

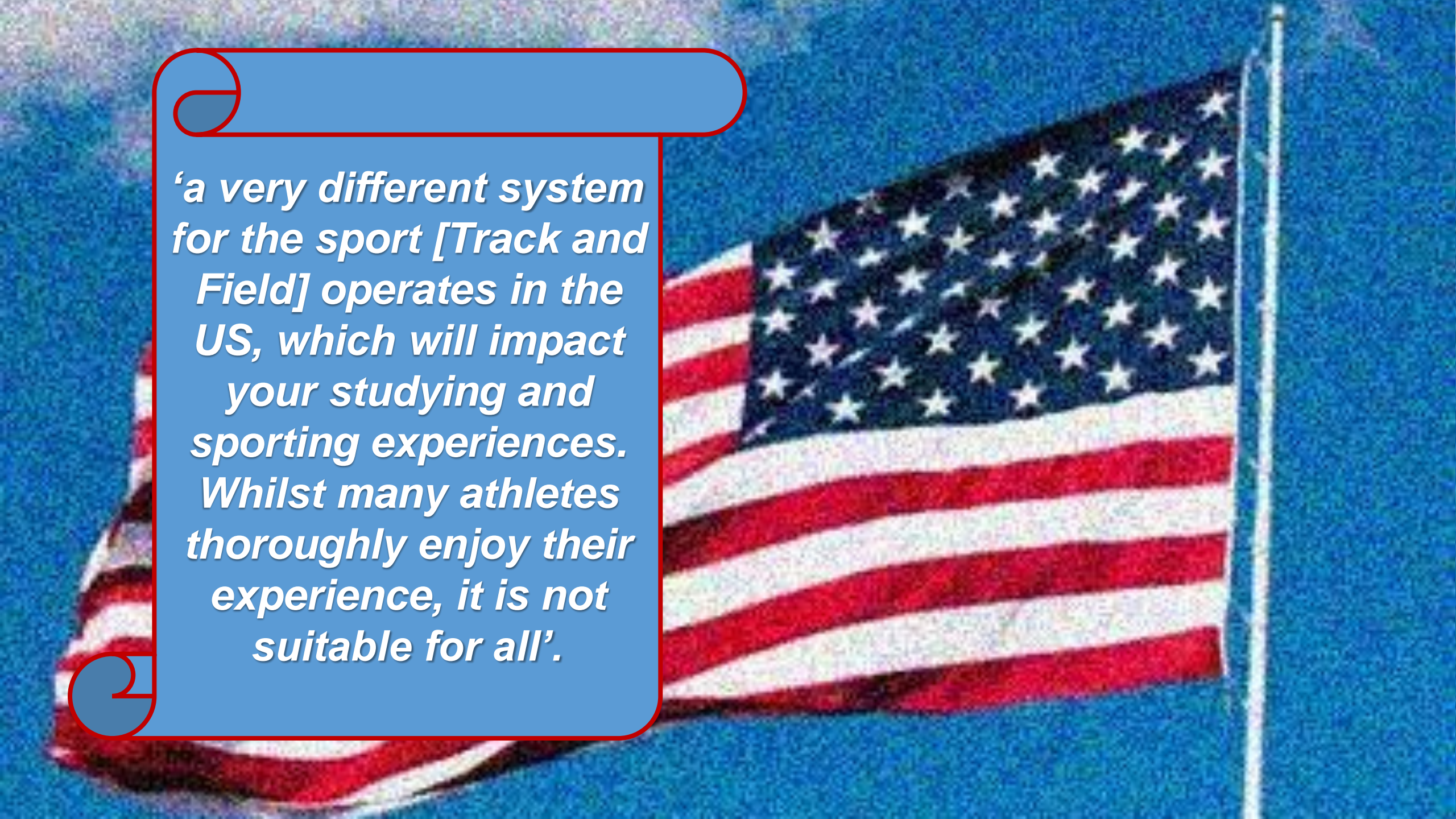
# University sport: An inhibitor or facilitator of doping prevention?

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The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly angled view of the United States flag. The stars and stripes are clearly visible, and the flag appears to be waving. The colors are vibrant, with a deep blue field for the stars and bright red and white stripes. The flag is set against a solid blue background.

*‘a very different system for the sport [Track and Field] operates in the US, which will impact your studying and sporting experiences. Whilst many athletes thoroughly enjoy their experience, it is not suitable for all’.*



- Give student-athletes a voice.
- Explore the university environment surrounding US and UK student-athletes.
- Consider how specific factors shape student-athletes' beliefs in regards to PED use.

# Participants

## 14 student-athletes

Male = 5

Female = 9

(mean age = 20.64, SD = 1.08)

Division I: N = 9 (M: 1, F: 8)

Division II: N = 5 (M: 4, F: 1)

**TRACK  
& FIELD**



## 14 student-athletes

Male = 8

Female = 6

(mean age = 21.07, SD = 2.06)

Elite: N = 10 (M: 6, F: 4)

Competitive: N = 4 (M: 2, F: 2)

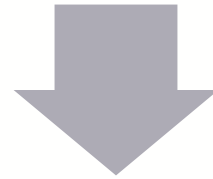
# Procedures

- Ethical approval granted by host institution
- In-depth semi-structured interviews were carried out face-to-face



