CONCEPT OF PLAGIARISM AND FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR IT

Kanase B.T. and Wagh A.

P.D.V.P. MahavidyalayaTasgaonSangli (M.S) India
Email: *balasahebkanase@gmail.com*

Abstract: The goal of research is to produce knowledge, and the aim of producing knowledge is to improve human situation while doing research using unethical or inappropriate means leads to scientific corruption, which is against scientific knowledge production. No doubt, there is plagiarism in the scientific community although it is against basic scientific principles. Plagiarism is useless, meaningless, and unethical and thus forbidden. One of the pathological components in the relationships between people is the legal culture in society. Unethical issues are quickly increasing in the realm of science. In the future, such issues in gathering data, cooperation between scientists and in publications will most probably get more complicated and more difficult to deal with. More than ever before, postgraduate medical students should know about methods, technologies and concepts of science.

Objectives:
1. To Understand the Concept of Plagiarism
2. To focus factors responsible for plagiarism

Data Collection and Methodology

Present research article is informative. Data and information required to fulfill the objective collected from various sources of secondary data

Introduction:

The global competition among the scientists of developing countries, especially Asian ones, is a new reality for the western researchers who want to be the best in all areas of research. Researchers in developing countries are increasingly enjoying more research budgets, and this development has been accompanied by governmental and institutional demand for better results and more publications in scientifically accredited journals. Plagiarism is a controversial issue in higher education, and it is increasingly widespread among students. Some challenges in academic activities are due to the increase in the number of students. Today, open access publications are not only reasonable but also very vital to scientific innovations. Unlimited access to scientific ideas, methods, findings and results is not compatible with the restricting regulations of copyright, and this has made for more plagiarism. "If plagiarism turns into an ordinary and usual activity, it will affect the security of scientific knowledge and destroy all social realms. In such a situation, nobody will bother doing research; rather, everybody will make use of ready-made knowledge produced by the past researchers and will destroy all knowledge. Such unreasonable behavior will devastate the foundations of scientific progress and everything else.Plagiarism is one of the important issues of universities in recent years.

In the last two decades, the progress in computer technology, that is, running websites to provide university services, the copy paste tool, and loads of pre-fabricated papers, has made for an increase in plagiarism. Nowadays some media publish worrying news of plagiarism in scientific publications, including data manipulation by well-known scientists. The ethics of scientific publication is in direct connection to the concepts of copyright in writing scientific papers and of plagiarism. Sometimes, journal editors take the writers' cunningness for their lack of familiarity with journal regulations or their lack of attention to a certain paper. Plagiarism was almost a rare phenomenon until 1990, but it has spread across the world in recent years and has worried the academic community. In the past, there were a few scientists who produced knowledge and some of them would produce no more than a couple of papers in their lifetime.

It is certainly expected of a reviewer to have a good command of the subject of a paper. No scientist can claim that he or she has studied all specialist papers in his or

her area of knowledge, and this paves the way for some plagiarists to take advantage of the situation. Ben Jonson was the first one to sue the term plagiarism in the early 17th century. It was hard for authors to protect their writings before devising copyright laws.

Definitions and Idioms

1. Persian dictionary of Dehkhoda, the word "steal" means "taking away somebody's possession with deception and tricks" or "to take hold of something without the right to do so".

2. Wilson Mizner states that "when we steal an idea from one author, it will be called plagiarism, but when we do it from a few authors, it is called research" The word plagiarism comes from the word "plagiaries", meaning kidnapper, robber, misleader, and literary thief".

3. Plagiarism usually refers to stealing ideas or words that are higher than the level of public knowledge.

4. In Webster's Dictionary, a plagiarist is defined as "One who plagiarizes, or purloins the words, writings, or ideas of another, and passes them off as his own; a literary thief.

5. The University of Liverpool defines plagiarism as the "use of materials from unacknowledged sources or direct quotation of materials from documented references without acknowledging that the words have been taken verbatim from those references".

6. Payer sees plagiarism as "taking others' ideas, words or wok as if they were your own".

7. Stebel man puts it, plagiarism consists of "claiming as your own the writings and research papers that originally belong to others.

