

## UNIDAD EDUCATIVA PARTICULAR JAVIER BACHELOR IN SCIENCES

# MONOGRAPH ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES OF FIFA'S CORRUPTION IN SOUTH AMERICA, DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS.

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#### **SUMMARY**

This monographic document contains the study of a problem that has been occurring within the most recognized sport, such as cases of corruption within its organizing institutions, cases that have been discovered and for which many leaders have been arrested. This document also contains the thoughts of fans and people away from the sport on this issue, if they consider that this affects what happens within the field of play. The study can also be used to get an idea of the future participation of the public in events related to this sport. This document also includes a random sampling study to know the thinking that people have about the problems generated by the poor organization of soccer, which gives the document a certain degree of support about what the public is said to believe.



### **INDEX**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	2
SUMMARY	3
INTRODUCTION	6
CHAPTER I	8
SOCCER'S BUSINESS	8
1.1 CORRUPTION CASES	8
1.2 INVESTIGATION PROCESS OF THE BIGGEST FIFA'S CORRUPTION CASE	10
1.3 IMPORTANCE OF THE USA-SWITZERLAND UNION	12
CHAPTER II	15
COVER UP	15
2.1 PARTICIPATIONS OF NATIONAL FEDERATIONS	15
2.2 THE DISCOVERY	18
2.3 BIG SOCCER TEAMS AGAINST NATIONAL FEDERATIONS	19
CHAPTER III	21
EVERYTHING CHANGED	21
3.1 WHAT PEOPLE THINK	21
3.2 WHAT PEOPLE DO	24



3.3 WHAT PEOPLE WANT TO SEE IN THE FUTURE	27
CONCLUSIONS	35
RECOMMENDATIONS	37
BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES	



#### INTRODUCTION

Within the sport, soccer has become one of the most important representations throughout history and which has been gaining more followers over time. Given that it has been evolving and has been gaining a space within the world of entertainment, has attracted the attention of many investors who choose to start a business linked to this sport. Because of that, it had to create institutions that control and organize everything with respect to this sport. From that is where everything becomes a business, because having these organizations, it was possible to reach more fans through advertising that the only thing that did is to keep growing the fame of this sport and as everything can not be totally good, this sport also has its disadvantages, because by generating enough amounts of money, it also generates unfair cases where those who benefit the most are those who participate in these cases.

For this reason, the first chapter describes the biggest corruption case known to date, known as FIFAGATE, in which leaders of sporting organizations around the world are shown involved in illicit acts that had as their end, the lucrative profit of these leaders and that the investigations of some members of the American prosecution, was able to discover and apprehend the perpetrators of this crime.



Another important point is taken in the second chapter which shows the way in which the leading body (FIFA) commits these delítos with the support and concealment of the national football federations that also participate in these, for which it is attributed great responsibility for this. It also shows the football clubs that realized that and denounced their federations, allegations that were important to clarify the case.

In the third chapter, the opinion that people have about these cases is taken more into account. For this, a probabilistic sampling was applied, in which people were randomly surveyed, their fanaticism by this sport being irrelevant. Since this apart from staining the sport, it also talks about each country, even though the only responsible are those who lead the big organizations.

What can be questioned in this problem is that if this will end or we will always have this type of illegal acts; since everything is evolving, the control should be doing the same, because that way you could think about having a more transparent organization and one that can be trusted all the time. Because of this and the need to analyze cases that have already happened to know the way in which they have been given, the following analysis is presented, where the main consequences that have caused some of the cases of corruption in FIFA in the last decade are analyzed.



#### **CHAPTER I**

#### **SOCCER'S BUSINESS**

#### 1.1 CORRUPTION CASES

Being FIFA, the main body of order at the soccer level, is responsible for controlling, organizing and sanctioning breaches of the rules within this sport. As a result, it is the largest organization, manages large amounts of money, which makes it prosperous to be involved in cases of corruption and much more when power falls into the wrong hands.

Since the creation of this organization, back in 1904, the presidency has passed through nine people, of which there are names such as; Guérin, Woolfall, Rous, Havelange, among others until arriving at the current president of FIFA, Gianni Infantino, who is the one who has the great responsibility of making it recover the association, the credibility that it lost due to corruption cases in which the association was involved while governing Joseph Blatter.

Joseph Blatter, successor of the Brazilian Joao Havelange in the presidency of FIFA, presidency in which there were many changes in the administrative system and period in which it was promoted to the world cup to double in its participating teams, which would be carried out at the end of his presidential term, he became FIFA's top leader in 1998, after having been involved in the FIFA world for close to 23 years. During his



presidential term, there were many cases of corruption in the world of soccer and directly or indirectly related to the leading organization of this sport, and this made this period one of the most controversial since the creation of the organization.

