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Every highschool student knows the dangers and consequences of plagiarism. From the very first day of school teachers ingrained in us the immorality of copying others’ work and (as if that weren’t enough) subtle threats are worked into the instructions for writing a paper or doing research for a project. The biology students in Piper, Kansas knew exactly what they were getting themselves into and surely can have no legitimate excuse for their conduct.

The student most certainly deserved a zero for their projects. Why should they receive any credit for work that isn’t theirs when the other 4/5 of the class spent time and energy creating their own projects? The highschool teacher, Christine Delton, acted rightly in giving those students zeros for the assignment. Furthermore, the principal and superintendent agreed with her decision and yet some parents continued to complain. Parents want the best for their children and this should include just punishment for a crime that will then teach those students a lesson. How can their parents expect them to learn, and eventually function in adult society, if they are let off for conscious cheating?

The Piper school Board only showed
its weakness and mutability when it
requested Pelton to go easier on the guilty.
The Board should stand firm in morality and
integrity and yet with a little persuasion
from the parents it breaks down and lets
the students go without adequate punishment.
The Board oversees the school as a whole
and should be interested in assuring that
the students in Piper, Kansas receive the
best education possible. But with such
behavior as this, the Board is hardly setting
an example for the students.

If the students who plagiarized get
away with the act, it does not only
undermine all the hard, honest work that
the rest of the student body completes,
but also, it sets a precedent. It creates the
illusion that cheating is acceptable. It means
that these students, and others following
their example, will not see the harm in
resorting such conduct in the future and
plagiarizing again.

Pelton was right to resign. She, unlike
the Board, stood with her beliefs and in many
ways, one of the most principle American
values: hard work and integrity are
cherished, admired, and rewarded. Even
if the Board cannot appreciate
what her actions mean perhaps some of
The students will take her resignation into account next time they begin a project.
When students are caught stealing from department stores to convenience shops, they are dealt with swiftly and harshly. Not only do such incidents go on their record, but the students must also pay for any damages. So why is it that when students today are caught plagiarizing, the punishment is neither as swift nor harsh?

Plagiarizing is simply another form of stealing. However, rather than stealing items such as clothes or a candy bar, it is the process of stealing another person’s thoughts, ideas, and words, claiming it to be your own and taking full credit. Yet, not only is plagiarism stealing, but it is cheating as well. This causes many people to wonder: Why is it that students are often let off so easily after committing such a crime? When students are caught plagiarizing and receive a minor punishment, many people automatically assume it was because of the teacher. However, today, it is rare that a teacher who lets a student off “easy.”

After students in Piper, Kansas, were caught plagiarizing, the teacher chose to fail the guilty students. Although the school district agreed, it was after complaints by parents that they changed their mind. This caused the teacher to resign, feeling that her integrity was not fully supported as it
This makes the public wonder about the integrity of the public school system. If teachers, who are supposed to instill their morals, could not stand strong because of parents, who obviously supported cheating, it reflects the decrease of integrity, not only in the American school system, but in the American society as well.

Students fail to understand that when teachers explain, "you're only hurting yourself," they are not lying. Not only are students who plagiarize keeping themselves from learning and expanding their knowledge, but they are also putting themselves in a vulnerable position. They risk getting caught and failing that class. If their parents support it enough to complain and are able to convince the school to move on, what makes anyone think that the student will worry about the consequences?

Perhaps that is the problem of students today. They simply do not care if they are caught, because, let's face it, if their parents support it enough to complain and are able to convince the school to move on, what makes anyone think that the student will worry about the consequences?

America is declining, its sense of integrity, as well as morality. That is the major problem that society is facing. It seems as if the sense of right and wrong no longer exist, and instead...
everyone is thinking about how they won't get caught. This sort of thing has been seen in all fields of business. It was only recently that companies such as Enron and WorldCom were caught trying to cover up scandals. To many, it is all about not getting caught. In the WorldCom scandal, the only ones affected by the company's immorality were those who lost 'money' in investments. To everyone else, it was "a shame." America is losing its sense of integrity and if something is not done about it, soon, who knows where this country will be in a decade. chances are, not very far.
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

Lugano, Switzerland - With the establishment of the internet, research and study help, instances of highschool plagiarism has been rising steadily over the years. Academic honesty is becoming more difficult to maintain as the internet makes more essays available to students, and students become more lazy, spending time writing their own work. Schools should be allowed to keep up with the progressing era of internet, even if it means more instances of failing students because of their lack of initiative and honesty.

Parents should not have as great a say in the doings of school authorities if it means preventing teachers from performing well, and catching cheating students. Teachers should not have to resign, or quit, or be fired in protest or because of outside pressure by uninvolved parents. If teachers are doing their job correctly, parents should be thankful to discover dishonest student children, and should aid the school in teaching their kids in hand by retraining them in domestic
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

In an effort to curb the amount of academic dishonesty, parents should train their youngsters from an early age that honesty is an idea that reaches into all aspects of human life, including school life, and therefore, dishonesty should be punished harshly. Schools could reinforce this by sticking to their integrity and punishing the students, and ignoring those parents who complain about issues that are not their jurisdiction.

School should be more outside the scope of parental influence than it has been previously and is today. School faculty should have more authority, as the education of children is their specialty, and are therefore more knowledgeable than parents. Ask about what to do for children. Parents should let educators do their jobs and not interfere in school policy.