

## ACADEMIC CHEATING AMONG SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN RELATION TO SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

\* *Mrs. Shakuntala devi,*

*\*Ph.D. Research Scholar, Baba Mastnath University, Asthal Bohar.*

### Abstract:

*Cheating can be considered as one of the most important issues in schools, because it is a major obstacle to infer the competence of the students. Sometimes any student who is not eligible for academic courses can pass the course by cheating and improper ways. Any deliberate fraudulent action or an attempt to use unauthorized or unacceptable means in academic work is considered as academic cheating. The quality of the nation depends upon the education imparted to its citizens. The aim of education is all around development of the individual.. Parents desire their children to climb the ladder of performance as high as possible. This desire for a high level of achievement puts a lot of pressure on students, teachers, and schools and in general on educational system itself. School environment refers to the social, emotional and academic prospect of a school which is professed by the students, staff and community. It is affected by different factors from disciplinary policies to instructional appeal to student.*

**Keywords:** *Academic Teaching, School Environment, Social Emotional & Ethical Learning etc.*

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### Introduction:

Any deliberate fraudulent action or an attempt to use unauthorized or unacceptable means in academic work is considered as academic cheating. Academic dishonesty is more likely to occur with parental pressure to get good grades (Taylor et al. 2002). For some adolescents, parental pressure is high at this age in regards to academics (Strom & Strom, 2007). Parental pressure on students can have a positive and negative effect. Pressure can cause students to want to achieve to their highest capability. Parents can play an important role to reduce student cheating. The atmosphere of the school can contribute to the rise of academic cheating. Teachers and other staff can either reinforce or disapprove academic dishonesty. Today school can be competitive in nature and students feel the burden and pressure to be the best.

### Factors Enhancing & prevent Academic Cheating:

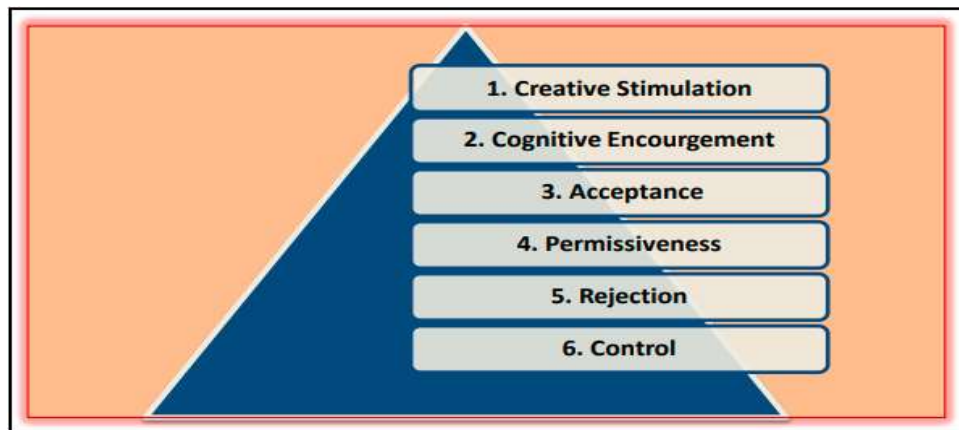
- **Parental pressure:** Academic dishonesty is more likely to occur with parental pressure to get good grades (Taylor et al. 2002). For some adolescents, parental pressure is high at this age in regards to academics (Strom & Strom, 2007).
- **Peer Pressure:** Adolescents are influenced by what their peers do and they form their peer groups around similar interests. Peer influence is at its highest at this point in their lives. If peers in their peer group are choosing academic dishonesty, then they are more likely to do the same (McCabe, 1999).

- **School environment:** The atmosphere of the school can contribute to the rise of academic cheating.

Teachers and other staff can either reinforce or disapprove academic.

**How to prevent Academic Cheating:** Teachers perhaps are the main source for the prevention of academic dishonesty. They are the first to communicate with students about academic dishonesty on the first day of the semester, and the reinforcement of academic integrity serves as a reminder to students of what is morally correct (Stephens &Wangaard, 2009).

**Dimension of School Environment:**



**Conclusion:**

During the past decade, problems concerning cheating among students have become increasingly apparent in schools and academic institutions. Another major factor why students cheat is because of parental pressure. Praising your child every time he comes home with a good grade is standard parenting procedure, but make sure that you're sending the right message. Avoid punishing your child for low grades and rewarding him for high ones. Instead, emphasize the concept of effort by recognizing the hard work he put into his work and encouraging better effort in problem areas. The fear of letting their parents down and being reprimanded due to a failing grade in school makes every student willing to do anything even cheating. Another major factor why students cheat is because of peer pressure. Students tend to be easily influenced by their peers in doing a specific action and peer influence is undeniable whether it is positive or negative.

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