

PLAGIARISM: INFRINGEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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Abstract:

This article reviews the literature on plagiarism is a growing problem for Colleges, Institutes, Universities and every Academic work especially in higher education. Many people think of plagiarism as copying another's work, or borrowing someone else's original ideas but terms like copying and borrowing can cover the sincerity of the offense. In other words, plagiarism is an act of hoax; basically it involves stealing someone else's work. Moral rights are infringed when the author of a work is not given due acknowledgement by means of clear quotations and clear acknowledgements giving details of the publication concerned. Researchers need to be aware of the concept of self-plagiarism and self-citation and how to avoid it.

Keywords: Plagiarism, Infringement, Academic Integrity, Software.

“It will always do lasting scratch, like accusation of prejudice”

In this age of computer and internet or e-learning and m-learning, the educational institutes and publishing houses has/have given access to their literature to the students across the world for facilitating learning. Plagiarism is one of the most up to date problems in academic writing nowadays. It creates not only exploitation of copyright but also narrows aptitude of students of original and free ideas. But due to unawareness and to save their efforts, students have mistaken

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this access with a source from where they can copy the content they need. In academic community stealing is known as plagiarism. Plagiarism is considered to be academic dishonesty and violation of academic integrity. It is very important to know what plagiarism entails in an academic and research context as access to online information and open access publishing grows.

It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward. In other words plagiarism is presenting someone else's ideas as your own, with or without their consent and incorporating it without full acknowledgement. Plagiarizing is one of the major problems that universities have with students as it is a serious academic offence. The most common form of plagiarism observed is copy-pasting or transcribing entire sentences or blocks of text from a web page or research article, literally or changed very minimally. Plagiarism might be also intentional or unintentional but stealing is stealing whether it is academic or other places. Intentional plagiarism is easy to imagine, if a writer purposefully takes the wording from other sources and presents them as his/her own way that is the clear case of intentional plagiarism. Unintentional plagiarism is more problematical matter, it may occur because of writer didn't know that citations were necessary. Sometimes a student might accidentally plagiarise and this is usually the result of a lack of academic writing skills, inexperience, sloppy note taking, or a combination of these. It is important that you learn and follow the practice established for citation of written works for your subject.

It is a principle of intellectual honesty that all members of the academic community should acknowledge their debt to the originators of the facts, language, and records which form the basis for their own work. Depending on the severity of the offence, students found guilty of plagiarism may lose credit for the project in question or face delay from the University. Passing

off other's effort as your own is not only poor study, but also means that you have failed to complete the learning process. In general, there is a great need to do better job to educate young scholars as to why referencing is so important. Most significantly, it needs to be educated not from a place of fear for getting trapped but from a place of quality education. It is important to be academically honest because it is the right thing to do. Appealing to students' sense of right and wrong is actually quite effective because everyone has been on the receiving end of wrong before, and knows what it feels like.

The best way to avoid stealing text is get into the depth of the content, break the information in our own language and rephrasing things using our own writing style. If we find ourselves unable to explain what we just read in our own words, then professors, friends and classmates are the best option to call for help. Another equally important way to stop stealing text is to read whatever you are reading, locate it away, and then take notes. You want to avoid writing while looking nonstop at someone else's judgment, there will be great excitement to imitate it, even automatically. Never take notes word to word-put them in your own words as you go. Writing a paper is a process it can be made a much easier process by just learning the proper rules associated with writing. If the writer uses words from other sources without those appropriate signals, the reader may give the writer acknowledgment for information which actually belongs to other source. The reader should always be aware of where writer's ideas end and the ideas of a source begin it is the writer liability to make that division clear.

The best advice to avoid plagiarism is to not procrastinate work until the last minute. If one aspires to produce work of highest quality then avoiding plagiarism must be the first step in

this process. We can quote, paraphrase and review ideas what others have given and in-depth reading from various sources one must use its creative skills. It is important to teach students how to write own research and acknowledging others contribution. Besides there are plenty of free plagiarism checker software available online one must go for while writing any paper or assignment. One must inculcate the habit of checking plagiarism regularly; it will help in improving writing skills and ultimately will help in preserving academic integrity.

When you write an article, you use information from three kinds of sources: your independent thoughts and experiences, common knowledge the basic information people share; and other people's independent thoughts and experiences, of the three, you must acknowledge only the third, the work of others. Avoid plagiarism by acknowledging sources when necessary and by using them accurately and fairly. You need not acknowledge your own independent material: your thoughts, compilations of facts or experimental results, expressed in your own format. However, someone else's ideas and facts are not yours, even when they are expressed entirely in your words and format, they require acknowledgment. Facts or ideas from signed or copyrighted sources require acknowledgment. The source may be a book, letter, magazine, newspaper, film, speech, interview, television program, or microfilmed document, but you must acknowledge not only the ideas or facts themselves but also the language and format in which they are presented. If you use a table or diagram created by another writer, acknowledge it just as you would their ideas. **According to librarian Stephanie Ballard** “when you’re putting together a paper or presentation, always ask yourself what new patterns you see, what new conclusions you can draw, how that information provides

answers to an interesting or important question, or what new explanations you can make using old information. Producing something new is what makes you a professional.”

“Stealing is a federal offence and is punishable by law in most countries because it is unethical to take something that does not belong to you without another person’s approval. Cheating in the academic context is not much different. It is the act of taking someone’s precious thoughts, answers, academic property, and hard work without their consent in order to advance.”

~ Marina Shoughary