation related cues and uninhibited manifestations.

The articulation of the above de-individuation process model provides fertile soil to the cultivated prejudice among the groups. Though higher level of research and more complex behaviors among football hooligans (fans) than in the current research, there is an evidence of emotional arousal and negativity within it (Spaaij, 2008). Spaaij refined the group membership and inter group confrontation for providing much room to experiencing immediate sensational excitement, even higher than an adrenalin rush and “better than sex” for that matter. This clearly shows the grouping and de-individuation refuels the negative attitudes.

It will be interesting to, in details, look at Zimbardo’s de-individuation process model in order to envisage how it works in the grouping phenomena.
2.3.1 Conditions and States of De-individuation

Three of the components of the process model are inseparable and happen in a whole or none fashion as one of them can not stand by itself for de-individuation to take place. The reference for the model of de-individuation is Zimbardo’s cited in Forsyth (1990), Postmes and Spears (1998) which is supported by other research out comes on the area of interest of de-individuation (Klein, Spears and Reicher, 2007; Mullen, Migdal and Rozell, 2003; and Postmes et al., 2001). There are four commonly agreed upon variables of conditions that lead to de-individuation. These are anonymity, which is being unidentifiable and unable to be singled out from the group; reduced/ diffusion of responsibility; large group size of members; and that state of arousal and altered experience in the group.

These conditions result in two states in the group processes by name low self-awareness and altered experiencing. As a result of these, again, viciously, extreme, atypical or polarized actions come on to replace the predecessors. Empirical research studies concluded only one of the variables in the group is not enough to make a difference to bring the intended state of de-individuation rather the wise mixture of all or some of the variables (Forsyth, 1990).

Anonymity in group members vividly leads to a state of de-individuation by flashing individuals back to display their buried feelings, attitudes and urges in the groups' social setting. Anonymity is a cover for individuals by making it hard to evaluate, judge and criticize them (Zimbardo, cited in Forsyth, 1990). Normally when situations are anonymous, fairness pressures are omitted that heighten inter-group bias (Dobbs and
Crano, 2001) and leading toward aggression. Anonymity can either be visual or non-visual like Computer-Mediated Communication. Hence, group based categorizations are high in visual anonymity that increases the attraction toward own groups further promoting group based stereo types of others (Lea, Spears and de Groot, 2007; and Postmes et al., 2001). They also have clearly shown that anonymity increases the shift of personal self to collective self and normative to anti-normative behaviors that are group-bounded norms. The Social Identity Model of De-individuation Effect (SIDE) emerge with anonymity that the group or audience must be psychologically present but the targets must be, contrarily visible to the groups (Klein, Spears and Reicher, 2007).

Keeping in mind the group size and presence, lose of self-awareness and lack of accountability or reduced or diffusion of responsibilities have got immense importance as ingredients of de-individuation (Postmes and Spears, 1998) in the cases of football fans pertaining the current research. Lack of accountability increases out-group discrimination as a result of de-individuation (Dobbs and Crano, 2001) making them feel less responsible as the size of the group gets larger and larger (Forsyth, Zyzniewski and Giammanco, 2002). Mullen, Migdal and Rozell (2003) made empirical research on self-awareness, de-individuation and social identity in crowds. Being “lost in the crowd” implies under de-individuation, both self-awareness and social identity are reduced. On the other side, their result showed that being aware of oneself as an element of in-group reduces personal self-awareness. Diener cited in Forsyth (1990) described altered state or experiencing of de-individuation as subjective loss of personal identity, feeling of anonymity, altered state of consciousness, and liking of the group and unity.
2.3.2 De-individuated Behaviors in Groups

Consequence is consistently to materialize when there are antecedents where the conditions and states of de-individuation are there for the behaviors. The de-individuated behaviors are free from inhibition, having extreme, atypical and/or polarized forms of actions taking place (Postmes and Spears, 1998). The behaviors can have various forms that might be verbal, physical or other actions against other groups, particularly rivaling groups. A study by Scheepers and Colleague (2003) on soccer fans showed that due to de-individuation, they chant, sing songs that discriminate, derogate and disdain out group members by claiming their own group team’s superiority and out group teams’ to be inferior.

The fans also used obscene language or words, act extremely that let the opposing fans bemoan, criticize them and shout and scream calling the name of the team and fans collectively. Greatest polarization of behaviors occurred in a de-individuation of groups than individual based de-individuation (Spears, Lea and Lee, 1990). However, in their meta-analysis of de-individuation theory in 60 sample sites Postmes and Spears (1998) revealed that there is little support of de-individuations behaviors: the occurrence of anti-normative behaviors and of de-individuated state among groups.

2.3.3 De-individuation among Football Fans

Coming to the world of football fans, de-individuation is hastened by the relative success and/or failure of the teams supported by. Those fans whose support groups fail are at the propensity to de-individuation (Crisp, Heuston, Farr and Turner, 2003). Another
example that led competing groups of football fans to hatred and hostility as a result of de-individuation was in the world cup 1998 (Stott, Hutchison, and Drury, 2001). It is far verified that the relationship between inter-group (of fans) dynamics and collective actions.

In its lower level, there are universalities of football fans features about manifestations of their group identities (Spaaij, 2008). Ramon Spaaij identified six basic characteristics that are the main constituents of de-individuation among football fan groups. These are excitement and pleasurable emotional arousal; hard masculinity (Goodman, 2006); territorial identification as demarcating seat (in the venues, like cases in our context); individual and collective management of reputation of respective clubs; romantic sense of solidarity and belongingness to the clubs; and a sense of autonomy by parading which is communicating about threat when the situation is.

2.4 Aggression in the Football Scenario

Aggression assumes various forms and has got numerous definitions from its purpose/goal, type/form in the real world situation. Aggression is not uncommon in the sports world among groups having contradicting and controversial interests and needs related to fanning affiliations. Consequently, many social psychological researchers and others whose interest fall on aggression, social issues and social groups studied about it. For majority of the times, related to aggression, inter group relations have long been central research themes in social psychology (Dobbs and Crano, 2001). They confidently
stated that inter group relation is a necessary and sufficient condition for aversive
discriminatory behaviors to materialize.

Maxwell and Moore (2007) developed a scale to measure aggression and aggressiveness
in sporting behaviors. They defined aggressiveness, not aggression, as a disposition to
become aggressive or acceptance of and willingness to use aggression by breaking the
rules. The scale developed is called as CAAS (Competitive Anger and Aggressiveness
Scale). Conversely, Kerr (2008) came with an attack questioning the content of the scale.
In his critique Kerr in Kerr (2008) he has got to see aggression in another version, as:

"Aggression can be seen as unprovoked hostility or attacks on another person which are not
sanctioned by the society (group norm at normal state). However, in sports context, the
aggression is provoked that two opposing teams (opposing fans of teams) have willingly agreed to
compete against each other. Aggression in teams of contact sports is intrinsic and sanctioned,
provided the plays remain permissible within the boundaries of certain rules, which act as a kind
of contact in the pursuit of aggression and violence between competing adults" (Italics added)
(PP.722).

Although the above definition stands for the first level groups of team that vicariously
lead for retribution (Lickel et al., 2006) and second hand level of competition and
retribution among the groups of fans also take place as a result. The transfer of aggression
from the first target rivals to the group of contestant fans is not sanctioned that the rules
do not allow for them to happen. Nonetheless, there is still the sense of intrinsic
motivation to aggression against out-groups and rivals.

According to the General Aggression Model (GAM), (Bushman and Anderson, 2002)
aggressive beliefs and attitudes, perceptual schemata of aggression and aggressive
behaviors all increase in aggressive personality. Hence this indicates that the way out-
groups are evaluated leads to aggression in inter-group relations. Bearably, with group processes, threat is one of the causes of aggression among groups with anger and anxiety leading to actions avoidance altogether. Inter-group anxiety amplifies individual’s threat appraisal, anger, and offensive and discriminatory actions toward out group members (Dobbs and Crano, 2001). The instrumental function of groups including in-group favoritism, anger and out-group derogation is stronger when the group is under threat (Scheepers et al., 2003). After all, aggression on the basis of the current study is succinctly defined to be any form of physical or verbal action that is performed with the deliberate intention of another living being (Leary, Twenge and Quilivan, 2006) that the individual is willing to avoid (Maxwell and Moore, 2007).

2.4.1 Forms of Aggression

Aggression takes many forms across many different situations in an inter group relations. There are common forms of aggression (FOA), which comprises the physical, relational, verbal, passive relational and property aggression (Verona et al., 2008). On the other hand, the purpose of the aggression can be mainly to hurt the target groups merely (physically damaging, making loss the concentration while performing a task as watching games in the case of fans in a group) which is a hostile aggression. When the purpose of aggressing is to get a benefit or gaining an advantage, it is referred to as instrumental aggression (Franzoi, 2000).

There are always hostile environments in inter group relations when it calls for competition to take place. Frustration is also one of the facets of group processes that are
blocking someone’s gratification. Any negative or aversive stimulus, even justifiable leads persons to aggress, let alone unjustified frustrations (Dill and Anderson, 1995). Aggressive individuals create their own hostile and aggressive environment for themselves due to prior aggression related behaviors (Anderson, Buckley and Carnagey, 2008).

More of verbal aggression and passive relational aggressive behaviors are reported among university participants (Verona, 2008). Specifically, relational aggression during inter-group interaction involves indirect acts as spreading rumors by maintaining the anonymity of the aggressor. Berkowitz (1989) came up with another form of aggression explained by the hypothesis of the combination of frustration and aggression, the former as a cause for the later. In his formulation of the frustration-aggression hypothesis, Berkowitz posited that frustration creates aggressive tendencies when they even are not arbitrary aimed at the self.

2.4.2 De-individuated Aggression among Football Fans: The Influence of Identification, Media and Violent Videos

At least one incident of one form or goal of aggression is manifested every week, most of the time after football matches. College football games lead to aggression and destructive behaviors of fans (Rees and Schnepel, 2008) Singling out one cause for why aggression takes place and discerning what the causes are is hard as nail. The extent of group identification and belongingness, the influence media, watching violent video games, and slurring and derogating of celebrities (trademarks of the club, i.e. the players) can be
irritating events at second hand level with an igniting factor. There is also a lower TDA toward in-group members than out groups. Competition in interpersonal or group relations heightens aggressive than it was supposed to at its initial stage over trials of punishment (Anderson, Buckley and Carnagey, 2008).

Media and violent video games put much influence on aggression in football among fans of group dynamics. Poulton (2007) coined a term ‘Hooliporn” which is a means of satisfying audiences through the spectacle of violence. Lepton cited in Poulton (2007) emphasized the influence of popular media by affording opportunities to engage vicariously in transgression to enjoy the sights and sounds of “grotesque” bodies and experiencing heightened emotions. The media also promote football aggression by celebrating strong masculine identity due to the physical prowess (Goodman, 2006; Spaaij, 2008). In our country the participants watch the games live through television in forms of spectators. In line with this point, Stempel (2006) reckoned involvement in televised sports increases the likeability of attacking and masculinity related aggression.

