

REASONS BEHIND PLAGIARISM

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Abstract

Plagiarism is a major problem for research or day-to-day schooling. Indeed, there are certain consequences of plagiarism. This paper aims to clarify the potential reasons of plagiarism, the types of plagiarism and we will present a case study which clarifies the potential plagiarism in the world. Observing the most common reasons for plagiarism in the world, there are few methods to diminish the plagiarism. We used a theoretical methodology where we collected data and information from different articles, we considered suitable to our research. Furthermore, for us, is very important to be aware of the consequences of plagiarism these days.

Keywords: *Plagiarism, Europe, Research, Students, Reasons of plagiarism, Consequences of plagiarism*

JEL Classification: *I20, I21, I23, I29*

1. Introduction

These days, plagiarism is a serious problem in the academic life. For understanding the term “plagiarism” better, we will go back in time and we will be acquainting with its terminology. The term "plagiarism" derives from the expression "plagiarus" in Latin, meaning kidnapper, thief, and plunderer. Given the fact that the term "plagiarism" itself has one historical context, it is interesting that there are many meanings and perceptions of plagiarism as a notion in a modern world as a concept. In the next chapter we will present different definitions from few scholars. This paper aims to present the meaning of plagiarism, some theoretical parts of the term, the reasons behind plagiarism, and a small study of plagiarism in the world.

2. Literature review

According to Oxford Dictionary the word “plagiarism” is referring to the work or ideas of someone else as your own, with or without their permission, by integrating it without full acknowledgment into your work. Both published and unpublished material is protected by this term, whether in manuscript, written or electronic form.

Furthermore, we will present definitions of the term “plagiarism” from different scholars. Park (2003) defines plagiarism as a “literacy theft”, “which refers to the absence of acknowledgement to original authors after taking their ideas or words and is regarded as “stealing”. In the academic world, plagiarism is a well-known and growing issue. A large part of the overall amount of extreme deviations from good research practice is estimated to be made up. (Titus et al, 2008; Vitse and Poland 2012). Helgesson (2014) affirmed that "when someone using someone else's intellectual product (such as texts, ideas, or results” is called plagiarism. The Federal Government of the United States defines “research misconduct as fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in proposing, implementing or reviewing of research projects or in reporting the results of research”.

2.1 Types of plagiarism

There are 4 types of plagiarism. One of the main problems in the educational system is the issue of student plagiarism and it is becoming increasingly common among students across the globe. Researchers consider nationality and ethnicity to be various conceptions of proper regulations of academic conduct affect them. The measurable relation between the

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perceptions of students and their national origins are the basis of various studies. What's more, many researchers accept that the concept of intellectual and textual (Pennycook 1996, Introna et al . 2003, Yusof 2009) ownership is a Western term.

1. The act of copying the work of another person word for word is direct plagiarism. It is direct plagiarism to insert a paragraph from a book or article into your essay without, for example, having attribution or quotation marks. It is also direct plagiarism to pay others to compose an essay for you and to submit it as your own work. If you commit overt plagiarism, thanks to apps and instruments like Turnitin, you're likely to be captured.
2. Paraphrased plagiarism means making a few (often cosmetic) alterations to the work of someone else and passing it off as your own. If a particular term is common knowledge, even though you do not provide any direct quotations, you should not include it in your paper without including a citation.
3. A mixture of direct and paraphrased plagiarism is "Mosaic" plagiarism. This form includes throwing into your essay different terms, phrases, and phrases (some word for word, some paraphrased) without including quotation marks or attributions.
4. Accidental plagiarism happens when citations are incomplete, references are wrongly cited, or an author shares a concept without a citation that information is not as popular as they thought. The product of a disorganized study method and a last-minute time crunch is always unintentional plagiarism. Ultimately, you have committed plagiarism if you neglect to correctly cite your sources, even if you had every intention of providing credit.

2.2 Why do people plagiarize?

Students who understand their acts involve plagiarism are guilty of academic fraud—for example, copying published information into a paper without source attribution for the intent of claiming the data as their own, or converting it into material written by another student. While the violation of ethical conduct that such behavior reflects cannot be diminished by any reason, recognizing why students plagiarize will help teachers consider how to minimize the possibilities for plagiarism in their classrooms.

According to University of Kent, student plagiarize because of the following reasons:

- " Students may fear failure or fear taking risks in their own work.
- Students may have poor time-management skills or they may plan poorly for the time and effort required for research-based writing, and believe they have no choice but to plagiarize.
- Students may view the course, the assignment, the conventions of academic documentation, or the consequences of cheating as unimportant.
- Teachers may present students with assignments so generic or unparticularized that students may believe they are justified in looking for canned responses.
- Instructors and institutions may fail to report cheating when it does occur, or may not enforce appropriate penalties."

