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ABSTRACT

This article define and discuss the issue of plagiarism by nursing students either in academic or clinical settings. It describes and explore the scenario of plagiarism among nursing students and implications for the qualification of the students. Currently, prevention is required to avoid negative culture in nursing education due to plagiarism

Keywords: Plagiarism, Nursing Education, Nursing Assignment

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this article is to discuss about the definition of plagiarism and create own definition plagiarism by understanding. Discussion of the definition of plagiarism in broad aspect has been done by students, nurses, teacher, writers and others (Hannabus, 2001; Park, 2003). According to them plagiarism is a problem that is growing bigger world wide. It has specific negative implications for nursing education programs and their responsibility to prepare competent, safe and ethical health care professional (Bailey, 2001; Bellack, 2004; Fitzpatrick, 2004).

Hannabus (2001) defines plagiarism as the unauthorized use or close imitation of the ideas and language/ expression of someone else, and then involves representation of others work as your own. Beside that the term of plagiarism is usually used to refer to the theft of words or ideas, beyond what would normally be regarded as general knowledge (Fialkoff, 1993).

However, Clegg & Flint (2006) in their research, summarized the definition of the plagiarism as an unintended outcome of poor study habits and may appear as mode of cut and paste cheating. As a result non recognition of core academic values. According to Bennett (2005), plagiarism does not have a single meaning and can range from the citation of a few

sentences without attribution through to the copying out of an entire manuscript especially in higher education.

Furthermore, Anderson (2009) defined the plagiarism as taking the work of another and presenting it as one's own, resulting in potential upset for the original author and disrepute for the professions involved. Lastly, Girrard (2004) stated that an individual using someone else's work, change a few words from the original document and then failing to reference the original document can be also considered as plagiarism.

By all above definition of plagiarism from authors, I got the idea to create my own definition. According to me, plagiarism is to steal somebody elses idea without any idea of himself, but taking the others idea to get some reward for himself, then after that action giving no individual value, no innovation and creativity of their own so as to produce something new and different. This action is done by someone without permission because they just cut and paste words and sentence and put his own name for credit. This is a negative attitude because the person does not acknowledge the owner of the idea. As a result the people will get confused because they will be unable to understand which one is the original idea. In another perspective plagiarism reflects that someone is poor in academic writing with

poor knowledge as they are using others words or sentences without understanding.

DISCUSSION

“Why it is important that students understand plagiarism”

Plagiarism is problem worldwide, especially among students in secondary and tertiary education (Gorman, 2008). This is increasing among students in higher education due to technology-based resource availability (Gibelman *et al.*, 1999; Park, 2003; Logue, 2004) providing sources of evidence and information for students (Bassendowski & Salgado, 2005). Whereby the students purchase the paper on the internet and represent as student's own work (Girard, 2004). Anderson (2009) stated that men were more likely (68%) to be involved in plagiarism than women (39%).

Students should know the definition of plagiarism as “... the intentional or unintentional use of another's work or ideas, published or unpublished, without clearly acknowledging the source of the work or idea” (Logue, 2004). There are reasons students practice plagiarisms such as lack of time, lack of knowledge, the desire to get work into print quickly, carelessness, easy access to internet (Girard, 2004), Students doing part time jobs tend to resort to shortcuts to save time and effort therefore engaging in plagiarism (Logue, 200).

Today, the students should understand about issues related to plagiarism, especially in academic writing. Students should know (Girard, 2004) that plagiarism is related to legal issues (Fialkoff, 1993) and to unethical matters (Hannabus, 2001). According to Park (2003), an unintentional plagiarism occurs when students fail to adopt proper protocols for referring to academic writing, including appropriate ways of quoting, not acknowledging ideas and wrong compilation of the reference lists. Students should realize the procedures of reducing plagiarisms minimizing their opportunities for learning (Postle, 2009) and poor study habits (Clegg & Flint, 2006).

Students should know that situation is not good for the future development. Therefore, students should have knowledge and skill in academic writing. As result they should learn how to write a citation and reference properly to avoid the plagiarism (Logue,

2004). Then students must practice academic writing and referencing skills in advance to prevent plagiarism (Girard, 2004) for submitting work for a formal assessment (Anderson, 2009). Furthermore, students will learn the process of learning the knowledge and skills in academic writing. This is required for future work and development (Postle, 2009) and understand the implications for issues related to originality and plagiarism (Hannabus, 2001).

Beside that students should understand the attitude towards plagiarism that they must follow in the workplace. Whereby, plagiarism has possibly resulted in more serious professional consequences such as professional censure and suspension (Anderson, 2009). Therefore, when students know about plagiarism should follow a guide to reduce plagiarism by writing his or her idea in own words and then keeping a record of the author, title, page number, publisher and date of publication and then use a proper list of references (Logue, 2004).

Currently, students should know that plagiarism is also “dangerous” because today the detection service may be used to detect plagiarism by lecturer or academician (Logue, 2004). According to Anderson (2009) an increasing publicity and improvements in detection strategies are able to detect plagiarism. Four stage plagiarism detection processes is implemented for the student's assignment (Culwin & Lancaster, 2001). Students should be aware about this technology to avoid plagiarism in the assignment.

CONCLUSION

Moreover, students should understand that plagiarism is no more acceptable on the university campus and hospital wards (Logue, 2004). Consequently, this can influence students' marks and effect their performance in hospital. Detection of plagiarism in someone's work will reflects that person's lacks of creativity and is not aware of proper academic writing. Postle (2009) stated that students engaging in plagiarism are unable to understand how to paraphrase, not understanding the task or the subject matter. In this manner the work has no quality and value in the market because of the complication of plagiarism (Park, 2003). Overall, significantly students should understand about plagiarism and avoid it when doing the assignment.

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