Violent video games, in this case showing horror tackles and fights of football games are violent, fostering aggression among the fan groups. This has been empirically supported by researches conducted on the issue in question (Bushman and Anderson, 2002; Giumetti and Markey, 2007) stressing violent video games setting up the final step to aggression.

These violent games incisively are moderated by anger, anxiety, frustration and avoidance or blame of out-group members. One way or another, they are strongly
integrated with the features of de-individuation. Giumetti and Markey (2007) found that anger moderates after violent games making individuals at propensity to aggression.

Bushman and Anderson (2002) found out that can be applied onto the secondary level group identifiers with the clubs clashing each other. Those whose group fights aggressively expect more aggression. On the other hand, participants whose group played violently generated more aggression. With repeated exposures to such conditions of hostility, the nature of aggression becomes more complex, differentiated and difficult to change.

2.5 The Final Phase: Inter group Conflict among Fans of the “Big Four”

The distinctive phenomena of inter-group relation or social identity theory explain inter-group conflict (Hewstone and Greenland, 2000). It explains the inter-group conflicts that take place in competing groups taking the case of football fans are explicitly the results of inter-group relations and social identity theory. The increase in the number of individuals merely leads to altercations and conflict that has nothing to do with football (Rees and Schnepel, 2008).

Football is one of the most entertaining social institution and inversely the most conflict-ridden scenarios (Goodman, 2006; Poulton, 2007; Spaaij, 2008). Inter group conflict and competitions among groups are two sides of a coin (Tajfel, 1982) that occur concomitantly. Tajfel explains that conflicts between/or among groups spring from the rudiments of interpersonal conflicts envisaging interpersonal and inter-group behaviors are part and parcels of the inter group conflict among competitive groups. Tenet to the
current research, Colleges and Universities has been pointed out to be vulnerable to prejudice (Voils et al., 2002) and comparably they showed overt aggressive behaviors (Verona et al., 2008).

The "Enemy of my Enemy is my Friend" notion is cultivated in the inter group behaviors and conflicts escorted with rivalry among the groups when it has got a three or four horses races. The gluing basis of a shared hatred (Borgeson and Valeri, 2007) proved that provided a common "enemy" or rival leads group allegiance against common enemy having a "two-sided-identity" shifting from a situation to another. Taking the plausibility to the inter group relations among fans of the big four of the current study is vividly evident. During clashes of the Big Four clubs, taking Arsenal and Liverpool, for example, Manchester United fans will carry on the role of the quote by derogating, identifying based on the advantage of their club for 90 minutes game only. This leads to an elusive inter-group conflict among the fans. During interaction as groups, while the games are carried out, they label each other by chanting "Woyallaw Zim" for those who support other team for advantages than the genuine affiliation, and allegiance against common rivals.

It is convincing prejudice among the fans, against the players of opponent teams and being in a group itself inevitably leads to conflict. Evaluation of the physical characteristics of the players and their performance by out groups opens the way to inter fan conflict (McCarthy, Jones and Potrac, 2003). Behavioral researchers identified, concomitantly, de-individuation as a variable to accompany aggression (Leary, Twenge
and Quinlivan, 2006). In these conditions, fans loosen their social inhibitions that escalate their tendency to and use of aggression.

Conflicts and collective actions among football fans are embedded with the inter group context (Stott, Hutchison and Drury, 2001) which has got a lagged effect in other conditions (Rees and Schnepel, 2008). Giulianotti (2002) clearly defined fans as the following:

Fans, the hot /consumer spectators, of the modern football or specific players, particularly celebrities develop a form of intimacy or love for the clubs and/ or its specific players which is a unidirectional relationship (PP.37).

But this non-reciprocal relationship with their important others or star players tremendously put fans into conflict. Thus identification, prejudice and de-individuation even specifically down the players/ their heroes bring about inter-group conflicts.

Prejudice and de-individuation bring the hot reactions to aggression in different forms. "Die-hard" soccer fans suggested that soccer chants in reaction to either a group reinforcing (own team scoring) or group threatening (opposing team scoring or own team conceding) situations evoked discriminatory songs (Scheepers et al., 2003). The songs are in-group favoring and reinforcing on one hand and out-group derogating, reinforcing and threatening berthing clashes among groups.

2.6 Summing Up the Literature in a Nutshell

Social categorization theory and self-identity theory are the key assumptions and perspectives with the biggest shares in inter-group relationships. Social dominance theory
also has its own role in the states of de-individuation, prejudice and aggression in a scene where rivalry is salient taking the case of the current research on the fan groups of the Big Four of the EPL among AAU main campus fans. The formation of the groups and setting areas fans are predisposed to compete, either for dominance on scarce resources and/or being as a second hand group, typically fan ship is the one. Hence, it leads to a situation where individuals are not evaluated on a self-contained basis rather to attributes of heuristics to the membership group leaving it fertile for prejudice to be deep rooted. The evaluations are most of the time, albeit always, unfavorable that lead to further complications in the group processes.

De-individuation of group behaviors also take their part on contributing to anti-normative behaviors and aggression. Aggression assuming varying forms, goals and theoretical perspectives is an inter-group phenomenon that is common in the world of football of inter-fan relations. Eventually, the interplay of these variables leads to any form of inter-group conflicts among fans. Pertaining to ethnicity-fan ship relationships there is no support for it (Spaaij, 2008).

To the best knowledge of the researcher, locally conducted research outcomes on inter-group relationships on the area in question are almost none. The only research conducted is an unpublished paper on ethno-centrism among students of AAU by Demewoz Ayalew (1997). This study is deemed to be the first on prejudice, de-individuation and aggression as sources of inter-group conflict in group processes and relations, and specifically speaking, among football fan
III. METHOD

This section deals with how the study was conducted, participants, sampling techniques, instruments of the study, procedures of data collection and data analysis.

3.1 Population, Sample Size and Design

The EPL is one of the best leagues in Europe’s elite groups of football clubs. This has come to affect, positively or negatively- the behavior of fans across the world and coming down the wire to the target of the current study, fans of AAU Main Campus. The Main Campus consisted of many fans of the Big Four of the EPL. Relevant to this study, the gross number of population of the study are more than a thousand (a crude estimation of the researcher by counting the number of fans during the games of the respective teams of the Big Four in a trial of four consecutive weeks as a spectator). Nearly all of the members of the population were ardent fans who watch every single game week in, week out, including mid week games of the Champions League and games at hand and those who watch every week. There, however, was a huge gap between the numbers of fans from one club to another.

Determining the sample size is one the most important parts of the method. There are differing ways of determining sample size from a given population. If the population is large enough, the proportion of the sample decreases (Mulusa, 1990). Cited in Mulusa, Krejcie and Morgan developed a means of determining a proportional and representative possible sample size. Ostensibly, the target population was a thousand and a hundred (1100) where 278 participants were selected for the study.
3.2 Participants

Surprisingly, with respect to gender, all of the participants of the study were males. Foreign literatures (e.g., Goodman, 2006; Spaaij, 2008) witnessed that football is masculine in its nature and is part of male identity due to the physical prowess.

The number of participants who took part in this study was 278. Of these, by discerning the incomplete answers (3 participants did give incomplete pages), missing some general information of the participants (4 participants missed filling their answers of basic information) and unreturned (5 questionnaires were not returned), 266 participants (questionnaires) were used in the data analysis. The average age of the participants was 21.12 years with standard deviation of 2.834. The age range went from 18 through 45 years.

Many of the participants included were second year students consisting of 108, eighty two (82) were third year students, while 76 were fourth year and above. Arsenal and Manchester United fans consisted of bulky part of the participants in reference to the club types, 104 and 95, respectively. Chelsea fans were 27 whereas Liverpool’s were 40. Forty eight percent of the participants, on the basis of ethnicity, were Amhara, while Tigrai and Oromo made 18.4% and 17.7%, respectively while others made up 15.4% of the participants. A hundred and seventy four (174) of the participants had watched football matches of their respective teams for four and/or more years. Fifty six percent of the fans also watched games every single game of their clubs, including every weekend and mid week specials, no matter what.
3.3 Sampling Technique

Probability sampling technique was employed in selecting the sample participants. Of the probability sampling techniques, stratified and accidental sampling technique were used by using of the Principle of the Proportional Allocation. Firstly, the sample size was determined to be 278 from a total of 1100 fans population. Using this principle, participants were allocated within their respective teams. As a result, the following formula was used to determine how many participants could be taken from each team:

\[ n_i = \frac{N_i}{N} \times n \]

- \( n_i \) = sample of each club
- \( N_i \) = Population size of each club
- \( N \) = Total population
- \( n \) = Sample size

Of the 1100 population, 400 of them were Arsenal fans, 350 Manchester United fans, 200 Liverpool and 150 of them were Chelsea fans. Then it was concluded that 111 fans from Arsenal, 97 from Manchester United fans, 42 from Liverpool and 28 from Chelsea fans were selected.

Participants were, then, before the game started, given questionnaire when the Big Four had games. This was made for four consecutive weeks (without including pilot test administration periods).
3.4 Tools/ Materials of the Study

In this study questionnaire was intensively used to study the intergroup processes of prejudice, de-individuation, aggression and intergroup conflicts among fans. Questionnaire was preferred to other tools of study for its simplicity for the nature of the study and ease for collecting data from such a large sample size where the target population is found collectively. The questionnaire had several parts that started with general and basic information about the participants. They include variables of age, year of stay at college, whose fans the participants are, their frequency of watching, and longevity of how long they have been fan. Questions of the central theme of the area under study had five parts.

**Group Identification:** There were five items to measure the extent to which fans did identify either with their clubs and/or groups of fans. The questions were intended to measure how they did affiliate with the groups and fans. Questions included “The group of fans is an important part of my identity that defines who I am in the football scenes” and “I wear the jersey or scarf of my club or carry placards of star players to show my group identity”. The scale had five scales ranging from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 5 (Strongly Agree). Three of the items were adapted from Stenstrom et al. (2008) and the other two were developed by the researcher. Cronbach Alpha showed that the reliability of the scale was $\alpha = .769$ which was a stronger consistency.

**Prejudice/ Attitude Scales toward Out-group Fans:** Plant and Devine (cited in Plant, Butz, & Tartakovksy, 2008) developed a Social Interaction Scale (SIS) to measure prejudicial attitudes during interracial interactions. This scale was adapted into the
football arena to measure the negative attitudes the fans of the Big Four of EPL have against each other. The scale had 13 items with five scales ranging from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 5 (Strongly Agree). This scale comprised categorized questions of negatively dubbed evaluative attitude measures like “Fans of opponent teams are trouble makers, arrogant, overly proud, etc”. Secondly, questions measuring hatred such as “Other fans of the Big Four are prone to conflict when their respective teams are defeated”. Lastly, questions of attitudes for avoidance as “I would be cautious to celebrate emotionally in front of opposing fans”. The items had a strong reliability as shown by the Cronbach Alpha, $\alpha = .79$.

