

A Study on Academic Cheating Behaviors and Its Causes in Elementary School Students

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to give a general description of the academic cheating behaviors of elementary students in Taiwan and to propose an explanation. 864 elementary students throughout Taiwan were selected through a stratified random selection. Statistical analysis is conducted and suggestions for further studies and related educational practices are drawn based on the findings. The major findings are as follows: 1. The rate of academic cheating behaviors among elementary students in Taiwan is 48.3%. 2. Six kinds of cheating patterns were found in this study among students who cheat. 3. Males tend to have a higher academic cheating frequency than females. 4. Sixth grade students tend to have a higher academic cheating frequency than fifth grade and fourth grade students. 5. Academic cheating behaviors are positively correlated with parental expectations, classroom performance goal and academic cheating attitudes; academic cheating behaviors are negatively correlated with teachers' guidance, academic self-efficacy and classroom mastery goal. 6. The results of Logistic regression show that academic cheating attitudes, grade, academic self-efficacy, competition of peers and teachers' guidance can predict academic cheating behaviors, and the regression model can correctly classify 71.9% of the subjects studied in the project.

Keywords : effect of significant others ; academic self-efficacy ; classroom goal structure ; academic cheating attitudes ; academic cheating behaviors

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