Despite accusations of corruption within FIFA by some institutions of justice and several influential leaders in the soccer world; as is the case of the ex-president of the English federation David Triesman, who in 2011 accused Jack Warner, Nicolás Leoz, Ricardo Teixeira and Worawi Makudi, directors of FIFA, of asking for money in exchange for the vote in favor of England to host the World Cup 2018, according to a report made by telesur in 2015 which shows the controversial cases in which FIFA has been involved in recent years. For this reason the author considers that, as a consequence of the fact that soccer is the sport with more followers around the world, it also generates large amounts of money, which makes it more prospensive to be manipulated in a bad way by those who organize it in order to enriching in an easy way and in most of these allegations of bribery are born by the granting of television rights and venues for the world cup, which confirms the author's hypothesis.

All this type of accusations that had been given and with much more intensity in the period of government of Blatter, apparently would be the consequences of bad actions on the part of many of the members of the association, actions that did not remain without



being investigated and that would trigger in the case of the biggest corruption in FIFA's history.

#### 1.2 INVESTIGATION PROCESS OF THE BIGGEST FIFA'S CORRUPTION CASE

Hear about that within FIFA and the decisions it made was much corruption, it was becoming natural. However, not much attention was paid to these rumors and some of the leaders who denounced these cases stopped doing so because in the past these complaints were filed without having been investigated and without giving any response.

Regrettably it had to spend many years where this organization practiced these acts of corruption until the United States, a country that doesn't have soccer as its main sport, had to dig deep into the reasons why the whole world had been accusing this institution to have an organization where members profited in an illicit manner.

And that's where the scandal started; since a country as powerful as the United States put its hands in the case, seeing that strangely two countries with great economic support were the creditors of the venues for the next World Cups, and also that some members of FIFA were linked to the cases of corruption, for this reason the United States wanted to investigate if any of these cases took place on American soil. For this, FIFA asked Michael García, former prosecutor of the Southern District of New York, to investigate the process that each of these two countries had to go through to be granted the



seat; something that the author considers that FIFA did it to get rid of the eyes of critics from other countries and so that if the association is found guilty of any act of corruption they have a report with which they can defend themself and for what FIFA named Michael Garcia as president of the research group of its ethics commission.

This investigation process resulted in a 350-pages report and after it reached FIFA, the association ignored all kinds of information that could blame it for committing corrupt acts and made a summary of 42 pages as indicated by a CNN article by Saeed Ahmed in 2015. Summary that was pointed out in a bad way by Michael García and which he dismissed as incomplete and erroneous.

After Michael Garcia left the position of prosecutor, another would be named, which would be James Comey, who was the director of FBI until 2017, and who together with the secretary of justice Loretta Lynch took the case and continued with the investigations. They both believed that their investigations would soon produce the expected results and even more knowing that the American and former FIFA leader, Charles Gordon Blazer, was going to collaborate with them in their investigation process in exchange for the years of imprisonment that were waiting for him to evade multi-million dollar income taxes for more than a decade. Blazer became an FBI secret informant about the things that were happening inside FIFA and the meetings he had with other members of the association, and from which he was able to obtain evidence in which they show that not



all businesses were clean, according to the article created for CNN by Saeed Ahmed in 2015.

Blazer was the vice-president of CONCACAF, a FIFA-affiliated organization, which was very important for the investigations of Comey and Lynch, which aimed to know if the acts of corruption within FIFA had come to have participation in the tournaments that were held in American continent.

Favorably for the American justice, the investigations and the long process of obtaining evidence gave the results that were expected and it was possible to uncover the biggest case of corruption in which FIFA has intervened since its creation. This process resulted in the arrest of many directors of national federations and most of them from South American countries.

All the effort was worthwhile and the truth could be found in the whole case, leaving the arrest of the 41 accused about the problem, in some cases awaiting their sentences, according to an article published by Infobae in November 2017.

#### 1.3 IMPORTANCE OF THE USA-SWITZERLAND UNION

To have managed to uncover this great scandal and capture the large number of people who were enriching themselves in an illicit manner, the research groups had to first capture the leaders who were in a middle position with respect to power; that is, to leaders and people



who had an average influence on the decisions made within FIFA and its associated organizations, such as Juan Ángel Napout, former president of CONMEBOL and who was arrested in a hotel together with Alfredo Hawit Banegas, interim president who had CONCACAF, in Switzerland.

Thanks to this arrest, the case could be continued; since, this was one of the first and with which it was possible to continue with more information for the arrest of other participants about the case. The author mentions the importance of these arrests due to the fact that it was easier to obtain information in exchange for a loss in the years of their sentences.

Another important thing was the joint work of the Swiss and US prosecutors; since Switzerland, being the country where FIFA's headquarters are located, had the power not to let the United States investigate within its territory, but Switzerland not only allowed the United States to continue with its investigations, but also agreed to to help by lending part of its police force when, after the lengthy investigative process, the arrest of Napout and Hawit was needed.

For this reason it is also important to thank Switzerland because although the United States was the one who started the investigations, Switzerland could have ignored any suspicion, nevertheless it paid a lot of attention and even opened investigations to collaborate in the investigative process, as indicated in an essay by newspaper El Comercio, at beginning of 2018, and which express that were sent copies of a forensic audit conducted



by CONMEBOL and helped Switzerland to trace the money, the United States Department of justice, location where the trial was being carried out for the case called FIFA GATE.