**De-individuation Questionnaire**: Fans submerged feeling to the group environment was measured by self developed 15 items with scales ranging from 1 indicating never to 5 indicating that they did it always, at least in every game they watched. De-individuation is manifested in many ways and among them, the questionnaire included question of loss of self awareness during the matches (e.g. I am alert enough to changing my moods and I do not know how my mind works while watching games); Anonymity (e.g. Being unidentifiable enhances my atypical behaviors in the group); Diffusing responsibility; Altered experience and Arousal states (e.g. I behave strangely and using bad words against out-group fans due to arousal and altered experience) and Group size (e.g. I shout at or curse out out-group fans that I will not do if alone). Reliability of the fifteen questions as shown by Cronbach Alpha was, $\alpha = .661$ that is more than average and is tolerable.
Aggression: Aggression scale had two components consisting of Competitive Anger and Aggressiveness Scale (CAAS) on one hand and Forms of Aggression (FOA) on the other hand. Both scales were adapted from Maxwell and Moore that were intended to understand competitive aggressiveness and anger in sports scenes (Maxwell and Moore, 2007), and Verona et al. (2008) that were brought into the football area. The CAAS had 10 items with scales 1 showing never and 5 showing always did it in their times of being fans with Cronbach Alpha, $\alpha = .78$ which showed good consistency. They also included questions of hostile and instrumental aggression. Meanwhile, in FOA, too, there were 10 items of the same scale with Cronbach Alpha, $\alpha = .793$ that was a good reliability score. The FOA consisted of three parts that were physical (e.g. Fighting, physical threats), verbal (e.g. saying mean things, insulting, cursing, teasing) and relational aggressions (refusing to listen out-groups).

Intergroup Conflict Questionnaires: 18 self developed items were used to look at the conflict situations among fans with 5 scales, 1 representing never on one of the continuum and 5 representing always on the other continuum. Prejudicial, aggression, de-individuation, media and violent video games questions were included to find out the intergroup conflicts of the fans. These questions showed high consistency with Cronbach Alpha, $\alpha = .88$.

Content validity or inter judge validity was conducted to find out if the questions were representing what they were intended to measure in a proportional way. In doing so, the variables of prejudice, de-individuation, etc were well defined and then the questions were given to 6 raters, two of whom are graduates two years ago from the School of
Graduate Studies, and four of them were second year post graduate students. The rating for the questions were 1= bad, 2= good, and 3= excellent questions. As a result based on the agreement of the raters, two items from group identification, FOA and attitudes toward out-groups each, three from de-individuation and four items from CAAS were deleted to balance the validity of the tool. The questionnaires were translated in to Amharic version for ease of collecting genuine information.

3.5. Procedures of Data Collection

After 278 participants were selected, certain procedures had to be followed. The venue of watching the games was in the student’s lounge which is under the Dean of Students. The researcher had to, first, get permission from the Dean, directed by a letter of collaboration from the Psychology Department. Finally, the researcher had to look for permission from the lounge head.

Pilot test was conducted a month before the actual administration of the questionnaire with 23 participants. Eight participants from Arsenal fans, and Three from Chelsea fans, Five from Liverpool and Seven from Manchester United fans took part in completing the questionnaire for the pilot study.

In order to make potential participants be motivated and ready, notices were posted around Cafeteria, Lounge- a place where the fans watch football games. Forms for participants information was prepared to know where their blocks and dorms were so that, if in case they did not complete the questionnaire, they could be asked from their dorms.
There were Six (6) data collectors along with the researcher who disseminated and collected the questionnaires. The questionnaires were disseminated to the participants while the participants were entering the venue to occupy their seat. Meanwhile the participants who willingly and randomly took the questionnaire watched games free of charge where the expense was covered by the researcher that was used as reinforcement to make them complete the questions with modesty and genuinely as the situation of the environment needed some cautiousness.

3.6 Data Analysis

In this part of the method, both descriptive and inferential statistics were employed to analyze the data. Mean and Standard Deviation were used to look at the practice of behaviors of prejudice, de-individuation, aggression and conflicts. Percentage was used to know how many of the participants' characteristics in terms of club type and year in college, longevity of support to own team, frequency of watching games and ethnicity. They also showed hostile and instrumental aggression, and lagged effects of conflicts. Correlation was used to see the relationship between or among prejudice and group identification, anger and aggressiveness, aggression; aggression and de-individuation and group belongingness.

Linear regression analysis was computed to predict identification with fan groups and clubs, aggressiveness and anger; and anger and aggressiveness and to predict identification and aggression. Multiple regression was used to predict states and conditions of de-individuation for de-individuated behaviors; components of de-individuation for aggression; components of prejudice for aggression and by and large,
prejudice, aggression and anger, de-individuation, effects of media and video football games, failure of own club, shared hatred and flaming to predict conflicts/ intergroup conflicts among fans. One way ANOVA was used to look if there were significant effects and differences of club types on prejudice, aggression, and conflicts. It also was used to look if there were statistically significant differences of levels of group identification on prejudice, aggression, aggressiveness and anger, conflicts/ intergroup conflicts. When ANOVA was found to be significant after satisfying the test of homogeneity, Fisher's LSD and Scheffé tests were used to further identify which groups were significantly different from the others.

The data analysis was done by Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version Sixteen (16).
IV. RESULTS

4.1 Background and Characteristics of Participants

The following tabulation depicts the general information about the participants of the study.

Table 1. Cross Tabulation of Club Types and YIC, Ethnicity, Longevity and Frequency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Clubs (N and Percentage with in clubs)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arsenal</td>
<td>Chelsea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year in College</td>
<td>Ars 110(43.3%)</td>
<td>18(66.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chel 35(33.7%)</td>
<td>6(22.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liv 25(24%)</td>
<td>3(11.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M UTD 25(24%)</td>
<td>3(11.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Ars Amhara 56(53.8%)</td>
<td>14(51.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chel Oromo 19(18.3%)</td>
<td>2(7.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liv Tigray 16(32.7%)</td>
<td>8(16.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M UTD Others 13(12.5%)</td>
<td>3(11.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longevity</td>
<td>Ars &lt;3 Years 14(13.5%)</td>
<td>6(22.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Fanning</td>
<td>Chel 4 Years 17(16.3%)</td>
<td>9(33.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liv Above 4 Years 73(70.2%)</td>
<td>12(44.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency of Watching</td>
<td>Every Game 62(59.6%)</td>
<td>11(40.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Every Week 26(25%)</td>
<td>9(33.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bi- Weekly 2(1.9%)</td>
<td>1(3.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sometimes 14(13.5%)</td>
<td>6(22.2%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above table comprises characteristics of fans as their stay in college, ethnicity, how long they have been fanning their respective clubs and the frequency of watching games of their teams in a cross tabulation form.

There were 108 second years, 82 third years, and 76 fourth and above years participants in the study, shown in, Table 1. From the second year participants, 42.3% (44), 66.7% (18), 45% (18), and 29.5% (28) were Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United fans respectively. 33.3% (35), 22.2% (6), 30% (12), and 30.5% (29) of the third year participants were Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United fans. 40% of the fourth and above year participants were Manchester United fans. Over all, there were 104 participants from Arsenal fans, 75 from Manchester United fans, 40 from Liverpool fans and 27 were from Chelsea fans. 266 participants’ responses were harnessed in the data analysis of this study.

With respect to ethnicity, the number of Amhara participants outnumbered other ethnic group compositions. They accounted for 129 participants, Tigre 49, Oromo 47 while other ethnic groups accounted for 41. Other ethnic group participants included Harari, Silite, Gurage, Hadiya, Kore and Kemabata. For this case Chi Square of test of independence revealed that ethnicity and supporting a team were independent of each other $\chi^2=8.308$, df=9, P>0.05. This indicated that there was no association between the type of club fans support and their respective ethnic group belongingness. In other words they are to be fans of any of the clubs of the big four irrespective of their ethnic background.
From all of the Big Four, 174 of the participants have had an experience of watching game of their “teams” for more than four years, just higher than the maximum possible years one can potentially spend on campus. The remaining 43 had an experience of watching less than 3 years while 49 from the total number of participants experienced it for nearly four years. Club wise, 73 (70.2%) of Arsenal fans, 12 (44.4%) of Chelsea fans, 29(72.5%) of Liverpool fans and 60 (63.2%) of Manchester United fans have been watching games for more than four years. Only 8 of the fans watch games bi-weekly and 35 of them do watch the games sometimes. Meanwhile, 148 and 75 participants watch games without missing a single game irrespective of what is happening to them and every week, respectively. Parallel to the number of years spent, Chi Square test of independence revealed that there is an association between how long fans have been watching football and the frequency of watching the games of the teams they support, $\chi^2=45.238$, df=9, P<0.01. Those who watched football for too long are likely to be watching the games week in and week out.

4.2 Group Identification, Prejudice and Competitiveness among Fans

Group identification, prejudice and competitiveness are inseparably seen in the group processes and intergroup relations, a case in point is in football scenarios of the current study. Group identification showing the extent to which fans feel affiliated to and identify themselves with the clubs of the Big Four of the EPL is analyzed along with the negative and positive attitudinal evaluation they have toward out group fans and competitiveness and anger.
There is a positive relationship between group identification and prejudice toward out group fans, $r = 0.299$, $P < 0.01$. This indicated that those participants who highly identify to the club and with the group of fans display an increased prejudice. In other words, participants who feel pride in the club, side with the fan groups at times of trouble and/or wear jersey and carry placards, etc showed high level of identification and therefore are prejudiced. However, there is no relationship between the number of years stayed on campus and prejudice. On the other hand, though as low as 0.127, prejudice, and competitiveness, anger and aggressiveness are related to each other, $P = 0.05$. Prejudice induced groups to be competitive, willing to aggress and show the state of anger. Analysis of variance showed that there is no significant difference among varying levels of education on prejudice, $P > 0.05$.

Linear regression showed that prejudice is a good predictor of group identification, where 8.6% of the variance is accounted for by prejudice. When there is prejudice to out-group fans, those who are prejudiced are made to highly identify with their clubs, developing the reverse behavioral and attitudinal repertoire, $F (1, 264) = 25.826$, $P < 0.01$, $\beta = 0.299$.

When out-groups showed hatred, prejudicial avoidance, and evaluative positive and negative attitudes, at the other end, other fans feel concerned about their team fans members, be considerate at times of risk, feeling belonged to one another and increasing the friendliness. Prejudice also accounted for igniting competitiveness, anger and aggressiveness $F (1, 264) = 4.310$, $P = 0.05$, $\beta = 0.127$. Prejudice escalated the anger of fans letting them show their anger on the opposing fans and clubs, own clubs, and toward officials and during interactions immediately after matches are over. It also led them to
intentionally irritate opposing fans in order they not to follow the games with the maximum attention and war of words.

