

THE ROLE OF SOCCER IN THE ADJUSTMENT
OF IMMIGRANTS TO AUSTRALIA: A SOUTH
AUSTRALIAN CASE STUDY
1947 TO 2013

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ABSTRACT

This thesis brings together both existing and new pieces of research, conducted over a period of 8 years. There are four primary aims. The first is to analyse the role the sport of soccer has played in the adjustment of immigrants to Australia since the Second World War with South Australia as a case study. This thesis lies in the context of immigrant adjustment theory and it is an attempt to analyse the role played by soccer in the lives of both new arrivals and their descendants. The social impact of participation in soccer is a long neglected aspect of settlement experiences in Australian immigration literature. Soccer has been specified due to its position in Australia as a sport played and supported by large numbers of culturally and linguistically diverse immigrants.

The second aim is to examine the influence of participation in soccer on cultural maintenance. Australian soccer clubs formed by CALD European settlers have a reputation of encouraging their members to maintain their ethnic identity while also stimulating anti-social attitudes – this study investigates the degree to which this is actually occurring, and the implications for cultural and social adjustment. The third is to investigate the potential for participation in soccer to influence the adjustment of immigrants from Asia, Africa and the Middle East – groups more representative of Australia's immigrant intakes since the 1970s and presently. The fourth is to explore the implications of the study's findings for immigrant adjustment theory and settlement policy in Australia.

DECLARATION

I certify that this work contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in my name, in any university or other tertiary institution and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in the text. In addition, I certify that no part of this work will, in future, be used in a submission in my name, for any other degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution without the prior approval of the University of Adelaide and where applicable, any partner institution responsible for the joint-award of this degree.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AAP – Australian Associated Press
 ABC – Australian Broadcasting Corporation
 ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics
 ACT – Australian Capital Territory
 AEAC – Australian Ethnic Affairs Council
 AFC – Asian Football Confederation
 AFL – Australian Football League
 AMAC – Australian Multicultural Affairs Council
 APIA – Associazione Poli-sportiva Italo Australiana
 ASCCEG – Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups
 ASCO – Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
 ASEAN – Association of Southeast Asian Nations
 ASF – Australian Soccer Federation
 ASFA – Australian Soccer Football Association
 ATT – Attendance
 AUS – Australia
 BBC – British Broadcasting Corporation
 CALD – Culturally and linguistically diverse
 CBCS – Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics
 CCS – Complex Case Support
 CMYI – Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues
 CNN – Cable News Network
 DC – District of Columbia
 DIAC – Department of Immigration and Citizenship
 DIBP – Department of Immigration and Border Protection
 DIEA – Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs
 DIMA – Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
 DIMIA – Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
 DP – Displaced Persons
 DPCD – Department of Planning and Community Development
 ECCV – Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria
 EU – European Union
 FC – Football Club
 FFA – Football Federation Australia
 FFNT – Football Federation Northern Territory
 FNSW – Football New South Wales
 FFSA – Football Federation South Australia
 FFT – Football Federation Tasmania
 FFV – Football Federation Victoria
 FIFA – Fédération Internationale de Football Association
 IOM – International Organization of Migration
 JUST – Yugoslav United Soccer Team
 LGA – Local Government Area
 MLS – Major League Soccer
 NFSP – National Framework for Settlement Planning
 NRL – National Rugby League
 NSL – National Soccer League

NSW – New South Wales
NSWFSC – New South Wales Federation of Soccer Clubs
NT – Northern Territory
NZ – New Zealand
OOP – Onshore Orientation Program
QLD – Queensland
SA – South Australia
SAASL – South Australian Amateur Soccer League
SASFA – South Australian Soccer Football Association
SBS – Special Broadcasting Service
SC – Soccer Club
SCOA – Settlement Council of Australia
SES – Socioeconomic status
SWB – Sports Without Borders
TAS – Tasmania
UK – United Kingdom
US – United States
VIC – Victoria
VSF – Victorian Soccer Federation
WA – Western Australia