#### **CHAPTER II**

#### **COVER UP**

#### 2.1 PARTICIPATIONS OF NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

Because the world of soccer is too broad to be managed by a single entity such as FIFA, there are institutions affiliated to the largest association, which are responsible for exercising the highest sporting authority in each region in which they are found. Institutions such as these have: CONCACAF, CAF, OFC, AFC, CONMEBOL and UEFA, institutions that, in turn, are integrated by national federations, which are those presented as the highest sports authorities in respects to soccer within each country.

When talking about corruption within FIFA, you should not focus directly on what happens within that association; because, although what happens there is important to know, no one can deny that the affiliated institutions, as a supervisory body, also handle large amounts of money and are also an easy target for those leaders who seek to enrich themselves without much effort. In many of the cases, acts of corruption are carried out in these affiliated institutions and the one that ends up being affected in their image because of these institutions is FIFA, for this reason working with this administrative division is not quite right.



If attention is focused on these cases of corruption in South America, some specific cases can be taken into account, such as the case of FVF (Venezuelan Football Federation) and one of its former directors, Rafael Esquivel, who is alleged to have received close to two million dollars in bribes, as expressed in a publication made by the newspaper El Nacional in 2017 and where it says; "The first payment to Esquivel was made on November 16, 2010 for an amount of 604 thousand dollars."

"In 1972 he became president of the State Football Association Nueva Esparta and Years later, in 1987, took his first presidency in the Venezuelan Football federation, where it has been 28 years, and generated great ties with important men of FIFA, including Joseph Blatter, who came out to support him when Hugo Chávez tried to threaten his mandate in the FVF." (Diario El Comercio, 2015).

With this statement be left in evidence the great friendship that had the main involved in the most scandalous corruption case in the history of FIFA and the former president of FVF, which leaves the opportunity to speculate a lot about the participation of this leader in these illicit cases. However, the same newspaper publication expresses, "In November 2016, the former president of the FVF pleaded guilty to several corruption charges in a federal court in New York.", Which makes what, until then were assumptions seem quite the opposite.



Another case of corruption in South American soccer starred Luis Chiriboga, ex leader of FEF (Ecuadorian Football Federation) who was accused of money laundering, and was one of many detained for committing some unlawful act while they were related to FIFA.

"The Prosecutor's Office ratified, as it has done during the accusatory process, that the Ecuafútbol, in the 2010-2015 period, received more than \$ 6,119,665, but without supporting documents." (Diario El Universo,2016). In response to these accusations, it was decided to investigate the income that this federation had had in recent years and found that in a period of five years had entered a large amount of money without documents or evidence to validate it.

Due to his advanced age,, the Ecuadorian justice opted to have Luis Chiriboga Acosta put under house arrest, where he has been since December 5, 2015, when he was first sentenced to 10 years in prison during a trial chaired by the judge, Miriam Escobar After an appeal for annulment was filed by Luis Chiriboga's defense o and accepted by the National Court, the penalty was reduced to six years. This is evidenced in the Act, held on July 5, 2018, reported by the newspaper, El Universo.

Another who also joins the list of national federations presidents arrested during the exercise of their duties is Marco Polo del Nero, who in May 2015, managed to return to Brazil before several managers were arrested in Switzerland Marco was accused of receiving millions of dollars as bribes in exchange for television rights to sports companies



FROM the best South American parties, according to a Televisa article published in March 2018. This case is undoubtedly one of those that received one of the strongest sanctions by FIFA, because it was fined with a figure of one million Swiss francs equivalent to one million us dollars and, without this being enough, also sanctioned a lifetime suspension to perform any activity related to the leading sport.

#### 2.2 THE DISCOVERY

Undoubtedly, the beginning of all kinds of speculation about what was going on inside the national football federations was the arrest of several FIFA executives at the luxurious Swiss hotel, Baur au Lac, as those managers were related to the FIFA affiliated institutions (CONMEBOL, CONCACAF) and the controllers of the national federations. Although there was no obligation of the authorities of the United States and Switzerland to investigate further as to what was happening in the national federations, they felt compelled to continue investigating to see if they were more involved and, as was suspected, they found themselves more involved. However it is necessary to point out that there were two types of bribes in the case; one type is the acceptance of money in exchange for their vote in the elections of the venues of the next world championships, while the other is more common bribe is the acceptance of money in exchange for television rights of the tournaments and where sports companies also take part, owners of the money that is offered to the most authoritative managers in each national federation.



"And with the help of regional and American sports companies and Swiss banks that invented false service agreements, the then Conmebol leadership dug millions of dollars in bribes for years in exchange for contracts." (T13 Radio, November 2017). This text shows the participation of South American and American sports companies in this type of bribes and from which the highest leaders of each national federation who accepted these illicit acts were favored. this leaves a lot to say about these sports companies that choose to grow illicitly, offering money to these types of people who do not realize the great responsibility they have in representing the great sports federations and dare to dirty what healthy of the sport.