On the other hand, group identification is a good predictor of positive and negative attitudes toward out-group fans. Giving much room for football identity, carrying pride in the clubs, intimacy of intra fans, identifying oneself with jersey and side with own fans during conflicts led participants to label out-groups negatively charged attitudes as narrow mindedness, arrogance, bigotry and trouble makers, $F(1,264) = 16.055$, $P = 0.05$, $\beta = .239$. To a lesser extent than exhibiting negative attitudes, group affiliation predicted hatred toward out-group fans, $F(1,264) = 5.289$, $P = 0.05$. Hatred is shown in the form of labeling opponents as aggressive, trouble makers when own team was defeated and fans of the Big Four do not want to be friends to each other.

Identification with the groups of fans and the clubs they support explains the variance in the anger and aggressiveness, of course it is as low as 8%. Belongingness to groups predicted how angrily fans interact in the group process, in irritating situation they would be, $F(1,264) = 24.445$, $P = 0.05$, $\beta = .30$. To the reverse, competitiveness and anger fostered a sense of solidarity and friendship of looking for one another, $F(1,264) = 26.445$, $P < 0.01$, $\beta = .302$. Group identification questions carried values ranging from 1 through 5. 1 showed that participants displayed a lower extent of belongingness whereas 5 showed that fans are highly affiliated with the club and fans formations. In doing so, fans were cascaded into three categories as low, medium and high identifiers with cumulative scores 5-13, 14-18 and 19-25 on average, respectively. This classification was done on the basis of the scale for
which the questions are rated against 1 indicating low and 5 indicating very strong identification (Stenstrom et al., 2008)

Based on the categorization of fans into the three levels, participants' competitive anger and aggressiveness difference was analyzed. The result revealed that group identification and belongingness to the clubs they support has a significant effect on competitiveness and aggressiveness $F(2, 263) = 10.578, P < 0.01$. That means low identifiers, medium identifiers and high identifiers showed significant difference on their anger, bitter hatred to out-group fans, being mad for losing points, hopelessness about own teams, frustrations and being irritable during inter-group interactions. There also is a significant difference among participant level of identification in making opponent teams' fans teasing at them in order they not to watch games properly and rampant use of war of words.

So far there was no significant difference in the variance of anger and aggressiveness the participants with regard to identification (Levine's Test of Homogeneity = 2.907, $P > 0.05$) and as it is more liberal and its significance is not affected by the number of groups of means to be compared, Fisher's LSD (Least Significant Difference) is used to see the post hoc test. The post hoc tests enable to identify which mean significantly differs from others. Fisher's LSD revealed that high identifiers do significantly differ from those low and medium identifiers with mean difference of 5.162, $P = 0.05$ and 3.311, $P = 0.05$, respectively. This indicated that high identifiers displayed more competitive anger and aggressiveness in the inter-fan interactions whereas contrarily, low and medium
identifiers did not show the anger and aggressiveness toward competing fans groups like those of high identifiers.

Regarding to the identification of participants and prejudice, one way analysis of variance showed that there is a significant effect of belongingness, and identification on prejudicial attitudes, $F(2,263) = 13.036$, $P < 0.01$, given group identification was categorized into three categories: low, medium and high. It indicated that there is significant difference with regard to group affiliation on their hatred toward out-group fans that are expressed as opposing fans are prone to conflicts when their teams got defeated, having unchangeable stereotypes against other fans, and the fans of the other three clubs, other than their own affiliates they do not want to be friends with others.

The other ways that prejudicial attitudes do vary based on group identification level of fans is exhibiting avoidance. They showed variations in their attitudes that they would mind if fans of other clubs sit beside them, being cautious to celebrate in front of opposing fans and believing that opposing fans are more aggressive than an average fan of own groups. Hence these resulted in avoidance in the intergroup relations. There are also other prejudice manifestation the participants did vary on that is exhibiting evaluative negative attitudes by collectively labeling opposing fans as arrogant, overly proud of the club they support, trouble makers, touchy to be along with and close-minded.

Keeping Levine's test not significant ($P > 0.05$), LSD was calculated to test the homogeneity of variance among the three levels of identifiers. This assumption is
satisfied that gave green light to go for the post hoc tests. Low identifiers showed that they are different from medium and higher identifiers with mean differences of -3.349, \( P=0.05 \) and -4.781, \( P=0.05 \), respectively. As a result low identifiers showed less prejudice than medium and high identifiers. On the other hand, high identifiers significantly differ from low identifiers with mean differences, 4.871, \( P<0.01 \). This posited that high identifiers are more prejudiced than lower identifiers.

A higher level of statistics, one way analysis of variance was calculated to find out if there was significant difference among the fans of the Big Four with respect to prejudice toward out-group fans during and after the games. F-ratio showed that there is no significant difference of prejudice among fans irrespective of the club they support, \( F (3,262) = 2.869, P>0.05 \). However, the test of homogeneity was violated and needed to look at other mechanism. So the Brown-Forsythe F-ratio reported that there is no effect of club types fans support on the prejudicial attitudes \( F (3, 74) = 1.856, P>0.05 \) and Welch F-ratio reported \( F (3, 79) = 1.291, P>0.05 \). Hence there is no difference of prejudice among the fans of the Big Four. Ethnicity, longevity of fanning and frequency of watching did not show any effect on group identification and prejudice.

### 4.3 States and Conditions of De-individuation and De-individuated Behaviors among the Fans

Being in crowds and/ or collection of various groups breed a state called de-individuation where the individual assumes the identity of the group, not oneself. De-individuation comprises five parts as per to the current study. They include anonymity, group size, loss
of self awareness, diffusion of responsibility and altered states of experience and arousal
that are analyzed in this study.

Multiple Regression analysis revealed that 40.5% of changes and variations in the
atypical, extreme and polarized behaviors of fans are explained by the states and
conditions of de-individuation. Increased state of lose of self awareness, large group size
and the feeling of anonymity takes the de-individuated behaviors as altered experience
and arousal to exhibiting deviant behaviors, $F(3,262) = 61.076, P<0.01$. Strictly speaking,
lose of self awareness and group size were best predictors of the behaviors with $\beta=.316$
and $\beta=.446, P<0.01$, respectively. This showed that immersing oneself in the group
identity, being alert to change one's moods, and abiding by the norms of the group on one
hand and shouting at opposing fans when being in groups, derived by the moods of the
group led to excitement, ecstasy in the group being far from normal state that leave much
room for using bad words, exhibiting extremely dangerous behaviors. Anonymity was
also a predictor significant at $P=0.05, \beta=.124$. This proved that only one of the states of
de-individuation is not enough the behaviors to materialize.

De-individuation accounted for prejudice in the inter fans behaviors. The states and
behaviors of de-individuation increased the prejudicial attitudes of in-group fans had
against opposing fans $F(1,264) = 8.942, P<0.01, \beta=.181$. Being submerged to the group
norms, behaviors, feelings and polarized actions led participants to growing hatred,
avoidance and negatively dubbed attitudes.
Having checked that there was no significant variance among the fans, one way ANOVA revealed that there is no significant difference among the fans of the Big Four F(3,262)=.931, P>0.05. Thus, as shown before frequency of watching and longevity of fanning based on their mean score showed there is difference in the categories of de-individuation. But there was a statistically significant effect of level of group identification on being in the states of de-individuation and exhibiting de-individuated behaviors, F (2,263) =15.022, P<0.01. It means that high, medium and low identifiers did differ on their immersion to group identity and emotional states of anonymity, loses of self-awareness, large group size and arousal and altered states of participants. To identify which groups significantly deviated from the mean LSD showed that high identifiers showed more states of de-individuation than low and medium with mean differences (6.756 and 5.029, P=0.05), respectively.

Responsibility diffusion is one of the manifestations of de-individuation among crowds. Lack of accountability is one of the extreme behavioral exhibitions fans show as a result of de-individuation. A one way analysis of variance indicated that there is no difference in the evading responsibility for whatever damage the own group fans did and they did not feel responsible for, F (3,262) = 2.144, P>0.05. However, Multiple Regression revealed that states and conditions of de-individuation accounted for responsibility diffusion by 11.7%. Lose of self awareness, large group size and anonymity predicted diffused responsibility F (3, 262) = 12.72, P< 0.01. Anonymity and group size were best predictors of evading responsibility among fans, β= .187, β= .175, P< 0.01, respectively. At P=0.05, β= .152, lose of self awareness also accounted for responsibility diffusion.
There was an explained variance in de-individuation due to anger about own team's failure or lowered performance by 25%. Linear regression showed that anger and own team's failure urged participant fans to be in states of de-individuation, \( F(1,264) = 87.285, P<0.01 \).

### 4.4 Aggression among the Fans of Big Four: From the Side of Football

Aggression in such a scenario is intertwined with the influences of media, violent games, anger, prejudice and de-individuation. There are many forms of aggression and purposes, too. The forms of aggression that are targeted in this study are physical, verbal and relational types and the purposes to here are hostile and instrumental.

From sometimes to always, 22.4% of the fans displayed instrumental aggression by taunting opponents and letting them lose concentration on purpose so that they are disadvantaged where as 24.3% of the participants showed hostile aggression by simply abusing counter fans for the sake of it.

Basing on Frustration Aggression Hypothesis, CAAS showed that it makes conditions conducive for anger, frustration, irritation and proneness to aggressiveness accounting for 25.4% of explained changes on aggression. Linear Regression showed that competitiveness, anger, and frustrations predicted the behaviors or action, aggression, \( F(1,264) = 91.032, P<0.01, \beta=.506 \). Most frustrations and anger of fans are explained and caused by when their clubs are disadvantaged during matches, losing games and points, frustrations due to own teams failures, officials' mistakes and annoyance during interactions leading to aggression either physically, verbally and/or relationally.
Group identification and aggression are linearly related with one another, \( r = 0.192, P < 0.01 \). As identification increased, aggression also increased. To support this finding, the three cascaded groups of group identification were analyzed for one way ANOVA. Then, it revealed that there is a significant effect of group identification interpersonal aggression among fans. The F-ratio for low, medium and high identifiers did differ in their aggressive behaviors, \( F(2, 263) = 10.918, P < 0.01 \). After satisfying the assumption of equal variance (Levine’s Test of Homogeneity = 0.464, \( P > 0.05 \)), Scheffe and LSD tests of post hoc were analyzed to reveal which group did significantly differ in their aggressive behaviors. As a result, both Scheffe and LSD test indicated that high identifiers did significantly differ in their aggression acts from medium (Mean Difference = 4.325, \( P = 0.05 \)) and low identifiers (Mean Difference = 2.924, \( P = 0.05 \)), i.e., high identifiers are aggressive than low and medium identifiers.

Bivariate correlation showed there is no relationship between prejudice and aggression, \( r = 0.026, P > 0.05 \). Furthermore, Multiple Regression indicated that prejudice that comprises negative attitudes, hatred and avoidance did not account for aggression, \( F(3, 262) = 2.475, P > 0.05 \). One way analysis of variance was also calculated for aggression if there was significant effect of club type on aggression. It showed that there was no effect of club type on aggression, \( F(3, 262) = 1.188, P > 0.05 \). In other words, one of the groups of the fans of the Big Four did not show difference on their aggressive behaviors.