8. Vessal and Habibzadeh take plagiarism to be "ascribing others' ideas, processes, results and words to oneself without due acknowledgement".

9. Using unpublished images or pictures with the owners' permission is also called plagiarism.

10. 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".

11. Plagiarism is an unethical activity in scientific writing. For something to be called plagiarism, it needs to be a serious deviation from normally accepted behavior of the relevant scientific community which is done consciously and deliberately and must be proved with solid evidence. Self-plagiarism happens when an author uses his or her own previously published work without acknowledging it.

Self-plagiarism is defined in three ways in the relevant literature:

1) Publishing a paper which basically overlaps another paper without due acknowledgement;

2) Breaking a large paper into a few smaller papers and publishing them separately, called salami slicing and

3) Republishing the same work. Copyright, on the other hand, means enhancing knowledge and useful arts by providing limited time security for authors and inventions through exclusive rights regarding their writings and inventions. Authors of technical papers are usually asked to transfer the copyright of their work to the journal or the publisher. Scientific integrity depends on honesty and transparency of the methods of producing and transferring knowledge. Republishing results is announcing the same results in two or more papers, multiple recalculations of the same results in meta-analyses and as a result in serious errors in research.

Plagiarism appears in different forms: stealing ideas and stealing texts .Plagiarism is no doubt an instance of misconduct. Stealing part of text and rephrasing it is a severe problem in the humanities and literature where innovation in phrasing and eloquence are essential. But in the realm of science, it is the scientific content itself, not its eloquence that matters". The purpose of scientific journals is to some extent different from that of non-scientific ones. For instance, medical journals are published in order to improve the science of medicine and public health by publishing the results of scientific research.

Prevalence of Plagiarism

Researches show that plagiarism is an increasingly widespread practice in educational and research institutes. The

rate of plagiarism is different in various areas of research. As reported, the rates of prevalence of plagiarism are 78 percent in the students of Organizational Studies and 63 percent in the students of humanities. Also, there is a meaningful difference between the behavior of American students and that of Hungary in terms of plagiarism.

The studies carried out by Park in the United States, South Africa and Finland reveal that the rates of plagiarism are different for different areas of study. According to some research, the number of plagiarizing students in an institute increased from 11 percent in 1963 to 49 percent in 1993. These results include all forms of plagiarism, including copying material from encyclopedias, journals, papers and the like. Jude Carroll argues that unacknowledged copying of materials from books and journals are more common than from web sites. According to some research, 12 percent of the papers suspected of plagiarism belong to the students of Politics.. A study in 2009 indicates that 212 papers showed some potential signs of plagiarism. In these papers, the similarity between the original paper and the republished one was 86.2 percent while the average of shared sources was 73.1 percent. Of the 212 papers, only 47 cited the original paper. Also, there were miscalculations, contradictory data and manipulation of figures in 47 percent of the papers.

Factors of Plagiarism
According to Ashworth, the concept of plagiarism is not clear enough so much so that some students are afraid of unwitting plagiarism while putting to paper what they take to be their own ideas.

Researches show that students and teachers have different understandings of plagiarism. For some teachers, some definitions are influenced by higher education values such as the copyright, personal effort and unity in the university.

The multiplication of databases, with all its benefits, has also caused a rapid growth in plagiarism. Some factors affecting student attitudes toward plagiarism are ignorance, lack of personal investment in their education, situational ethics, and lack of consistent styles among and within various disciplines.

According to Dordoy, the most important factors influencing plagiarism include promotion, laziness or mismanagement of time, easy access to materials on the Internet, unawareness of rules and regulations and unwitting plagiarizing.

Some other factors causing plagiarism are low commitment to the learning process and focusing on getting an academic degree, the student life style, family pressures, etc. make students try to achieve the best results with the least efforts and in the least time.