#### 2.3 BIG SOCCER TEAMS AGAINST NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

In response to these acts of corruption that happen within the federations and that inevitably damage the image of what soccer is, several South American clubs, tired of always talking about it, decided to join in protest to this and managed to create an alliance to demand that completely restructure CONMEBOL.

The leaders of 15 clubs met at the luxurious Uruguayan hotel Radisson. Leaders of teams from Uruguay, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile, Peru and Paraguay met at this meeting, according to an article written by Magdalena Martínez for the newspaper, EL PAÍS, in 2016. Another thing that the article also mentions is that the purpose of creating this alliance was to place an order for television rights to be granted to the clubs and not to the



federations, assuming the idea that this would be convenient for both parties. On the one hand, the clubs were going to be responsible for seeing who was selling these rights. On the other hand, the federations were going to be freed from any possibility of committing any illicit act.

"Here there are two types of leaders, those who have bow and we are every Sunday subject to the ups and downs of whether the ball enters or does not enter; and the leaders who do not have to be there on Sundays. And the incredible thing is that those leaders have made fortunes on our effort." (Eduardo Ache, 2016).

Eduardo Ache, former president of the Uruguayan club, "Nacional", expresses this against those bad leaders who get involved in these acts of corruption. The thing to worry about was that this was all a reality, even though it looked bad because, regardless of anything, there are leaders who strive to take care of the sport's image in this case of soccer. These work hard and still, do not seek to enrich themselves illicitly as did several leaders in South America. This is what happens when people work for something that they are passionate about and they like what they do, unlike other people who work for money and do not care if their bad actions leave institutions with a great career with a bad image.



#### **CHAPTER III**

#### **EVERYTHING CHANGED**

#### 3.1 WHAT PEOPLE THINK

Being these cases of corruption and known by all, it is important to know the thinking of the people in this regard, for it has chosen to choose a tool that will help to obtain information such as the survey and thus be able to make a monographic document with a support that will credit you with credibility that your ideas are objective. This sampling is probabilistic in which people were taken randomly to know their thinking.

Entering the subject, as had been expressed before, much of the population recognizes that football is the sport with more followers and is the one that currently generates the largest amount of money produced in the sport and most of the population is aware of that, according to research conducted by the author.

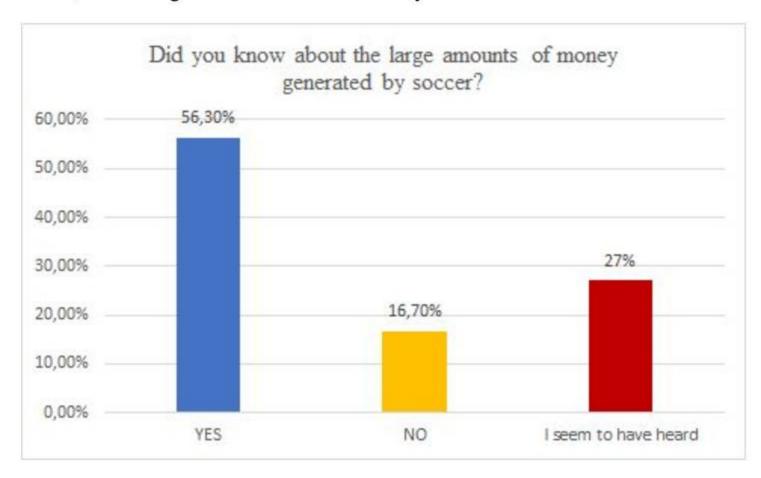




Figure #1. Money generated by soccer.

Source: Survey applied.

Author: Axel Roca.

As shown in the graph a little more than half of the surveyed population (56.3%) believes that they are well informed about the large amount of money generated by this sport. Another considerable percentage (27%) has heard about this, but does not really know the amount of money that is generated. And a small percentage (16.7%) are totally unaware that this sport generates large amounts of money.

Despite the great recognition of soccer in the sports world, it is safe to say that there is a large number of people who are unaware that for this sport in particular and organization has been created and whose mission is the responsibility of sanctioning, controlling and rewarding the events that occur within this sport.

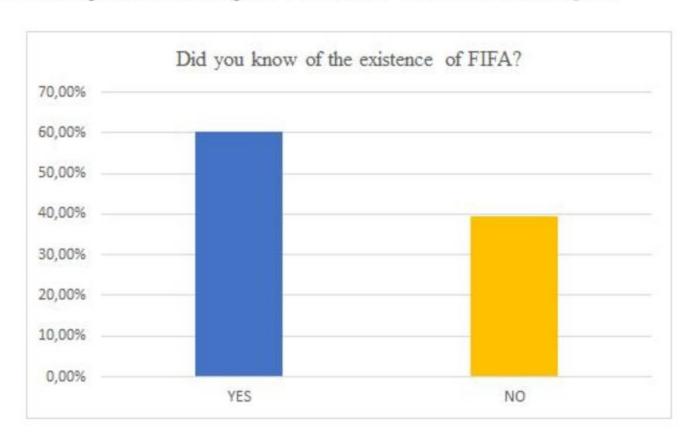


Figure #2. Existence of FIFA

Source: Survey applied.