De-individuation states and conditions are significantly correlated with aggression. First of all, states and conditions of de-individuation, and de-individuated behaviors are correlated to one another. Lose of self awareness was correlated with: anonymity, \( r = 0.179, \)
arousal and altered experience, \( r = .421 \), and group size, \( r = .189; P < 0.01 \). This clearly indicated that an increase in one of the states, conditions and behaviors increased, one of the others also increased. Having such a relationship, lose of self awareness, states of arousal and altered experience, and group size of the fans, increased their aggression toward one another (with correlation coefficients of .208, .378 and .349, \( P < 0.01 \) for all), respectively. But anonymity was not significantly correlated to aggression.

Table 2. *Multiple Regressions of Beta Values of De-individuation and Aggression*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>( \beta )- value</th>
<th>( P )- value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lose of Self Awareness</td>
<td>.074</td>
<td>( P &gt; 0.05 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymity</td>
<td>-.067</td>
<td>( P &gt; 0.05 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arousal &amp; Altered Exp</td>
<td>.249</td>
<td>( P &lt; 0.01 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Size</td>
<td>.220</td>
<td>( P &lt; 0.01 )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Predictor Variables: Lose of Self-awareness, Anonymity, Arousal & Altered Exp., Group size

B. Criterion Variable: Aggression

After looking at their relationship, Multiple regression showed that de-individuation accounted for variations explained in aggression, \( F(4,261) = 14.391, P < 0.01 \). When specifically coming to which component of de-individuation, best predictors were arousal and altered experience among fans, \( \beta = .249, P < 0.01 \) and group size of the fans, \( \beta = .22, P < 0.01 \). Experiencing the ecstasy, pleasure of above normalcy, the extra altered experience, using bad words and behaving strangely against out-group fans led to aggression. Change in moods, being abided by and having swapped self identity (lose of
self awareness) to group identity, and being anonymous did not predict aggression, however.

4.5 Conflicts/ Inter-group conflicts among fans of the Big Four

Conflicts are the manifestations of inter-group relations and processes that could be constructive or destructive in their nature. Inter-group conflicts or conflicts on individual basis are common in football fanning scenes. The effects of group identification, prejudice, submerging into group emotions, competitiveness anger and aggressiveness and individual aggression, shared hatred and the influence of media and violent video games are analyzed in the following section.

One way analysis of variance revealed that there is no significant effect of being a fan of a club on the inter-group conflict $F(3,262) = 1.33, P > 0.05$. That means fans of the clubs of the four clubs did not vary on their conflictual behaviors. Nor effect of ethnicity on the conflict behaviors is found. Longevity of fanning and frequency of watching also did not have effects of intergroup conflict as shown by F-ratio.

Fans are hot and consumer spectators who affiliate themselves from loosely associated to "diehard" fans with high level of identification. Consequently, an F-ratio revealed that there is a significant effect of level of identification with the clubs and groups of fans on intergroup conflict among the fans, $F (2,263) = 9.567, P < 0.01$. This result showed that the extent of the intergroup conflict among the three identifiers. Further tests of Scheffe and LSD revealed that high identifiers' inter-group conflict significantly differ from those
of medium and low identifiers with respective mean differences of \(MD = 5.593\) and \(MD = 6.530\), \(P = 0.05\), showing that high identifiers were involved in intergroup conflicts.

On the other hand, variables of prejudice, de-individuation, aggressiveness/aggression and anger, by and large, predicted conflict/inter-group conflict. Multiple Regression showed that prejudice, de-individuation and aggression and anger accounted for 96% of explained variance in conflict between or among fans or inter-group fans, \(F(3,262) = 2101.922, P < 0.01\). Fans did fight due to biases, negative attitudes, supporting other teams other than their own and shared hatred toward and of out-group fans, \(\beta = 0.319, P < 0.01\).

Being group bounded by itself that has nothing to do with fanning, fighting in defense of the players of their club (at 2\textsuperscript{nd} hand group level) when abused, when their teams were defeated, denigration from out of groups, games at nights and the feeling of excitement in the group led participants into conflict or intergroup conflict, \(\beta = 0.532, P < 0.01\). Anger about own teams performance, triggered (hitting back when others did) and projected aggression when the team players fight also caused conflicts and/ or intergroup conflicts, \(\beta = 0.316, P < 0.01\). However, state of de-individuation was a significant predictor. Look at the following statistic.
Table 3. *Multiple Regression Beta Values of Prejudice, De-individuation and Anger/Aggressiveness for Conflicts*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>β-value</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prejudice</td>
<td>.316</td>
<td>P &lt; 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De-individuation</td>
<td>.319</td>
<td>P &lt; 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggression and Anger</td>
<td>.532</td>
<td>P &lt; 0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Predictor Variables: Prejudice, De-individuation, and Aggression and Anger

B. Criterion Variable: Inter-group Conflict

Coming down to the FOA, Multiple regressions, revealed that 34.8% of conflicts among fans were explained by infliction of any of the forms of aggression. The three forms of aggression predicted conflicts/intergroup conflict, F (3,262) = 48.227, P<0.01. Physical and verbal forms of aggression were best predictors of conflicts, and specifically verbal aggression had statistically significant effect on the conflicts or intergroup conflict (Look at the following table).

Table 4. *Multiple Regressions of Beta Values of Forms of Aggression and Conflicts*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>β-value</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Aggression</td>
<td>.257</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal Aggression</td>
<td>.363</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relational Aggression</td>
<td>.125</td>
<td>P=0.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Predictor Variables: Physical, Verbal and Relational Aggression

B. Criterion Variable: Inter-group Conflict
Besides the above factors contributing to conflicts and/or intergroup conflicts among fans, shared hatred, involving in conflict when own team loses points or is defeated, flaming (a contributory factor that makes de-individuation heightened when games are conducted during night times), the influence of media and the experience of watching horror and grotesque football videos and games significantly predicted conflicts and/or inter-group conflicts \((5,260) = 266.823, \text{P}<0.01\). They accounted for 83.4% of and had significantly effects on the conflicts and/or intergroup conflicts. The best predictor, however, was the likelihood of fans to be involved in conflict when their respective teams lose points or games.

Table 5. Multiple Regressions of Standardized Beta Values for Conflicts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>β-value</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shared Hatred</td>
<td>.269</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own team lost or defeated</td>
<td>.395</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flaming</td>
<td>.238</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>.230</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Videos</td>
<td>.280</td>
<td>P&lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Predictor Variables: Shared hatred, Defeat/Loss, Flaming, Media and Videos

B. Criterion Variable: Intergroup Conflict

Although there was no association between ethnicity and club affiliation, nor with conflicts, 24.1% of the participants reported that there was a lagged effect. Lagged effect is a situation in which the conflicts that occurred during the games continued even after the games were over and/or remains conflictual in other interactions, too.
V. DISCUSSION

In this discussion part of the study, there shall be comparisons and contrasts of the works of others with findings of this study. There were very relevant findings of previous researches in the area specifically related to the attributes of the tenets of the study. However, there were also limitations of literature related to club types and prejudice, aggression and conflicts or intergroup conflicts are there. This study could be the first of its kind in Ethiopian context and will be serving as a spring board for forthcoming issues and studies pertaining to the area.

The results of the current study were presented in the previous chapter. Here, the most interesting and exceptional findings are pointed out against the literature in accordance with the sub topics of the study cascaded in the literature and findings part.

5.1 Group Identification, Prejudice and Competitiveness among the Fans

As indicated by Spaaij (2008) that there was little or no association between race/ethnicity and fanning in football. The current study also revealed that there was no association between ethnicity of fans and the type of club they become fan of. This showed that being bounded to an ethnic group and becoming a fan of either of the Big Four clubs are independent to one another.

The current study revealed that there was a statistically significant correlation between prejudice and identification to groups of fans and the club the fans are affiliated with. In other words, it showed that as group identification heightened prejudice towards out-group
fans increased and vice versa. This result was consistent with the findings of Dobbs and Crano (2001) who posited that even a minimal group affiliation by itself leads groups to be prejudiced against outsiders. This also was in agreement with the findings of Voils et al., (2002), Kreindler (2005) and Tropp (2003) indicating that prejudice is developed from a mere formation of groups and categorical differentiation.

On the other hand, the current study showed no significant effect on prejudice from clubs types. In case of the current study, fans are assigned to be a fan of one of the teams of the EPL, which is, by and large, an easy identification with the clubs. This did not emanate from a well established base for fanning- it just was a random identification to. This depicts that SCT is not determinant. Prejudice also predicted identification to the groups the fans belonged as per to the current study result. This was in line with the findings of Brown, Wohl and Exline (2008) where, due to minimal affiliations, in groups stand for in group members and developed high desires to protect them. The similarities could be stemmed to the group behaviors and reactions across any form of group formation.

According to the result of the study, when there was prejudice, it well predicted that there was anger, aggressiveness and bitter competitiveness among fans. It went along with the results of Tropp (2003) suggesting prejudice negatively affected groups’ emotions during interaction. Findings of Plant, Butz and Tartakovsky (2008) were congruent with the current result in such a way that prejudicial attitudes towards out-groups were related to anger and anxiousness.
Number of years stayed at college was analyzed to find out if there was significant difference among them. It was revealed that there was no significant effect of years in college on the level of prejudice fans displayed against their rivals. This was contradicting with the findings of Voils and associates (2002) stated that college students were prone to prejudice and prejudiced attitudes. This may be due differences in methods, specificity, tools and objectives of the study as the current study only focused on fans’ behaviors.

Prejudice escalated group identifications as shown in the result of the current study. That is the more the fans are prejudiced against opponent fans, the more they did identify with their group of fans and the clubs they support. This is consistent with McCoy and Major (2003) and Leonardeli and Tormala (2003) suggesting that group identification escalated prejudice against rivals and opponents where the sense of competitiveness is salient. This may be explained by the concept of out-group homogeneity leading to in-group favoritisms there by facilitating deep rooted feelings of belongingness. On the other hand, competitiveness due to prejudicial attitudes fostered identification with groups and fans by showing solidarity and friendship is congruent with findings of Spaaij (2008) stating the same idea. This may be explained by the need to protect own groups.

Needs for dominance and supremacy might explain this so that in-group entitiativeness is preserved. Demewoz’s (1997) findings about own ethnic group favoritism, equivalent to the form of prejudice is consistent with the results of the current study positing that fans did show prejudice against out-groups, shown by the mean of the groups of fans attitudes towards opposing fans. However, there was no well defined and tenacious findings about
prejudice among fans of the Big Four in our country level, nor did also on international levels.