In the past, students had to go to libraries, retrieve information and retype it while today and with the rapid progress of the Internet; Angellil-Carter claims that there is no transparency about factors influencing plagiarism all over a university. Dickert claims that not only are Hong Kong university students not familiar with plagiarism but also it is very hard to detect plagiarism in this university. Information is easily accessible through electronic media and word processing applications can easily copy paste material. Robert Harris takes students' looking for short cuts, their low interest in the research subject, their low planning skills, mismanagement of time, lack of skills in scientific writing and their interest in ignoring regulations as some of the reasons why students take to plagiarism.

Important Reasons Why Students Plagiarize:
1. Some students plagiarize unintentionally, when they are not familiar with proper ways of quoting, paraphrasing, citing and referencing and/or when they are unclear about the meaning of 'common knowledge' and the expression 'in their own words'
2. Efficiency gain. Students plagiarize to get a better grade and to save time.
3. Auer & Krupar identify a strong consumer mentality amongst students, who seem to believe that 'they should get grades based this process has changed and most teachers believe that computers have made it easier to cheat and plagiarize.

4. Angellil-Carter claims that there is no transparency about factors influencing plagiarism all over a university.

5. Dickert claims that not only are Hong Kong university students not familiar with plagiarism but also it is very hard to detect plagiarism in this university .Information is easily accessible through electronic media and word processing applications can easily copy paste material.

6. Cheating and plagiarism is an acceptable practice among the teachers and students of countries where there is little awareness of copyright. Robert Harris takes students' looking for short cuts, their low interest in the research subject, their low planning skills, mismanagement of time, lack of skills in scientific writing and their interest in ignoring regulations as some of the reasons why students take to plagiarism .

7. Some students plagiarize unintentionally, when they are not familiar with proper ways of quoting, paraphrasing, citing and referencing.

8.Students plagiarize to get a better grade and to save time.

9. There are many calls on student's time, including peer pressure for an active social life, commitment to college sports and performance activities

10.Some students see no reason why they should not plagiarize or do it because of social pressure, because it makes them feel good or because they regard short cuts as clever and acceptable.

11. To some students plagiarism is a tangible way of showing dissent and expressing a lack of respect for authority. They may also regard the task set as neither important nor challenging.

12. Some students cheat because they have negative student attitudes towards assignments and tasks that teachers think have meaning.

13. Some students deny to themselves that they are cheating or find ways of legitimizing it by passing the blame on to others

14. To some students the benefits of plagiarizing outweigh the risks, particularly if they think there is little or no chance of getting caught and there is little or no punishment if they

How to Avoid Plagiarism

1. Read the instructions for authors provided by the journal.

2. Always acknowledge the contributions of others and the source of ideas and words, regardless of whether paraphrased or summarized.

3. Use of verbatim text/material must be enclosed in quotation marks.

4. Acknowledge sources used in the writing.

5.When paraphrasing, understand the material completely and use your own words.

6. When in doubt about whether or not the concept or fact is common knowledge, reference it.

7. Make sure to reference and cite references accurately.

8. If the results of a single complex study are best presented as a cohesive whole, they should not be sliced into multiple separate articles.

9. When submitting a manuscript for publication containing research questions/hypotheses, methods, data, discussion points, or conclusions that have already been published or disseminated in a significant manner, alert the editors and readers.

Conclusion:

1.Ethical problems in science are quickly increasing and have become controversial issues in universities and educational research institutes.

2.These problems have also been reflected in media news recently. The growth of information technology, competition between countries, rapid growth of knowledge, fast multiplication of scientific journals, lack of good explication of plagiarism and different understandings of it, lack of awareness, mismanagement of time, and low culture etc. has all contributed to the prevalence of plagiarism in the scientific community.

3.This has worried scientific institutes and has made them react to it. Some institutes focus on detecting and persecuting while others concentrate on preventions and teaching the right behavior.

4.Excessive stress on detection of plagiarism has made for the development of data retrieving systems in recent years, but these

are not effective enough, and even if they were, they would not be the best solutions.

5.Effective prevention through proper education at the right time, proper interaction between teachers and students and devising appropriate policies for this purpose are possible means of tackling plagiarism.

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