

Cause and Effect Essay - Cheating

School systems today are so lenient in their rules, guidelines and consequences, thus, causing cheating to be frequently used. Many students take advantage of copying someone else's work whenever they are given the chance. Other times, students will simply have someone else do their work and turn it in as their own. Although students do not realize, cheating has many negative effects: it creates a lack of creativity, it hinders the sense of responsibility as well as the sense of accomplishment, and it impedes the acquisition of new knowledge. [THEESIS STATEMENT]

[TOPIC SENTENCE 1] Students have a drop in the level of creativity level drops every time they copy or have someone else do their work. After a while of copying and forging, the student's ability to think creatively and successfully becomes next to nothing. "Educators must continue to socialize students of all ages about the importance of maintaining high ethical standards," (Glazer 222). The educational system is where students learn these tricks and proceed to carry them on into their professional careers. Corners are too easy to cut these days, and in order for people to keep their minds as functional as possible, they need to do their own work. It is too easy for students to buy a student's paper that had the same class the quarter before, reword it a little, and turn it in as their own. Students are no longer able to write a fictional story by themselves because the computer or someone else can do it for them.

[TOPIC SENTENCE 2] Students also begin to lose the sense of responsibility when they have other people do their work. They don't feel that they have to do anything to pass a class, only that as long as they turn in a paper, their thoughts or not, they will receive credit for the assignment along with a passing grade. This creates the feeling that life will always be handed to them on a silver platter. This type of thinking is what is going into the work environment when these people leave the education system. Employers don't want workers that can't pull their own weight, and that is all they are going to get from these people that think cutting corners is all right. Even worse is when these people that "cut the corners" hold management positions. These "crooked managers" infringe on the ethical workers by asking them to do unethical practices on the job, such as asking their factory workers to pretend they didn't see the failing scores from the health and safety inspections. Thanks to "ethical resisters" some of these unethical practices are being brought to the surface, exposed and corrected.

Along with losing their creativity and sense of responsibility, [TOPIC SENTENCE 3] the students that copy other's work never get to feel that sense of accomplishment that comes

when the paper you have been working on is finally complete. They don't get the uplifting feeling when they get their paper back and they have received a good score. The feeling isn't there because the work isn't their own. They use other people to receive the score, but they feel nothing. If they never have that feeling, there is nothing to motivate these people to do better the next time around.

In addition, [TOPIC SENTENCE 4] students that cheat don't gain any knowledge. People can only learn from the things they do, and if someone else is doing their work, they are never going to learn anything. Making mistakes and learning from them may be one of the most effective methods of learning. For instance, if a student performs extremely poorly on a very important paper, chances are that student will always remember what they did wrong and what would have been better, whereas the same student won't even remember the lecture that was taught for an entire week straight. If people don't do the work themselves, they can never learn from their mistakes.

In sum, [THESIS RESTATEMENT] cheating has many negative effects, and losing creativity, sense of reasonability and of accomplishment are some of them. In addition, no knowledge is gained. The people that cheat will go through life expecting someone else to always be there to do their work. They won't know to take responsibility for the things they do and they will never be able to think something up on their own. They will be so used to simply grabbing someone else's work that they will fail at anything they try to accomplish themselves. These people need to be stopped not only for their sake but because it is not fair to the people whose work they are always stealing. People work hard and should receive credit for the things they do, the people that don't work hard, should not receive credit. These practices of cheating by students are unethical and should be brought to the surface whenever possible.

Work Cited

Glazer, Myron Peretz and Glazer, Penina. "A New Tradition of Courageous Dissent." From Community to College. Ed. Jeff Sommers and Cynthia Lewiecki-Wilson. New York: St. Marins's Press, 1996. 219 - 227.