Group identification had great deal of significant effects on prejudice, and anger and aggressiveness as revealed in the current study. High identifiers did significantly differ from low identifiers. This was congruent with Crisp and Colleagues (2007) finding out that identification increased negative affects whereby high identifiers got very angry than low identifiers and Scheepers et al. (2003) positing that group identification brought about anger directed at out-groups, derogating them and proneness to aggressiveness. It indicated that as groups are well affiliated to the groups and teams they support, in cases of any kind of problems, they displayed their wrath, frustrations and go beyond.

Twenty four percent of participants witnessed that they experienced lagged effect of conflicts. In other words, conflicts abate situations which did not have any relationship to the situation that happened in football. This was consistent with the results from Rees and Schnepel (2008) that negativities, and competitiveness and conflicts remain in other dissimilar situations too. It also was congruent with Voils and Associates (2002) results stating that there remained a back lash effect of prejudice among groups in other scenes other than in non-football conflict situations. This might be due to the continued effect of the sense of competitiveness and prejudice as participants spend most of their time talking much about their teams performance and causes of the success and/ or failures of own teams and other teams.
On the other hand, one way analysis of variance depicted that there was no sound significant effect of club type, a form of social categorization, on prejudice among one another, unlike the mean score for the participants on prejudice where there were differences. This is dissimilar with the Theory of Social Categorization of Grieve and Hogg (1999) stating that being categorized into simple groups brought about prejudice. This shows that only being a fan of a club did not give birth for the prejudiced attitudinal constellations rather other variables as identification, anger, personality of each fan, states of being in a group identity and how successful the clubs could have their own contributions. Rather this could be explained by Social Identity Theory where, as pinpointed before, fans identify well with clubs and fans that make them be prejudiced.

5.2 De-individuation among Football Fans

Literatures have differing and some inconsistent findings about de-individuation, the states and conditions, and behaviors of de-individuation in varying situations. Previous works of others on this area of interest and its relationship with other issues included in this study are seen against the findings of the study unveiled in the result section.

Having no previous works on the specific issues of club type and the Big Four, the mean scores for de-individuation in the current study revealed that Manchester United fans showed high levels of de-individuation by being in the group emotions. But this was refuted when one way analysis of variance deciphered that there was no effect of clubs on de-individuation. The mean scores indication might be due the current performance of the
club as they are crowned for World Champions, title winners of the EPL for three consecutive seasons, and were targets of prejudice.

Components of de-individuation at least occurred concomitantly as they are intertwined with one another as chains of causes and after effects. The study deciphered that about half of the changes in arousal states and altered experience were caused by states and conditions of de-individuation which is similar to the literature finding in Forsyth (1990). Forsyth indicated that either of the components does not happen separately rather they come to happen in a whole or none fashion. Saying it in another way, anonymity, group membership, arousal and altered experience lose of self-awareness cannot feature alone to bring forth de-individuation down to earth. This could be due to the continuity of games for more than an hour and half and the nature of crowd behavior leading to extreme, atypical and inhibited behaviors to be imminent.

However, the above result contradicted with the findings of Postmes and Spears (1998) of a meta-analysis from more than 60 countries. They found out that collective behaviors of any kind could not bring after effects as extremely atypical and anti-normative behaviors, using bad words against out-group members and loosened inhibition of instincts. This discrepancy could result from differing social groups studied in this study and meta-analysis, as the current study only focused the case of football fans which is a transient state of being in group states. The behaviors shown in the participants are consistent with previous works of Spears, Lea and Lee (1990) that de-individuation took place in groups than at individual levels.
The states and behaviors de-individuation increased the prejudicial attitudes in group fans had against opposing fans. In other words it showed that when participants were in states of de-individuation, they were more prejudiced. This is similar to the findings of Dobbs and Crano (2001) that one of the components of de-individuation, anonymity, heightened intergroup bias. This also goes along with the results in the study of Lea, Spears and de Groot (2007) and Postmes et al. (2001) that de-individuation promoted out-group stereotypes during group interactions. On other side of prejudice, as a result of de-individuation soccer fans chanted, sang songs that discriminate, derogated and disdained out group members by claiming their own group team’s superiority and out group teams’ to be inferior. Furthermore, there is similarity with findings of Stott, Hutchison and Drury (1998) France World Cup competing fans were hostile and developed hatred.

These congruencies of findings might be explained by the nature of group dynamics and relations. There are common songs that fans use to display their biased attitudes and evaluative prejudices that demote the status of out-group fans. These cases are displayed when own teams win over rivals, all in one they say, “Woyalaw Zim”-to mean you inferiors keep silent or say “Eyangualele” taken from the infamous witch song, still to show in group superiority. They also derogated one another by showing the deep rooted hatred at any level of their consciousness.

Even though, according to Postmes and Spears (1998) where there are little or no support of evidence for anti-normative behaviors manifested as a result of de-individuation, anonymity promotes intergroup bias (Dobbs and Crano, 2001). With regard to SIDE, on the other hand, Klein, Spears and Reicher (2007) posited that anonymity be
psychologically salient but the targets must remain visible to the audience. This might be showing that being in groups by itself is a sufficient condition for de-individuation at large and anonymity specifically to take place. The mentality of anonymity could be enough.

High level of identification with groups and clubs brought participants to main states of de-individuation. Spaaij (2008) consistent with this showed that football fans that are highly identified with the groups and fans (as territorial demarcation of fans seats, romantic sense of solidarity and belongingness to the clubs) are judiciously mixed with excitement and pleasurable emotional arousal for de-individuated behaviors to materialize. This could be of the fact that fans want positive appraisal about their own teams from within, not from opponent fans and to feel a sense of security.

Of course there was no significant difference among groups of fans with respect to club types on lack of accountability or diffused responsibility. States and conditions of de-individuation predicted fans’ behaviors and diffused responsibility. This is congruent with the findings of Forsyth, Zyzniewski and Giammanco (2002) indicating states of de-individuation lead individuals to feel less responsible due larger group size. This seems to always be true as there are many people or crowds, the less responsible they feel given there are conditions of anonymity, arousal and altered states of experience.

Anger about own team's performance and failure led fans to be in states of de-individuation, shown in the current study. This is supported by the findings of Crisp et al. (2007) suggesting that fans whose team failed are at propensity to de-individuation and
Griffiths (2007) stating that fans be in the same state when losing to archrivals moderated by prejudice. This might be why fans get twisted in various forms of group based conflicts, commit diabolical faults of homicide in cases own teams of the attackers’ get defeated and those wronged win. This could hold true for homogeneity of fan behaviors across the globe.

5.3 Aggression from Football Fans’ Side

There was no significant difference among fans of club types on their aggression behaviors. Overall there was prevalence of the three forms of aggression, viz., physical, verbal and relational aggressions. All of these were manifested even though differences among groups. There were reported presences of hostile and instrumental aggressions among the fans (reportedly 24.3% and 22.4% of the times, respectively). This is consistent with the definitional concept of types of aggression in Franzoi (2000). That means fans at secondary levels also think that there are advantages they can take from their counterparts.

Parallel to this, there is half similarity with Verona (2008) that verbal aggression was more of shown among College and University students which is consistent with the current study revelations and still equally important there also were manifestations of physical aggression which is incongruent with Verona. These differences could result from may be the purpose and nature of issues studied in the former and the current study (as the later is confined to secondary level identifiers of football fans and nature of participants). However, the same tool was employed to assess the occurrence as the tool
for this was adopted from. In line with this, CAAS also measured anger and aggressiveness of fans which is congruent with Maxwell and Moore (2007) who developed the tool. This shows that there still is much room for secondary level of identification among fans to aggress.

Identification to the clubs the fans support, in the case of the current study, was at secondary level of identification. Aggression in this sense was pertaining to inter individual wronging. At this rate, group identification was related to aggression, positively. Even further, high identifiers were found to be more of aggressive than low and medium identifiers. This is congruent with Lickel and Associates (2006) findings that there are always vicarious and second hand retributions. This also is supported by Scheepers et al (2003) insisting as highly identifying groups of football fans engage in more discriminations than low identifiers.

Supporting literatures indicate that it is the perceived care for and belongingness to the clubs and groups that is the cause for aggression. The higher identifiers fans become, the more they care for the romantic friendliness among the fans. Taking it far more, identification with teams and its players led to aggression of any form. Similar to the results revealed that fans get into aggression when their teams were wronged by the opponent teams, and in group players were abused. This situation served as a Triggered Displaced Aggression (TDA) according to Pederson and Colleagues (2008) and second hand retribution (Brown, Wohl and Exline, 2008). Much room is given to the salient psychological feelings of affiliation, seeing the grand teams so close and giving the maximum level of gratification. This may be typical of human behavior to try to preserve
the most pleasure and avoid pain, as losing points or seeing them wronged is pain, and may create mental mob of the groups. Similarities of fan behaviors seem to be universal.

No relationship between prejudice and aggression was found, but Gini (2007) showed there was relationship which is incongruent with current study. Gini argued that in group favoritism increases when members were wronged where as they did not when they were wrong doers. Prejudice in the form of in group favoritism and siding with own groups when there raised problems. This shows that it is difficult to discern prejudice from identification with groups. There also is incongruence of the current study result against the GAM of Bushman and Anderson (2002) that prejudice based second hand competitiveness and rivalry resulted in aggression. And this might be justified by the extent of prejudice participants had towards opponent others and the similarities of instruments used.

De-individuation was one of the best predictors of aggression and there was correlation between de-individuation and aggression. Specifically, large group size, and arousal and altered states of experience contributed high for aggression to take place. This is equivalent with the previous works of Moore et al. (2007) explaining that immersing in the group identity and states of joy in such a way of celebrating in extreme elation and exhibiting atypical behaviors lead to more aggression. Typical example of football aggression in the 1960's of Liverpool fans was highly due to de-individuation (The Bootle, II, 2002) brings a full-fledged support to the results of the current study revealed. Loosened inhibitions of behaviors, arousal of emotions, and altered experience, mixed
with anonymity and large group size leads to interpersonal aggression, absurd wordings towards out groups result in aggression.

The hypothesis of frustration aggression was fulfilled in the current study that frustrations and anger caused aggression. Frustrations and anger of fans are explained and caused by when their clubs are disadvantaged during matches, losing games and points, frustrations due to own teams failures, officials' mistakes and annoyance during interactions leading to aggression either physically, verbally and/or relationally. This is congruent with the findings Berkowitz (1989) positing that frustrations make aggressive tendencies and aggression. This is also similar with the findings of Dill and Anderson (1995) where negative or aversive stimuli, even justifiable stimulus such as, relevant to the current study, admitting a below par performance of own teams lead to aggression let alone unjustifiable and dubious scenes. Henceforth, CAAS measured the frustrations, angers and hostilities of fans during and after the games. Along with this the result is consistent with the works of Anderson, Buckley and Carnagey (2008) where individuals create hostile environments and aggression related behaviors are imminent.

