



## PREVENTION METHODS AND TYPES OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

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### Abstract:

**Purpose and Background:** The purpose of the present study is to examine the influence of prevention methods on the incidence of different types of academic misconduct. Plagiarism is a pervasive occurrence and educational systems have had to deal with it and paid a lot because of it for a long time.

**Methodology:** The method of this study is descriptive, in terms of implementation, it is a survey, and in terms of purpose, it is practical. Data for this study were collected using a researcher-constructed questionnaire. Its validity was confirmed by a number of sports management faculty and its reliability calculated 87/0 with Cronbach's alpha. The questionnaire was designed with a Likert scale of 5 values. The participants of the study include physical education students all over the country. Based on geographic regions of the country, five universities selected from the North, South, East, West and center of the country all of which were graduate students of physical education. The statistical sample of the study included graduate students of Physical Education in Tehran, Shiraz, Kurdistan, Mazandaran and Mashhad Universities. The selection of sample was available by stratified-Stochastic sampling method. Sample size in five colleges determined, based on the number of graduate students of this five faculty and using Morgan table.

**Results:** The findings show the importance of prevention methods, especially the knowledgeable observers and judges at various stages of research in occurring academic misconduct.

**Conclusion:** In order to deal with all kinds of academic misconduct, the directors of the affair must give special attention to the prevention methods, especially the

knowledgeable observers and judges as an affecting factor in the incidence of academic misconducts.

**Keywords:** academic misconduct, plagiarism, prevention methods

## Introduction

When a human faces with an unknown phenomenon will be a researcher and if he or she achieves a result, in fact, has produced a science. Science is a means of identifying and achieving the findings of the new world and promoting the human life. In the societies where the learning of science does not become a culture, there will be ignorance. Ignorance brings poverty and various social ills. There is a need to learn science in order to eliminate the adverse consequences of this matter (1). A part of university's mission is to produce and promote science with respect to the professional ethics and education of the committed humans at national and international level in order to meet the needs of society and strengthen cooperation with scientific centers.

However, in some cases, the objectives of scientific organizations such as universities according to various reasons cannot be properly achieved. Goals such as fostering the formidable scholars or the right performance of some scientific works and so on that the results of organizations' investment will be lost and have many negative effects by the graduating few inappropriate scholars or providing some less valuable and repetitive works (2). One of the negative and important consequences of the scientific communities' failure to achieve the right goals is the prevalence of misconducts in researches (3).

Counterfeit papers, collusion in scientific judgments about papers, making copy of abroad scientific productions etc. are the clear examples of these misconducts. Today with the development of new forms of misconduct through the expansion of informative technologies in educational systems of the world and its prevalence in the same environments of Iran, right now researchers and leaders of the worlds' countries like Iran should pay attention to the conduct of serious and extensive researches (4).

Scientific misconduct is a widespread phenomenon that the educational systems have faced with it years ago and had many problems and losses (5) although the incidence of misconducts cannot be confirmed by a certain percentage (6). Multiple studies in different countries have shown that misconduct has not just occurred in a discipline, university or a country but has been in all over the world and is increasing. With the advancement of new technologies, it has been common to the extent that can be studied as an important problem (7).

Misconduct can be divided into intentional and unintentional one. Intentional misconduct is divided into three types: scientific forgery, falsification and plagiarism. Unintentional slips also are the ones that because of the non-awareness of misconducts' types or fractional of the data Pig and Blandest call it milking data arise (8). Raises know the falsification of research as a purposeful falsification or intentional manipulation. In general, the basic distinction between misconduct and fraud in researches from the types of unintentional slips is to deceive (8).

Morally, although the scientific misconducts are immoral in most cultures and scientific environments, there are examples of it more or less in all parts of the world. One of the most important consequences of this misconducts' incidence is the lack of confidence in findings of the scientific environments (9). Although non violation not only related to sports science research, but also those responsible to teach the researchers by their performance, not to violate in all facets of their work especially in the field of sports science.

Physical preparation of individuals from the begging of work- prevention better than cure- seem to be more logical and the family, friends and society in different proportions are responsible for this important task. We can prepare a group and subsequently prepare the research community using the system of preparing individuals. Although these are three distinct levels, are not separated and affect each other and being affected (10).

Many factors such as presence of observers can be useful for the prevention of the research misconduct's incidence. However, the weakness of judges itself can be one of the reasons of misconduct's incidence, which needs discussion. But penalties such as exclusion and hatred, hatred of scientists, excluding the work and revocation of license and disclaimer of the research degrees can be the least practices for compensation of misconducts (11).