Shown in the graph above are the results of the survey conducted, a large part of the population (60.40%) is aware of the existence of FIFA and the function it is in charge of performing; However, there is the other percent (39.60%) who did not know that there was an entity that regulated the events in this sport.

FIFA being the controller of soccer everywhere on the planet and having its headquarters in Europe, it needs autonomous bodies in its role to carry out the work of FIFA. However, what is questioned is that many of the corruption cases related to FIFA occur in these organizations, so the questioned population was also questioned if they agreed with the existence of such organisms. To which the population replied:

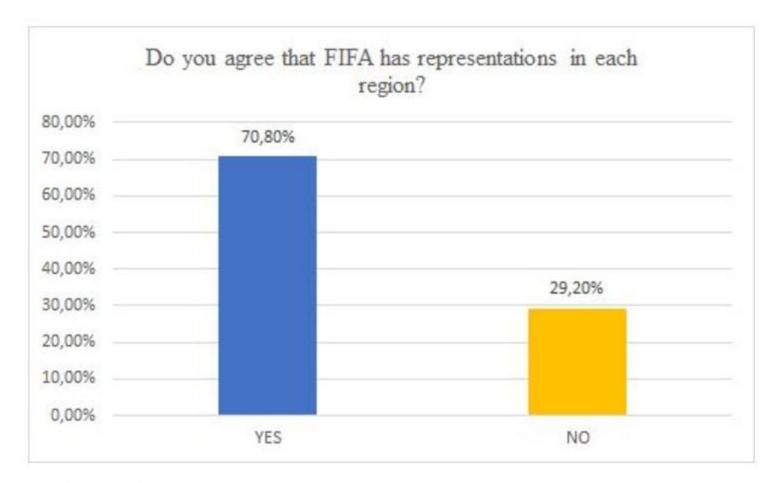


Figure #3. This percentage table shows the amount

Source: Survey applied.



29.20% of the respondents answered that they disagree with this because they consider that it is there where the greatest amount of bribery or illegal acts occur. the remaining percentage (70.80%) said that it was in agreement with this, so FIFA can not control everything, having its headquarters in Europe, and being very far from many national federations.

#### 3.2 WHAT PEOPLE DO

Each individual has their own different thoughts and beliefs, therefore each reacts differently way when they learn of a case of corruption. A clear example of this was when a question was asked to the surveyed population of what their position would be in the face of a case of corruption in soccer, knowing that if they have existed and that they are probably happening, a large percentage answered that they knew these cases and yet it had not affected their desire to participate in these sporting events.

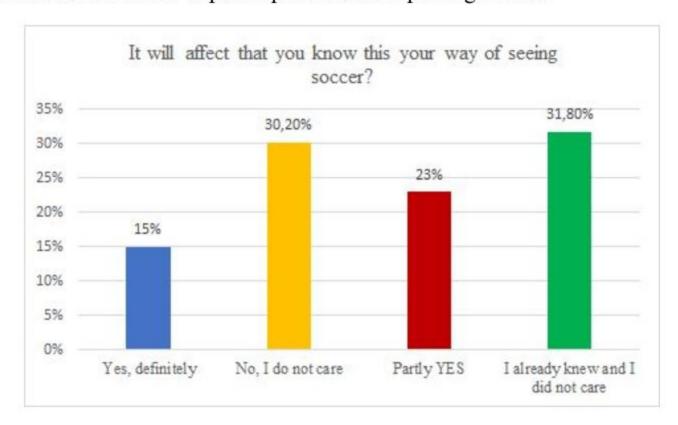




Figure #4. Impact of soccer.

Source: Survey applied.

Author: Axel Roca.

For example, this graph shows a very divided population, assuming that it is due to the diversity of thoughts of each person. Beginning with the highest percentage of the population (31.80%) that expresses that they already knew about what had happened, but were more convinced by their fanaticism for soccer. Another similar percentage to the previous one (30.20%) expresses that although they already know the truth, it would not affect anything and they will continue to enjoy the pleasures that this sport produces. On the other hand there is a percentage of people (23%) who believe that somehow it will affect them when they see an event in this sport, thinking that behind what they are seeing there is a series of events that somehow do not They are entirely correct. And there is also the percentage of people (15%), which despite being a minority, knowing this has impacted them to the point that they could stop participating in any event related to this sport and as a result would not generate any income to the soccer.