We studied an article named "Student Plagiarism and national differences across Europe", from Coventry University. The aim of the author's research is to investigate whether students from various European countries and backgrounds have different views on plagiarism, thus evaluating the effect of nationality on the perception of academic dishonesty by students. The aim is, therefore, to discuss and re-evaluate the current definition of a common "European" approach. The author must complete multiple research goals to accomplish these goals. In order to examine the attitudes and behaviors that lie behind the issue of student plagiarism, the process starts with gathering data from questionnaires and interviews. Findings from various European institutions of higher education will be obtained and analyzed in the form of a comparative report.

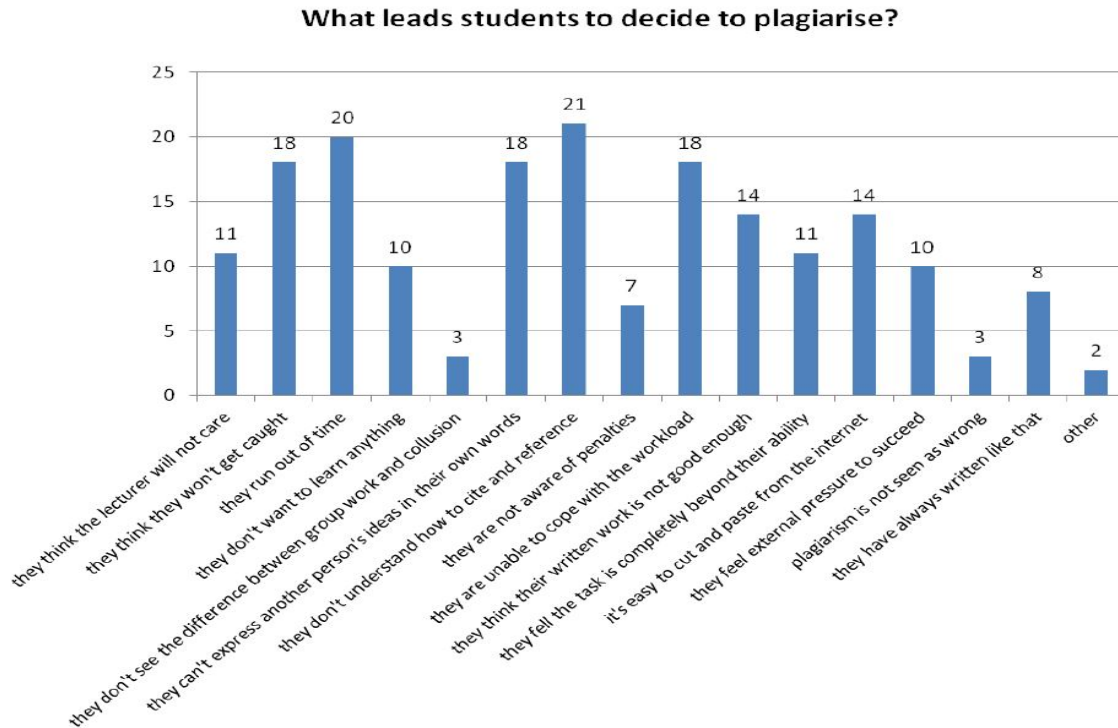


Fig. 1 – What lead students to plagiarism

Source - “Student Plagiarism and national differences across Europe” (2012)

The total number of responses were 188. There was made a percentage analysis and the conclusion was that 11.2% of them don't understand how to cite and reference. Another problem would be their time management, 10.6% of them said that they ran out of time. Some other responses are: “They think the lecturer will not care”, “They think they will not get caught”, or “They don't want to learn anything, just pass the assignment”.

3. A STUDY ON EUROPE

Nowadays, plagiarism raised a lot of questions. There have been made surveys, researches on different nationalities, there have been collected data from specific anti-plagiarism software's and so on. In the following few pages we will present some of these.

We continue with the study presented before, but we want to go deeper in the subject. The article's survey is made upon on students from Nigeria, India, Great Britain, Poland, China, Libya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and UAE nations. The test survey contained 33 questions and was conducted on a group of 37 postgraduate Coventry University from Engineering and Computing Faculty. There are five of the study. They are categorized as: plagiarism understanding and awareness, plagiarism occurrence, citing and referring, plagiarism deterrence and detection and institutional policies and procedures.