There always are situations when fans of the Big Four moan about their clubs' performance, be mad about their players, cry out and rue missed chances. These create hostile environment for the fans that ignite to be predisposed to aggression. Frustrations not only are from interaction with rivals, weird behaviors of opponent fans and also they are from officials' mistakes. As a result of such frustrations and ruing fans could be at propensity to aggression.
5.4 Conflicts/ Intergroup Conflicts: The Influence of Media and Shared Hatred

There were causal factors pinpointed to underpin inter-group conflicts among football fan groups. Still grounded to the reality, there were no well documented and empirically based studies about intergroup conflicts in the EPL and specifically on Big Four fans. Although mean scores of fans on conflicts showed that there was slight difference among fans based on the club type they fanned, analysis of variance revealed no significant difference among fans of the Big Four.

Social Identity Theory among competing teams in general, however, explained explicit conflict among competing football fans. These forms of competition are accompanied by conflicts among groups of fans and making football the most conflict-ridden scenario. This is similar to the findings of Hewstone and Greenland (2000) where conflicts among football fans were prevalent when there was a sense competitiveness and Tajfel (1982) building up the interwoven nature of intergroup conflicts with competition. As far as there are competitions and needs for supremacy among groups, there exist conflicts, which most of the time are group bounded. The rivalries that emerge among groups of fans in these cases are the dominance of own team over the other Big Three, winning over rivals, and winning titles to be crowned superiors.

Conflicts among the fan participants were group bounded in their nature which is similar to the notions of Stott, Hutchison and Drury (2001). Prejudice at large and negative attitudes in particular against rivaling groups predicted conflicts among fans. Prejudice
among football fans included negative labels of players from outside fans when there were possibilities of chatting about and players' performance which is consistent with the results revealed by McCarthy, Jones and Potrac (2003). The more the participants practiced these types of suggestion about players, performance and highlighting own group superiority and distinctiveness of own groups, leading to unnecessary altercations and ending up in conflicts.

Shared hatred of fans among each other was one of the best predictors of conflicts among fans. Of course, shared hatred did not stand on by itself rather got intertwined with de-individuation. To make it clearer, fans take 'Two Sided Identity'. Such two sided identity can be taking an Arsenal fan, he will be siding to either Chelsea or Manchester United when these teams come head to head where the gluing factor is 'Enemy of my Enemy is my Friend'. This is commonly practiced by fans by wisely calculating which will be advantageous if wins. At the end of the day cumulative to these facts led fan groups to conflict which is congruent with the study of Borgeson and Valeri (2007) on the Two Sided Identity of races holding, however, the same theoretical principle. Thus SIT and SCT come to combine with one another to show their combined effect on conflicts among groups.

More than 95% of conflicts/ intergroup conflicts were explained by de-individuation, and anger and aggressiveness. When fans were not self aware, felt anonymous, immersed in large group sizes and driven by states of arousal and altered experiences, dangerously they were involved in conflicts. This is congruent with Leary, Twenge and Quinlivan (2006) as they identified de-individuation to accompany aggression. As participants are
in states where they can evade their responsibilities, freed from social inhibitions and act extremely and using bad words in autonomy inevitably would result in conflicts. Other sort of de-individuation that led fans to conflict in most of the times is ‘Flaming’. States of de-individuation are strengthened when games are conducted at nights. Large group size by itself also contributed to conflicts where mostly the conflicts had nothing to do with football similar to Rees and Schnepel (2008).

The more groups identified specifically with groups, the more they were involved in group conflicts or any form of conflict. As a result ‘diehard’ fans sang songs for their clubs that led them to be in clashes. Identification led fans to aggression and in chain then to conflict which is congruent with Bushman and Anderson (2002). Still there are realities that fans love for and belongingness to clubs and players are only unidirectional or one way, only from fans to players and clubs. Such non-reciprocal relations and love led participants toward conflicts which is consistent to the study of Giulianotti (2002). This shows that it is down to identification with groups of fans, the club type and non-reciprocal identification leading to mass conflicts.

Media put massive influence on the conflict of groups of participants. Media, in this case were radio programs in FMs, newspapers and TV channels. They heavily urged fans to experience conflicts with varying extents. This is consistent to the results and stands of Stempel (2006) emphasizing the effects of televised sports that lead to aggression and thereby to conflicts. The current study also showed that interpersonal aggression contributed highly to conflicts among groups. Failure to own teams and victories were associated with BIRGing and CORFing of highly identified soccer fans based on
Bernache- Assolant and associates (2007). According to Crisp et al. (2007) specifically failure of own-group teams lead to conflicts. These situations are mostly escorted with wearing jersey of clubs when wins, carrying posters of star players and placards of the teams but uncommon when own teams are defeated.

Watching videos- defined as any form of recorded aggressive football game incidents and horror unsporting behaviors affected the involvement of participants into conflicts. This is evident with the studies of Poulton (2007) labeling it as ‘Hooliporn’ and the influence of video games on aggressive personality stated by Bushman and Anderson (2002) and Giumetti and Markey (2007). This might be showing that fans experiences of watching such games and recorded material lead them to aggression, a sort of modeling and transfer of the knowledge into practice which is imminent when conflicts arise.
VI. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

The tenet of the study was to investigate the effects of prejudice, group identification, masking the group identity after losing one’s own, anger and predisposition to aggression on intergroup conflicts of AAU main campus fans of the Big Four of the EPL. There are many situations that call for the study to be conducted. In the case of the participants, there are negative attitudes the fans use to labeling opponent fans, do some extremely atypical and anti-normative behaviors.

It is understandable that prejudice occurs among competitive groups. As far as there are categorization of groups, individuals tend to identify with the groups they belong to and get affiliated that escalates the prejudicial attitudes. A case in point is the classification of fans into fans of either of the clubs of the EPL that included the fans of Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United. These categorizations among groups lead to Self Categorization and being affiliated with, to forming solidarity and friendliness.

Given the categorization into groups, these situations call for a state of crowd that is labeled as de-individuation. De-individuation is a state of being immersed into group identities with conditions as loss of self-awareness (where it will be difficult for individuals to discern from the groups), large group size, anonymity leading to arousal and altered states of experiences, lack of accountability where group members are driven
to gratifying the "true ecstasy" from within the group. This had been evident with the case of Liverpool fans aggression in the 1960's that caused huge damage to humanity.

With respect to Social Identity Theory, identification with own groups lead individuals to be involved into the states of arousal, altered experiences, diffused responsibilities. As result, cumulative of these conditions create fertile environment for aggression to take place. The forms of aggression that take place in most of the times are verbal aggression, thereby paving the way for physical aggression such as homicide, and suicide (e.g. a Kenyan Arsenal fan killed himself after seeing, his club, Arsenal seen off by Manchester United) in the Champions League (Goal.com, April 14, 2009). High identification with clubs and groups is also highly associated with conflicts or intergroup conflicts. Prejudice, group identification and de-individuation mixed with anger and aggressiveness lead to conflicts.

In order to find out the relationships of the variables reckoned above, a survey study was conducted among 266 fans of the Big Four of EPL using stratified and accidental sampling technique. The tool of the study was a questionnaire. There were items (scales) for prejudice, group identification, de-individuation, competitive anger and aggressiveness scales, forms of aggression and intergroup conflicts.

The results of the study revealed that there was a significant effect of SIT in the form of group identification among groups and to the clubs they belonged to on prejudice towards out-group fans, being angry and predisposed to aggress, and aggression on conflicts among groups. Furthermore, high identifiers did significantly differ from low identifiers
in every respect of the issues the study sealed. However, SCT regarded as classification to groups of fans had no significant effect on the same variables. On the other hand, of course, there was relationship between prejudice and aggression, prejudice mixed with identification, shared hatred, de-individuation in the forms of flaming and failure of own team, media and video (in the form of televised sports) predicted conflicts among groups.

The results the current study revealed were compared and contrasted against the previous works and findings of other researchers. It showed that, more or less, there are strikingly high congruencies.

5.2 Conclusions

The main objectives of the study are discussed as follows.

1. The formations of groups are usually voluntary. When specifically coming to the issue under scrutiny, formation of groups of fans are transient and voluntary. Such groupings of fans lead them to competition and identification with the groups ridden by solidarity, and romantic friendliness. As a result, competitiveness and identification to the clubs and fan groups were directly related to prejudice, as the former increased, the latter also did the same.

2. Fans did show differing levels of prejudice, de-individuation, aggression and intergroup conflicts. Nonetheless, higher level tests (ANOVA and Post hoc) indicated that there were no significant differences with respect to categorization of groups in club types, years in college, frequency of watching and longevity of fanning. Social Identity Theory proved to be right about group identification of fans with high identifiers being significantly different from the low identifiers on prejudice, anger and aggressiveness,
de-individuation, interpersonal aggression and conflicts. Prejudice tends to have big influence on conflicts among fans. To be specific, shared hatred-by possessing “Two Sided Identity”, was one of the best predictors of conflicts.

3. There was no significant relationship between prejudice and aggression. On the other hand, there was strong relationship between de-individuation and aggression, specifically, altered experience and arousal states led participants into aggression. The more the fans could not isolate their personal self, the more they become involved in aggression. Games at nights also contributed to aggression.

4. Non-reciprocal relation, love and identification with clubs and players of the teams the fans support, led them into conflicts. This secondary level of identification that led participants to conflicts include when the players they love got abused, when their teams fail to win, and when the first team players fight with one another on the pitch. There was also about 24% report of lagged effect of conflicts among fans that remains after games were over and/or in other interactions, too.

5. Chi square of independence revealed that ethnicity and being a fan of a club were independent of one another. In other words, irrespective of to which ethnic group the fans belonged, they were free to choose which team to support.
5.3. Recommendations

Based on the results of the study, the researcher recommends the following:

1. Raising the awareness of fans by showing to whom they are affiliating and feel belonging. The awareness creation possibilities could be enriched by media, peer education, respect for each other and letting them model what the primary fighters do on the pitch, fight and have peace after the whistle is blown.

2. The number of venues that participants can watch games of own clubs, simultaneously decreasing the group size, can be increased. For example they can be installed at every block where fans can watch freely and be less likely to be submerging into crowds. As the number of fans increase, the likelihood of aggression, and conflicts would be high.

3. Media can play major roles in rectifying the problems stemming from football and related issues. It is observed that there are at least more than five weekly news papers only for sports. There also are more than four FM radio programs that give large air time analyzing pre-match clashes and post match reports that give heavy weight for listeners about the clashes ahead and peak their feelings of belongingness. There will be nothing better than what is happening on the pitch and in the venue to them. To reduce such expectations and vibes around the games, media can focus and invest much of their time on in-country reports and analysis. The weight given could be deescalated and contribute to ameliorating such calamities.
4. There are chronic problems that are associated with the Football Federation of Ethiopia that contribute for fans to be addicted to foreign football and be influenced than it should have been. If the Federation can bring show patience to bring peace and win back the fans, so the problems could be reduced.