The results of researches show that the students, who are in lazy in their studies or cannot study well, are more influenced by advertising. Since the percentage of students using internet services is increasing in most countries like Iran, these researches increase the responsibility of managers about the students' education, after the proper training of culture regard to using the up to date facilities and informing about the internet misconducts (12).

Paying attention and honoring the goals of scientific centers like university, making more people familiar with the types of scientific misconducts and the promotion possibility of scientific misconducts in the world, provide a special place for this research. Physical education because of connection with different disciplines and its role in relation to the physical and psychological effects, as well as for its increasing and such other reasons is an important issue and any valuable thing especially the aspects of

possible abuses require a special attention. So paying attention to the aspects of scientific misconducts especially in the physical education discipline, seem to be important and this importance increases the motivation of doing this study.

According to the above objectives, this study aims to answer this question that what is the idea of graduated students in the physical education discipline from the national university being considered in this study, about the prevention ways of misconducts' occurrence.

## **Methodology**

The research method and the way of its implementation and purpose respectively were descriptive, survey and applied. The data was collected through asking people and an artificial researcher's questionnaire that the validity of it had been proven by the famous teachers of country's sports administration and the reliability of it had been estimated 0.87 by Cronbach's alpha. The questionnaire consisted of 42 questions in 5 parts that had been designed by Likert gamut on 5 valuable measures. The statistical community included the physical education students from all over the country. Based on the geographical parts of the country, five universities were selected from the north, south, east, west and center of the country that had graduated students from the physical education discipline. The statistical sample of this study consisted of the physical education students that had graduated from the universities of Tehran, Shiraz, Kurdistan, Mazandaran and Mashhad. The samples were selected through the sampling method of random classification. The mass of statistical sample in 5 faculty was determined by the number of graduated students from these faculties and using Morgan table.

236 questionnaires of statistical sample were obtained. The data was analyzed by the SPSS application of version 20. The table of abundance and average distribution was used for describing the subjects. The examinations of Kolmogorov Smirnov and Friedman and t tests were used for inferring the variables of this study.

## **Data analysis**

Some features of the answerers can be seen in the description part of the Table 1. The minimum age of male commentators was 22 and the maximum age of female ones was 28. The amount of dormitory people and daily courses were 74 percent more than none dormitory ones and overnight courses.

**Table 1:** Some features of answerers

Type of residence		Type of course		Type of nationality		Marital status		Male		Female		Commentators
None dormitory	Dormitory	Overnight	Daily	Non native	Native	Married	Single	The average of age	Amount (in percent)	The average of age	Amount (in percent)	
14%	86%	13%	87%	78%	22%	10%	90%	26	61.4%	26	38.6%	Students

According to the table (2), the findings showed that the study of scientific misconducts has been very important from the students' point of view. The study of obtained results indicated that because of the high amount of significance (than level of significance), there has not been any significant difference between the comment of students about the types of scientific misconducts. In other words from their point of view, the possibility of scientific misconducts' occurrence among the researchers, which has cited in this study, has been more than 50 percent.

**Table 2:** Statistics of answerers' comments on the scientific misconducts in this study

Scientific misconducts			
students			
<b>3/30</b>	Average	<b>Total results</b>	
<b>0/72</b>	Standard deviation		
<b>234</b>	Degrees of freedom		
<b>0/46</b>	T amount		
<b>0/64</b>	Significance		

According to the Table 3, most of the types of scientific misconducts based on the comparison of Likert (somewhat) have an average more than 3 in the questionnaire.

**Table 3:** Types of scientific misconducts that were estimated in the questionnaire of this study

Unconsciously	Replication	Forging	Secondary sources	False modification	Forgetting the references	Falsifying the documents	Misinterpretation		
<i>3/31</i>	<i>3/34</i>	<i>3/32</i>	<i>3/35</i>	<i>3/25</i>	<i>3/11</i>	<i>3/21</i>	<i>3/65</i>	Average	Types of misconducts
<i>1/06</i>	<i>1/10</i>	<i>1/02</i>	<i>1/01</i>	<i>0/90</i>	<i>0/90</i>	<i>0/85</i>	<i>4/00</i>	Standard deviation	
<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	<i>234</i>	Degrees of freedom	
<i>1/39</i>	<i>1/14</i>	<i>1/08</i>	<i>1/8</i>	<i>0/20</i>	<i>0/40</i>	<i>2/1</i>	<i>0/66</i>	Amount of t	
<i>0/16</i>	<i>0/25</i>	<i>0/28</i>	<i>0/06</i>	<i>0/83</i>	<i>0/68</i>	<i>0/03</i>	<i>0/50</i>	Significance	

As can be seen in the Table 4, results of the t test showed that there is not any difference between the commentators of physical education students about the prevention ways of scientific misconducts' incidence in theses, which shows the importance of all prevention ways of the misconducts in this study.