Another important thing is that some people in these kinds of cases, want to do something against this so as to end all kinds of illegal acts. Therefore, within the survey the



population was questioned if they would be willing to do to finish with this. The results were surprising and not so positive, since the following results were obtained:

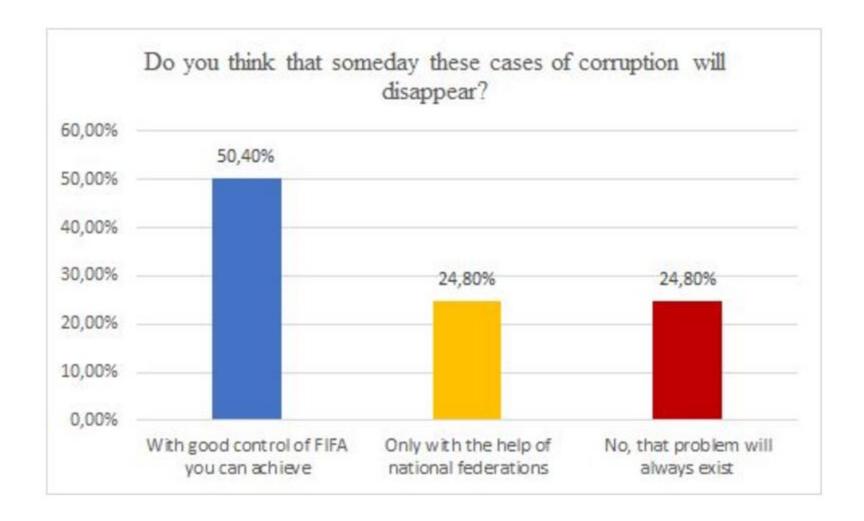


Figure #5. Disappearance of these cases

Source: Survey applied.

Author: Axel Roca.

According to the percentage obtained, it is shown that a large number of people (50.40%) consider that the poor or little control of FIFA in their representation in each region has had a great influence on the success of known corruption cases and that if FIFA takes issues such as these, these kinds of problems could disappear. On the other hand, a



considerable part of the population (24.80%) believes that something can be done but the support of the federations is needed, which, in many cases are a participant in these events, thus complicating the solution. And the remaining percentage of the population (24.80%) remains negative in its position, considering that these cases will never disappear in soccer.

#### 3.3 WHAT PEOPLE WANT TO SEE IN THE FUTURE

Although the survey did not question what people want to happen in the world of soccer in the future, you can intuit the desire of those fans who every time they participate in a sporting event related to soccer, generating money and that somehow it comes to FIFA, what they most want is for that to happen again, hoping that what they have generated will serve for the evolution of this sport, not for people in power to fill their pockets.

Well that is what often happens within organizations and so many people would stop participating in all kinds of events related to soccer as indicated by the survey conducted for the study. Also another thing that is expected for the future is to have organizations that generate more confidence, being transparent in everything they do. This way you will have total peace of mind that what you generate will be for the sport, but not for anything else.

Another thing that fans would like to see is that at least a small percentage of everything that is generated by the sport is returned in the form of charitable actions



towards the people who most in need, not only because some of their because this is how soccer is shown as a sport that benefits society, not only removes but also gives, which would generate more confidence in organizations.

However, not only is expected response from large organizations, but also from each national federation linked to this sport, since the confidence that fans have in FIFA, has much to do with what happens in national federations even if they do not have no relation to the cases of corruption that occur in each organism. And this lack of confidence affects a lot in the prizes that FIFA awards annually to the most outstanding athletes, since it is believed that everything is arranged in an illegal way and that is why in many cases the creditors of these prizes are seen in a bad way.



#### **CHAPTER IV**

#### ANALYSIS OF THE APPLIED SURVEY

Table #1. Knowledge of the large amounts of money generated by soccer.

Porcent		
Yes	56,30%	
No	16,70%	
I've heard that	27%	

This table shows the percentage of people who know about the large amounts of money generated by soccer and those who do not know.

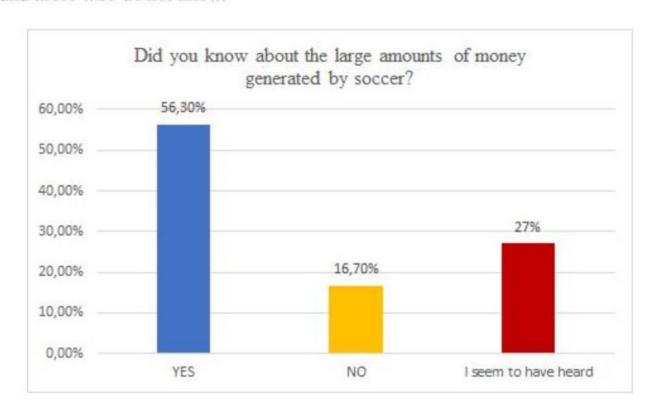


Figure #1. Money generated by soccer.

Source: Survey applied.



Table #2. Existence of FIFA.

Porcent	
Yes	60,40%
No	39,60%

This table shows the percentage of people who know of the existence of a leading agency, which controls soccer.