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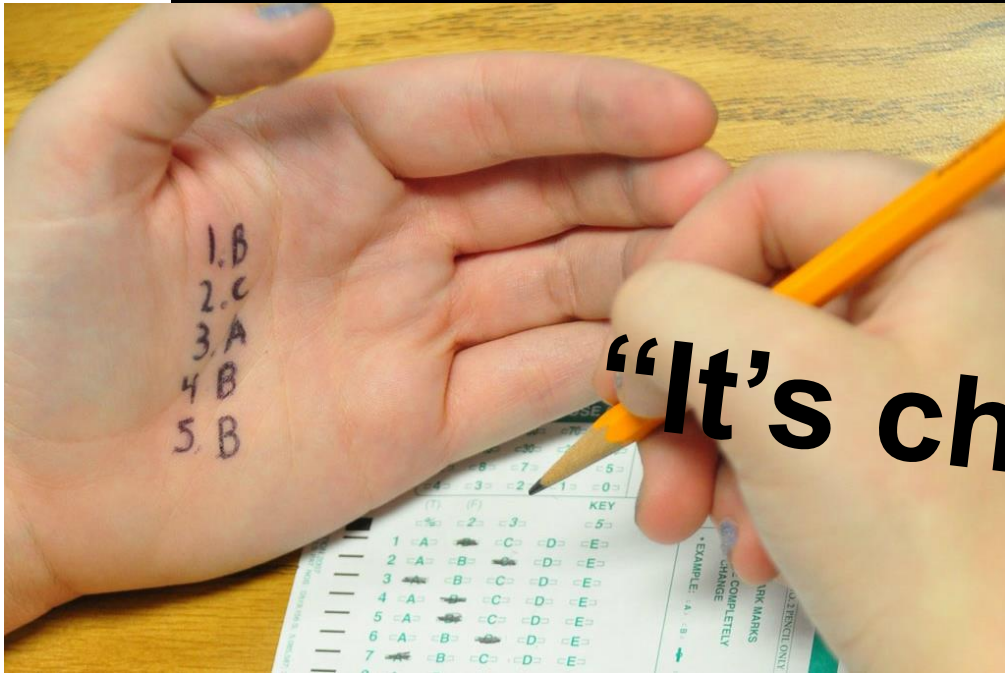
Study 1  
Inductive  
Analysis



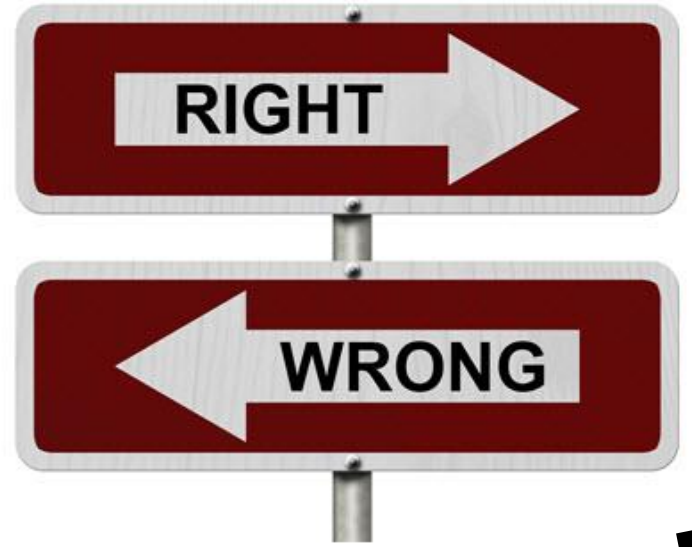
Study 2  
Deductive  
Analysis

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“It’s cheating”



“It’s wrong”





*"My high school coach I was extremely close with...he was a major figure in my life...this male figure that I could trust...reinforced all these positive things in my mind and made me feel worth something...he just taught me lessons through the sport...provided it even...having him as just a good model and someone to respect was great...I realized that point*

*"I'm really close with my high school coach...I talk to him a lot...I talk to him about anything...he's more of us, like a friend than a coach now".*

## **High School Coach-Athlete Relationship**

*"to this day I would not feel bad calling them [high school coaches] up like I know they're going to be the people that...attend the milestones in my life like my wedding and whatnot".*

*"I'm so happy th  
gave me th  
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*"During season last year as I started to get my own ideas he actually started to resort to like emotional abuse to deal with that and to defend his training philosophy and it came to a point where I was crying about it; no one was listening to me about it. I would say stuff like"*

# **University Coach-Athlete Relationship**

*just can  
him  
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and*

*"...I just feel bad because there's girls that went to high school that didn't have that influence and that are still barely 18 and he talks like that and it's just I mean...I can't believe it's still tolerated type thing".*

# Expectations

## ...for behavior.

*“you’re a student-athlete. You are a leader of the school...you shouldn’t go to parties. You shouldn’t drink or misrepresent things because then you’re representing the whole school”.*

*“People hold you to a higher standard. Even to where...you’re in public I mean some people can get away with doing...something rude...but...if you wear a [university] Track and Field jacket out, you do something that’s inappropriate or you know, someone doesn’t like it...that could go to your coach right away...there’s definitely a lot of pressure with that...someone’s always watching and news can always get back to the school”.*

# Expectations

...for performance.

*“if you don’t perform very well like especially two times in a row, you can be pretty much sure your season’s over so it’s kind of stressful for sure”.*

*“you show up every day...there’s not a lot of room to jerk around...it’s black and white like if you’re good...there’s always numbers...you...can’t lie about numbers...they like a person but at the end of the day to perform”.*

*“I felt like I’m here to like help this team be better and if I can’t even do that, why am I here?”*

# Exposure and Accessibility

*"My freshman year, there was a kid on the track team and...there was this...testosterone supplement something and it sounded kind of funny. I was going to take it um because he was like 'oh I don't have anything to worry about ...it sounded weird... he...didn't try and pressure me, but ...he was trying to like encourage me like 'oh you'd be better for it' and...I was like 'no' and I thought it was stupid you know...I couldn't tell you what the drug was but I bet you it was illegal".*

*"I've seen people first-hand use them, never been offered though".*

# So what?



# Thanks for listening!

Please feel free to get in touch:  
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