**Table 4:** The statistics of t results about the prevention ways

Sig	Z	U	Variable
<i>0/8</i>	<i>-0/2</i>	<i>2275</i>	Method of prevention

## Ranking

In order to the easier separation of questions, the ranks of first to third in each part, which have been ranked by the examinations of Friedman, have been considered in the tables of 5 and 6. The eye-catching result is that the unconscious slips are in the first ranks of the classification. This result shows that in a special way, that the responsible persons should pay attention to the informing more than past.

According to the results of prevention ways, the presence of capable observers and judges in various process of study was in top ranks, which shows the importance of observers' presence.

**Table 5:** The first to third ranks of the students' comments about the types of scientific misconducts

Ranking the comments (respectively the ranks of first to third)	Rank
Secondary sources	first
Republication	second
Unconscious slips	third

**Table 6:** The ranks of first to third from the students' comments about the ways of prevention

The first three ranks and the average of students point of view	
Average	Part of the prevention method
4/1	Presence of the capable observers and judges in various process of the study
4	Empowering the studios, technological, lawful of students
3/9	Determination of the method, instrument or sources by supervisors

## Discussion and conclusion

Scientific misconduct is a widespread and common concept so that the abrasion effects of it are very considerable. The scientific centers and famous and educated people were named the "source group" and they themselves are the symbol of morality and the center of normalization. Scientific misconduct extracts the process of scientific developments from its right circuit and causes that the process of science production to be changed to a degree-making factory. Because of that, when a scientific misconduct was assigned to the educated people then, it would be the factor of the societies morality bases in wider ranges (11).

The results of this research show that in the part of types of scientific misconducts and the prevention way of it have been in consistence or none consistence with some of the inside and outside researches, that this matter can be due of the difference in methods of education, facilities, religions and family environment.

According to the research (13), lack of awareness from the types of misconducts and not being a comprehensive definition from the plagiarism can be very efficient on the incidence of types of scientific misconducts. The research (14) has been said that the lack of accurate education about using the scientific facilities and information of others on the incidence of scientific misconducts was very effective. In the other research (15) using, the methods of internet and application of misconducts in scientific environments and consequently using the deceptive applications in these environments are increasing. According to the research (16) using the services of application against the misconduct is increasing in the recent years. In contrast to the above researches, the

falsification of documents and secondary sources were placed in the first ranks of scientific misconducts' types. Although these differences can be different with this research because of the difference in the classification of misconducts' types in these researches, the result of all researches shows that there are scientific misconducts in the scientific and studios centers.

This matter is as an important warning to all the people of society in order to be more serious in the study of types and prevention ways of the scientific misconducts, for receiving the least harms and losses.

Finally, according to the result of this study in order to disagree with the scientific misconducts, the prevention ways of its incidence should be found and the new methods are adopted for resolving its reasons.

### **Suggestions**

In order to the fundamental disagreement with the problems of scientific misconducts disagreement should be taken place with the reasons of it. Having suggests for empowering the ways of prevention seems to be more logical and economical, such as the following suggests:

- It is suggested that for disagreement with republication of the information, farther than empowering the current rules of prevention, the other new rules are adopted and implemented in order to fundamental disagreement.
- It is suggested that in order to more acquaintance of graduated students with the types of scientific misconducts, those responsible persons attend more educational courses, conferences and seminars in relation to this matter.
- It is suggested that the observers and judges have an exact control on the process of implantation and performance of the studios works from the first process of it.
- It is suggested that the various educational courses such as conferences and seminars are held in order to empowering the studios and technological aspects of the observers and students for prevention of studios misconducts.
- It is suggested that the culture of using internet and cyber facilities is created through various methods.
- It is suggested that the special workshops are held for managing the time and systems of more planning especially in the basic processes of students' education.
- It is suggested that the teachers and judges exactly follow the reasons of text inconsistency with the result of performed research because of its importance.



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