5. When there is much times consumed talking, watching, arguing about and altercating about football, there would be other problems that would come as chain following it. Other than the studied variables here, what other contributing factors are there for scandals in football could show other implications. Reasons for why fans opt to be viewers or fans of European football they are at the expense own country football. The effects of betting upon the prediction of football results can also be studied in the realm.

Mainly the current study focused on the foreign influence of football and its effect on secondary level identifying fans. Such problems are not far from satisfying the problems identified in. There were many occasions when FM 97.1 radio sport journalists moaned about conflicts among fans, players and officials, prejudicial attitudes towards bitter rival and driven by states of de-individuation, susceptibility to aggress, and committing, diabolical and aggressive acts almost every morning. This would be worth scrutiny.
References


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Questionnaires

This questionnaire is intended to study the attitudes of fans of the Big Four (Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United) against each other, the sense of being in a group of fans and intergroup conflict. The questionnaire has several parts, which are to be completed by you participants. There are general information questions about the participants in the first part. The second part consists of questions that are helpful of knowing your level of belongingness to the fans group and teams of the Big Four clubs of the English Premier League. Then there are questions that deal with the attitude you have to out group fans. Then it is followed by de-individuation questions. The fifth part consists of questions on aggressive behaviors where the last part deals with questions on inter group conflict.

The information and response you will be giving is confidential, and is going to serve for the research purpose only. Then, feel free to give your responses so accurately that it will be of immense importance for the study. Your anonymity is kept for the study and you do not need to write your name.

Thank you.
I: Participants' General Information (Fill in or circle your answers)

1. Age _________
2. Year in College: A) 2nd year  B) 3rd year  C) 4th or above
3. The club that you are fan of: A) Arsenal  B) Chelsea  C) Liverpool  D) Man United
4. Ethnicity: A) Amhara  B) Oromo  C) Tigre  D) Others (Specify) _______
5. How many years is it since you started supporting your club?
   A) Less 2 year  B) Less than 3 years  C) 4 years  D) Above years
6. How many times do you watch your club playing?
   A) Do not miss one (including midweek, at nights)
   B) Every week
   C) Bi weekly
   D) Sometimes

II. Group Identification Questionnaire

Rate them from 1 to 5 and tick (√) in the box provided.

1 = strongly disagree  2 = disagree  3 = Cannot Decide   4 = agree  5 = strongly agree

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<tr>
<th>Group Identification Questions</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The group of fans is an important part of my identity, that defines who I am in the football scene</td>
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<td>2. This is a group of fans a club I take large amount of pride in</td>
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<td>3. The people in the group of fans are sensitive to each other</td>
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<td>4. I wear the jersey or scarf of my club or carry placards of star players to show my fan identity</td>
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<td>5. I side with our fans when problems arise due to belongingness</td>
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### III. Attitude Scale toward out group Fans

Please indicate your agreement/disagreement with each of the following statements. Please mark your ratings make use of tick sign (✓) in the boxes provided.

1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Cannot Decide 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitudes you have toward out groups</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I would like to get comments, and reactions about the match from other team supporters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Some opposing fans are overly proud of their club</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Some opposing fans are so touchy to be along with</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Fans of the opponent teams are troublemakers than ours</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Other fans other than ours are arrogant</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Other fans other than ours are close-minded</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Stricter laws should be established to control troubling opponent fans</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. It is likely that other groups of fans bring about conflict to their counter groups when their club is defeated</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Supporters of the other three teams do have stereotypes against the opposing fans, for most of the part</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Many of the top four fans do not want to become friends to each other</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. I would not mind if the fan of opponent teams sits beside me *</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. I would be conscious of celebrating emotionally in front of opposing fans</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Other fans are more aggressive than an average fan of us</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = negatively stated questions (not shown to participants)
IV. De-individuation Questionnaire

Please indicate your agreements/disagreements on the space provided make use of tick (✓) mark on the boxes.

1 = Not at all   2 = Rarely  3 = Sometimes  4 = Usually  5 = Always

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When in group and / or while watching games:</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I am alert enough to change in my moods.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I see myself predominantly as an individual during games *</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I do not know how my mind works while watching football in groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I am aware that I belong to the group to abide by.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I feel I am unidentifiable from outside the group</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Being unidentifiable enhances my atypical behaviors in the group</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. I tease out or mock out group fans from behind, knowing they will not see me</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. I do not feel personally responsible for what I do in the group *</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. I feel the most ‘ecstatic’ excitement with my groups of fans</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. I behave strangely against out group fans</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. When watching games in group, I get extra experience than in normal state</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12. I use bad words against out group fans</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. I shout at or curse out group fans something that I will not do if alone</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. The number of group of fans urge me to be in the mood of fans</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. When the number of fans is small, I do isolate myself *</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
V. (i) Competitive Aggressiveness and Anger Scale

Imagine yourself with the following statements while the games are going on and after that. Tick (√) your answers in the boxes.

1 = Not at all  2 = Rarely  3 = Sometimes  4 = Usually  5 = Always

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anger and Aggressiveness Questions</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I become irritable if my club is disadvantaged during a match</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I feel bitter towards my opponents if we lose the game</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I get mad when we lose points</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I show my irritation when frustrated during a game</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I find it difficult to control my temper during matches</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Officials' mistakes make me angry</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. I find it frustrating interacting with other fans</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. It is annoying to interact with fans of the other big three</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. I taunt opponent team fans to make them loose concentration so they cannot watch the games well</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. I verbally abuse opponents to distract them</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
V. (ii) Forms of Aggression

The following questions are designed to measure the type and form of actions you do or show against out group fans during and / or after the matches are over. How would you rate them?

1 = Not at all  2 = Rarely  3 = Sometimes  4 = Usually  5 = Always

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I start fights</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I threaten them physically</td>
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<td>3. I throw something on them</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I say mean things for them</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I curse them out</td>
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<td>6. I insult them</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. I tease them</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. I blame them unfairly</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. I isolate them</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. I refuse to listen to them</td>
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</table>
VI. Inter group Conflict Questionnaire

Please indicate how frequently you do the following by making tick (✓) in the space provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conflict Behaviors</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I quarrel with other fans due to their bias</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Negative attitudes of out group fans lead me to clash</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Supporting other teams other than my own leads me to fighting</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. The shared hatred against a common rival fans make conflict inevitable</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. The conflict among football fans is group bounded</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. The conflict I experience remain in other group interactions too</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. I fight for defense of our players when abused by out-group fans</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. I am likely to be in conflict when the team I support loses</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Denigration from outside fans make me quarrel with them</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Being in a group itself leads to conflict</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Games at night makes it easy to fight each other</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. The exciting feeling contributes to conflict</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. I hit back when only others fans do so</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. When players of opposing team fight, I also fight with opposing fans</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Anger about my team leads me to conflict</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Media have much influence on my conflict side</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. I enjoy watching violent video games of football</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Violent video games urge me to aggress</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1=Not at all   2=Rarely   3=Sometimes   4= Usually   5= Always


tell


tell


**ሰመር: હત અંત્ર નયાંભિત પ્રમાણને (✓) જેવું શોધી લોકો:-**

I: **પ્રથમે સમાવેશ કરો**

1. લખાય __________  

2. પાત્રે પ્રતિ જે  :=  u) 2રિનમત  a) 3પત  ch) 4પતમત હે મહે પસ.  

3. પ્રણાલીમાં ન્યુનતમ: u) હાં કરો a) સાંભ. ch) સાબિત સૌ) અમ રોજગાર:  

4. પર્યાયમાં: u) લાંબ પ) કુટુંબ d) હેલ સૌ) આ ના રમાં __________  

5. સાબંદો કે જીવન ફરી લખી ગયું?  

u) h 2 હાં પ) h 3 હાં d) 4 હાં સૌ) h 4 હાં. પસ.  

6. પ્રણાલીમાં: u) કેટકે કેટકે પ) ગુણમાં યાદગાર 2માં તેનું કરો?  

u) ઙીપુ હેલસાબર્ના સ) પાઠ કપણી સૌ) લાંબ પ:  

d) પાઠભર અપ્યુવ:  

s) હલા. હલા.  

II. બેઠક સોલ્યંબર સોલ્યંબર  

h 1-5 સુખ પક્ષફળને સોલ્યંબરવા પ્રત્યે જવા એ મહે લખાય::

1 = હાં હાંફાંગનું 2 = હાંફાંગનું 3 = પ્રયુ સોલ્યંબર હાંફાંગ 4 = હાંફાંગનું 5 = હાંounced  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>સોલ્યંબર સોલ્યંબર</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. પ્રથમે કરો તેના ની હાંફાંગ કે હાં હાંફાંગ પ્રત્યે પ્રયૂ સોલ્યંબરને બાલ લખાય::</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. પ્રણાલીમાં: u) કેટકે કેટકે પ) કેટકે હોંફાંગ ન્યુનતમ::</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. પાઠભર અંતરે કેટકે પ) કેટકે હોં અંશને પ્રવૃત્તિ બની લખ::</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. પ્રણાલી: u) કેટકે પ) કેટકે હોંફાંગ પાઠભર સોલ્યંબર હાંફાંગ તેમજ હાંફાંગ હોંફાંગને બાલ લકડાણ:</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. સાબંદો હોંફાંગ તરસુ પ્રથમે હોંફાંગ પાઠભર હાંફાંગ તેમજ હાંફાંગને બાલ લકડાણ::</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## IV. የወንድ ወይም ይህን በወርቅ መልስ

### የእስከታለን እንደሰወጥ የጤና ከፍ ከት ከወስደነት::

1=እወንድ 2=እንጋወንድ 3=እስከታለን 4=እንጋወንድ ወጤና 5=እና ወጤና

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ዬወቅት የይንመስት ወጤና</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. የወንድ ወይም ይህን በወርቅ መልስ</td>
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<td>2. መንጋወንድ ወይም ይህን ወይም ይህን በወርቅ መልስ</td>
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<td>3. የእስከታለን ወይም ይህን ወይም ይህን በወርቅ መልስ</td>
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<td>4. የእና ወይም ይህን በወርቅ መልስ</td>
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<td>5. የእና ወይም ይህን በወርቅ መልስ</td>
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V. (1) የተሰጠው የቀረበው ያደረገ መስሪያ ይለስ

የምህራት የቀረበው ያለት ከሀገር መስሪያ, የተለያዩ መሆን እና ከተነሳ ይፈት ይችል ያስጥ መሆን የቀረበው ይነስ ያላቸው የሚለስ መስሪያ ለግራቀው ከግንኑ ከነበዋልን ከስር ያለው ለማካሄmega ይቀርብ::

1 = የካሄmega 2 = ከመስሎም 3 = ከወረስ ከወረስ 4 = ከሰጠው የሚቀርብ 5 = ምወጭ የሚቀርቡ

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V. (2) የክለ እንወት ያስተጠኝ

የክለት የወረዳ በተለጠ ወረዳ ያከፈል እንወት ከክለ ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል የወረዳ ያደጋ በተለጠ ወረዳ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክለት ያስተጠኝ ያስፈል ይህን ከክ Lowell

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