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by F F

Submission date: 23-Jun-2021 05:23PM (UTC-0500)

Submission ID: 1611280736

File name: intentional_or_unintentional.edited.docx (10.35K)

Word count: 252

Character count: 1405

It is clear to all of us that plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. For that reason, there a crucial difference between the two. Intentional plagiarism occurs when we copy other people's work knowingly and fail to cite the original authors (Joob & Wiwanitkit, 2018). In this case, it is unethical and illegal to do that. On the other hand, unintentional plagiarism occurs where we get some information online and later write it thinking we got it from our minds. Having done this without citing the author, this becomes unintentional plagiarism. However, I tend to disagree with the statement regarding drawing a line when it comes to punishment for plagiarizing. Although there is a difference between intentional and unintentional plagiarism, it is still simply plagiarism and should face punishment in equal measure.

Notably, plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, has not cited the original authors and thus, no difference should be applied regarding punishing the same. Additionally, there should be no difference in punishment because it is impossible to determine whether plagiarism was intentional or unintentional. This comes from the fact that one can claim the plagiarism was unintentional to evade the consequences and thus, both should be treated equally and face the same punishment. Hence, I'm afraid I disagree with the statement that plagiarism is an unacceptable academic offense that erodes the competence of authors who copy other people's works.

Reference

Joob, B., & Wiwanitkit, V. (2018). Plagiarism: Either intentional or unintentional, it is still plagiarism!. *Perspectives in clinical research*, 9(3), 151-151.

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