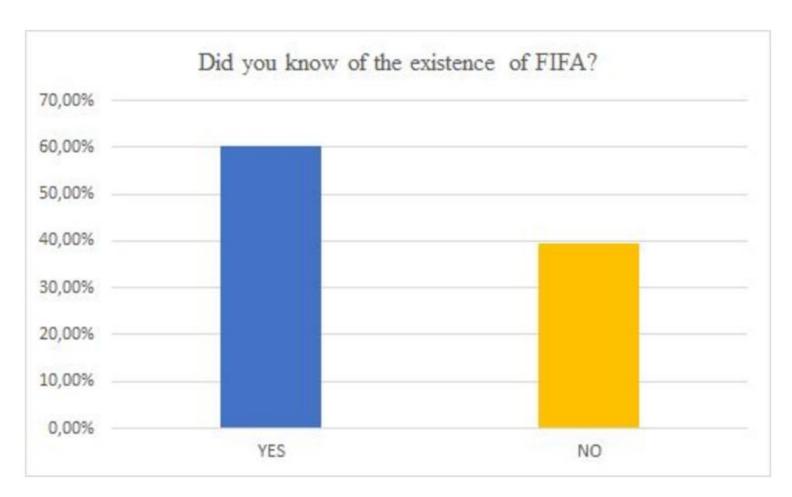


Figure #2. Existence of FIFA

Source: Survey applied.



Table #3. Point of view on representations

P	orcent
Yes	70,80%
No	29,20%

This table shows the amount in percentage of people who agree that FIFA has representations in each region to try to have more control in this sport.

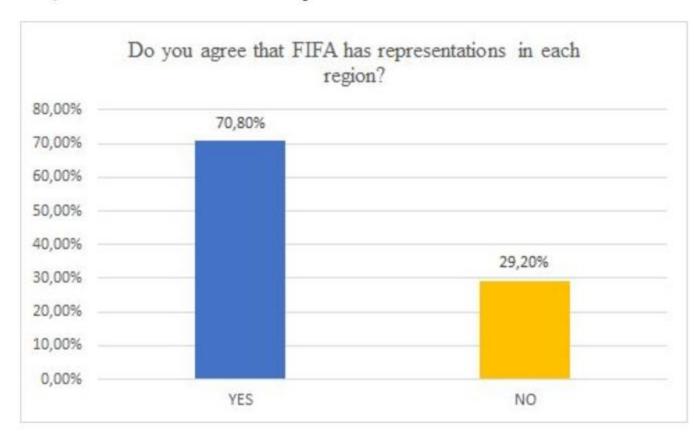


Figure #3. This percentage table shows the amount

Source: Survey applied.



Table #4. Impact of soccer

Porcent		
Yes, definitely	15,00%	
No, I don't care	30,20%	
Partly Yes	23%	
I already knew that and Ididn't care	31,80%	

This table shows in percentage the position of each person knowing the existence of corruption cases in soccer.

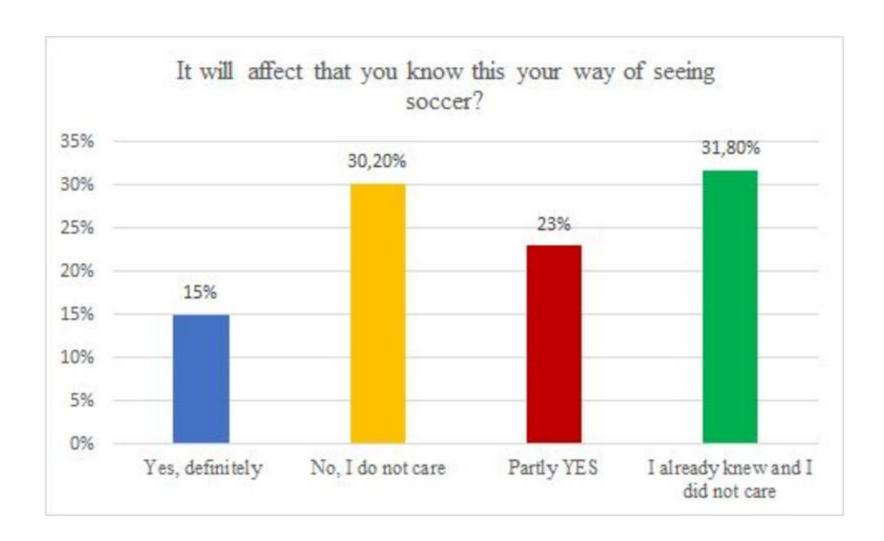


Figure #4. Impact of soccer.

Source: Survey applied.



Table #5. Disappearance of these cases

Porcent	
Yes, with good control of FIFA	50,40%
Only with the help of national federations	24,80%
No, that problem will always exist	24,80%

This table shows the percentage of people and their beliefs about whether corruption problems within soccer will continue or disappear.

