



## A Study of Academic Cheating Among School Students in Relation to their Parental Pressure

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### ABSTRACT

*The main purpose of the research work is to study about Academic Cheating Among School Students in Relation to their Parental Pressure. Survey method is used in this research work and for data collection, research tools used by the researcher are Academic Cheating Scale by Kalia and Dalal (2011) and Parental Pressure Scale by Kumari and Maikhuri (2019) the conclusion of this research work is that a Significant interaction effect of parental pressure & school environment was found on academic cheating among Sr. Sec. school students.*

**Key Word :-** Academic Cheating and Parental Pressure

### INTRODUCTION :

At the age of adolescence, parental pressure is also significant with regard to academics (Strom & Strom, 2007). Parents put pressure on them to enroll in prestigious and competitive universities (Taylor, Pogrebin, & Dodge, 2002). Some students think that by lying about their grades, they may receive the ones that they want or the ones that their parents want. Moreover, they believe that by doing this, they may outperform their peer group. Academic dishonesty results from mounting parental pressure and a desire to outperform peers. Cheating is seen as an issue that affects all academic institutions. Exam cheating is a widespread problem, claim Berhan & Desalegn (2014). Because of its detrimental effects on a student's education, it has become a major worry, particularly for educators. Cheating diminishes education and undermines the entire goal and core of learning, particularly when it occurs during exams. Also, students need to be careful not to readily conform to what their friends are doing out of a desire to fit in. They shouldn't sacrifice their morals in order to get the approval of their pals. On the other side, parents should learn how to control their expectations so that their kids won't feel too driven to get good marks. Parents shouldn't push their kids to the point of cheating, even if it's healthy to expect them to do well in school. Parents should encourage their kids to put in additional effort in their schoolwork. An individual who is under too much pressure may use improper measures. Even though school may be challenging, students should constantly make an effort to lead morally upright lives since integrity always comes before academic accomplishment.

Academic cheating is not a recent occurrence. In reality, it is a widespread issue in many nations, including India. It is now a significant issue at the collegiate and



secondary levels. The problem of cheating is getting worse due to a number of different variables, including the desire to earn excellent grades. Growing parental and educational pressure on the kid, peer pressure, degree of maturity, academic anxiety, learning style, school environment etc.

#### **RATIONALE OF THE STUDY :**

In the last ten years, issues with student cheating have proliferated in educational settings including schools and universities. Academic fraud is not a recent phenomena; it is a well-known issue in India and many other nations. Lying, concealing the truth, dishonesty, and breach of trust are just a few of the unfair and unjust rights that cheating enjoys using to its advantage (Romney & Steinbart 2003). One of the biggest factors motivating pupils to cheat is parental pressure. Children frequently want their parents to be proud of them because it gives them hope that they will be rewarded or even just given a compliment. Moreover, students frequently cheat in order to meet their parents' high expectations. Every student is willing to do anything, including cheating, out of dread of disappointing their parents and receiving discipline for receiving a low grade in school. Peer pressure has a key role in cases of academic dishonesty. Peer influence, whether positive or negative, unquestionably affects how fast students are encouraged to participate in a certain activity by their peers. A student will assume that cheating is acceptable and commonplace if they observe their classmates and peers continuing to engage in it. Since their peers & classmates are also cheats & would not report such unethical behaviour, students will believe they can get away with it as well (Quintos, 2017). The educational environment has a similar impact on a child's growth. According to Anderman and Koenka (2017), school is that place a high priority on competitiveness and accomplishment tend to see more cheating in their students. In contrast, school is that place an emphasis on the importance of learning itself see less cheating. Together, the school's ethos or culture seems to have a significant influence on students' propensity to cheat. Although a lot of research has been done on these factors, there hasn't been enough done to show how peer pressure, parental pressure, and the school environment affect students' academic dishonesty. In light of this, the researcher imagined a gap in the market and selected the current issue for investigation.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM :**

“A Study of Academic Cheating Among School Students in Relation to their Parental Pressure”

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :**

1. To find out the interaction effect of peer pressure & parental pressure on academic cheating among senior secondary school students.
2. To find out the interaction effect of parental pressure & school environment on academic cheating among senior secondary school students.



3. To find out the interaction effect of school environment & peer pressure on academic cheating among senior secondary school students.

#### **HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY :**

1. There will be no significant interaction effect of peer pressure & parental pressure on academic cheating among senior secondary school students.
2. There will be no significant interaction effect of parental pressure & school environment on academic cheating among senior secondary school students.
3. There will be no significant interaction effect of school environment & peer pressure on academic cheating among senior secondary school students.

#### **DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY :**

Due to paucity of time and resources and to make it more meaningful, the present study will be delimited in the following aspects :

- (1) The study will be delimited to 600 senior secondary school students only.
- (2) The study will be delimited to the schools located in Punjab State only.

#### **SAMPLE :**

For any research, it is not possible to observe the whole population because it requires large amount of time and resources. Keeping that in mind, multi-stage random sampling technique was used to select the sample of 600 Sr. Sec. school students studying in Sr. Sec. schools, affiliated to CBSE of Punjab State.

#### **TOOLS USED :**

The investigator has used the following tools for her study :

1. Academic Cheating Scale by Kalia and Dalal (2011).
2. Parental Pressure Scale by Kumari and Maikhuri (2019).

#### **MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY :**

1. Significant interaction effect of peer pressure & parental pressure was seen on academic cheating among Sr. Sec. school students.
2. Significant interaction effect of parental pressure & school environment was found on academic cheating among Sr. Sec. school students.
3. Significant interaction effect of peer pressure & school environment was found on academic cheating among Sr. Sec. school students.

#### **EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS :**

Cheating is a burning issue in educational field mounting hindrances in the path of efficacy of educational system. Parents and teachers may also increase pressure on their kids when they compare them to their siblings. Pressure can cause students to want to achieve to their highest capability. Yet, when the pressure builds up and it gets to be too much, they may break. Cracking under pressure and feeling overwhelmed may also contribute to why students choose to cheat. So, it is the duty of both parents and teachers to reduce the pressure on child for better performance. Teachers must also provide



alternatives to the students to facilitate their learning so that they do not search for alternatives

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