



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

A PRACTICE OF PLAGIARISM AMONG BACHELOR
PROGRAMME STUDENTS IN UITM SAMARAHAN CAMPUS

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ABSTRACT

Plagiarism is one of the big problems that occurred among the students in tertiary level and it is known as the behaviour in which a deliberately fraudulent attempt is made to gain undeserved intellectual credit or advantage, either for oneself or another. Thus, this study is important to survey the university students' perception regarding the plagiarism practice. The objective for this study is to ascertain the tendency of plagiarism among students. Other than that we also want to identify the factors that lead students to involve in plagiarism. We also want to determine which gender is more likely to indulge in plagiarism. The other objective of our study is to know the relationship between plagiarism and student's CGPA. The last objective is to encourage UiTM to amend strict rules and regulation to those students who plagiarise. This survey is a survey research quantitative data. 200 respondents from Bachelor programme in Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Sarawak Branch have been selected as the research example. A set of questionnaire had been distributed and 200 sets were returned. Not surprisingly, the practice of the plagiarism do happened in UiTM Samarahan campus.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

According to Penang Deputy Chief Minister (II) Prof Dr P. Ramasamy, a former academic, has described plagiarism as the most widespread academic fraud in the Malaysian higher education system. It is the biggest offence in Malaysian Universities and it can be regarded as an age old problem. Nowadays, the Malaysian students' involvement in plagiarism seems become a habit for them and worse they are proud with it. For most students it is not a moral issue at all, it is just a "convenience". They are willing to take risks by claiming other works as their works as long as they can get high mark in their assessment. They also think that is not a big deal to plagiarise or cheating in examination because what is more important for them is they can manipulate their lecturers' perception towards them and also praise their parents.

Students' plagiarisms in colleges and universities have become a controversial issue in recent years (John, 2010). It not only becomes a big concern to the students locally but also the students who study overseas. As being reported in the media, there was an Australian plagiarism scandal involving Malaysian students. The involvement obviously affects not only the good name of Malaysian students and the country, but future of tertiary education as a centre of academic excellence to compete for international students (2003). Therefore, a study on plagiarism is very important in academic field especially to measure the integrity level in tertiary institution and observe the

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1.1 Introduction

Literature review is a brief survey of related and relevant studies in that it provides a context within which this study and its objectives can be positioned. The reviews provide a picture or sample of what has been studied and what the findings are.

2.1.2 Academic Performance

From the study made by Antion et al (1983), students with lower grade point averages cheated more frequently than students with higher academic grades.

Saunders et al. (1993) found that students who are low achievers are more likely to indulge in cheating compare to the higher achievers. Apart from that, cheating was higher for the students with lack of self efficacy and low school identification. However, students who had low school identification but had higher performance were less likely to cheat. Instead of that, the students with low school identification and had poor performance have been reported to cheat more frequent. Thus, he concluded that the risk of cheating is bigger for those students who are not really good in their studies and feel less connected to school.