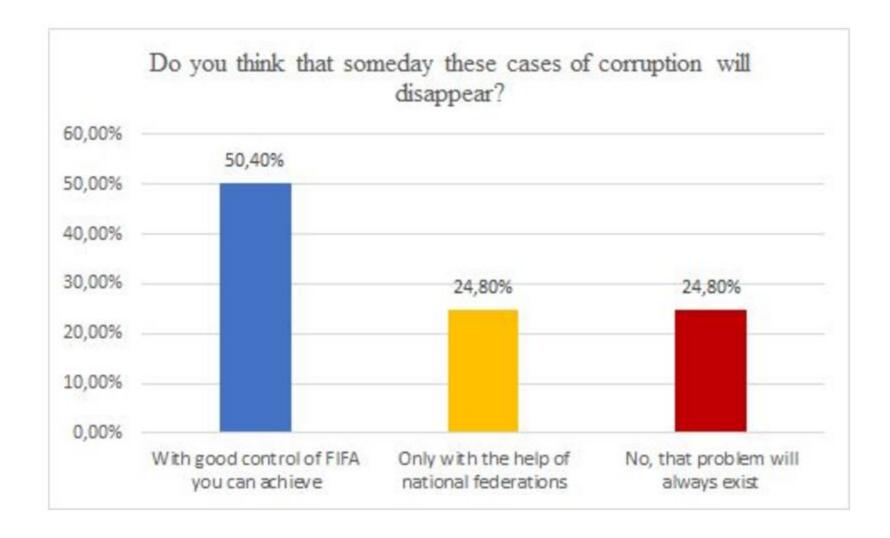


Figure #5. Disappearance of these cases

Source: Survey applied.



Table #6. Culpability of these cases

Porcent	
From organizations to choose corrupt	47,90%
Every person is responsible for their acts	47,90%
Lack of regulations	4,20%

This table shows to whom people attribute greater culpability to the occurrence of these cases of corruption.

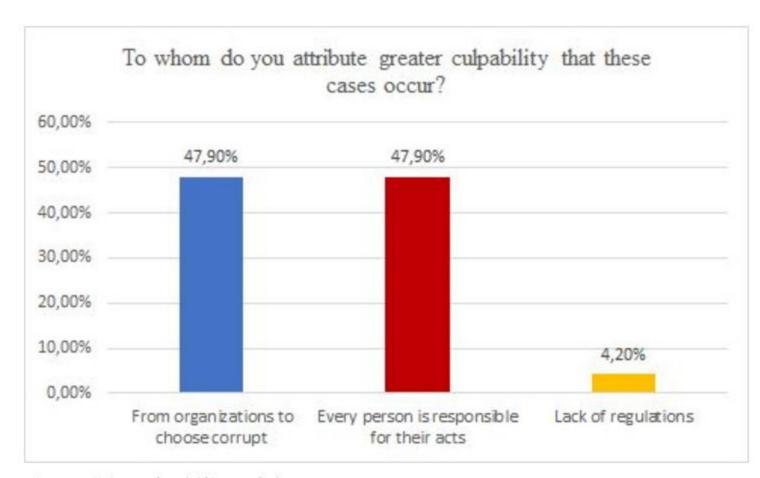


Figure #6. Culpability of these cases

Source: Survey applied.



#### CONCLUSIONS

At the end of this monographic work it is concluded that:

As a result of the large amounts of money generated by the sport with more followers around the world has lately been involved in cases of bribery and corruption, which only affects the sport and the way of thinking of fans about it. Given this in the first chapter investigated the process that left in evidence of crime to the most recognized leaders within the sport and mostly born in the southern part of America, this being a fact that should worry because it goes against of the values that are taught as a child.

The participation of national federations is very important for these acts of corruption to be carried out, since being organizations with a common leader are aware of many of the decisions that are made in FIFA and that make them accomplices when they don't report any type of irregularity that evidenced. This was detailed in the second chapter, which also shows that the multiple complaints helped to investigate more thoroughly of those complaints and managed to uncover a case of corruption that encompassed multiple crimes.

Perhaps the most important is the point of view that people have; since due to them it is that the sport generates the large amounts of money it generates, so it is to them that they should be given explanations of the cases that were discovered. After having analyzed the third chapter it can be seen that the greatest number of fans will continue to enjoy this



type of entertainment; However, there is a small percentage that lost total confidence in sporting events because they would think corruption in sports is part of it.



#### RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of this work it is recommended that:

Help to promote the values that should be taught at home, in schools and universities; since, that is where the leaders come out who in the future are the leaders of the big governing bodies of the sport in general and that since these values have not been fostered since they were children as adults they will probably commit them and be involved in these cases of corruption such as those already mentioned in this monograph.

Another very important recommendation is given to the judicial powers of each country; since they are always in charge of controlling and preventing more cases such as those mentioned in this document from being carried out and in case of discovering any, that is sanctioned with the maximum judicial rigor so that it is of precedent and that nobody tries to abuse the power and profit profitably in an illegal manner.

Another recommendation that could be addressed to people who are candidates to occupy a significant position in a sports organization; since more than being an achievement in life also becomes a great responsibility because it would touch them, with good works to try to change the bad opinion that many people have towards sports and much more if it is one of the most controversial sports like It's soccer.



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