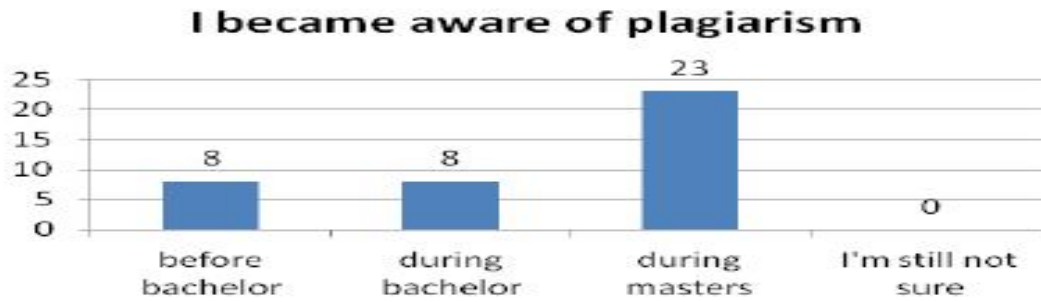


Fig. 2 Awareness of plagiarism

Source - "Student Plagiarism and national differences across Europe" (2012)

Most of the students declared that they became aware of plagiarism during their master's degree – 59% out of 39 responses. 20.5% out of 39 students said that they became aware of plagiarism before bachelor.

	Nigeria	India	Great Britain	Poland	China	Libya	Pakistan	Sri Lanka	UAE nations	N/N
Number of participants	13	12	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
"Before bachelor"		2	1	2	1					2
"During bachelor"	2	1	2			1			1	1
"During masters"	11	10						1		1

Fig. 3 National distribution analysis

Source - "Student Plagiarism and national differences across Europe" (2012)

The next figure is referring to the confidence of students about referencing and citation. It turned out that 77.1% out of 35 people affirmed that they are confident in these two concepts. 5% said that they are not sure and 8.6% are not confident.



Fig. 4 Confidence regarding referencing and citation

Source - "Student Plagiarism and national differences across Europe" (2012)

Another study we would like to present is the analysis of the hundreds of thousands of technical manuscripts submitted to arXiv. They are offering some intriguing insights into the consequences and geography of scientific plagiarism. ArXiv has been the largest forum in the world for sharing results in physics, math, and other mathematical fields since its establishment in 1991. It publishes hundreds of papers on a regular basis and its millionth submission is quickly approaching. Anyone can send in a paper, and full peer review submission are not received. The papers do, however, go through a quality-control process. The final check is a computer program that compares the text of the paper to the text of every other paper that is already published on arXiv. The aim is to mark papers that have a high risk of published work being plagiarized.

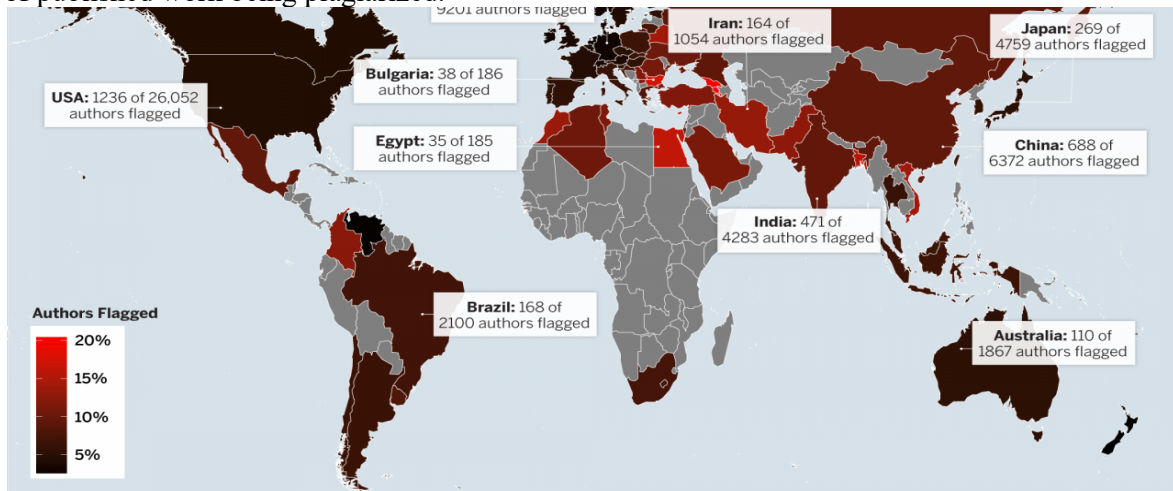


Fig. 5 Geography of plagiarism
Source – ScienceInsider

A conservative approach is taken in the map above, prepared by ScienceInsider. It illustrates only the occurrence of flagged authors to mitigate bias from limited sample sizes for the 57 nations with at least 100 submitted articles. (In Ethiopia, for example, only three writers have been submitted, and two of them have been flagged.)

4. CONCLUSIONS

To conclude, we want to resume our research. Plagiarism, from many points of view is mainly regarding “theft”. Is referring to the work or ideas of someone else as your own, with or without their permission, by integrating it without full acknowledgment into your work. Park (2003) defines plagiarism as a “literacy theft”, “which refers to the absence of acknowledgement to original authors after taking their ideas or words and is regarded as “stealing”. There are a few reasons why people decide to plagiarize, two of them are referring to their time management and lack of referencing and citing knowledge, according to Coventry University.

5. REFERENCES

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