Why Do Students Cheat?

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Recently, many students in our school have been caught cheating in the exams. Along with copying homework from classmates, cheating is very common among students in, possibly, every school around the world. However, why do students cheat? What drives them to do such a dishonest behaviour?

With everyone being their own person, every student has their own reason for wanting to cheat in their examinations. The three most common reasons for cheating are academic pressure, parents’ expectations, and lack of effort.

**Academic Pressure**

With the education system rapidly changing within the years, “studies” are seemingly starting to become more of a competition rather than actual studying and learning. This is because universities and job requirements are becoming more demanding. The “competition” is to determine who is at the top, the one who is most likely to have a good future. Those who are at the bottom would feel hopeless, so they will have to result in cheating to climb their way up.

**Parents’ Expectations**

Parents take pride in their own children’s achievements. They are not ashamed to boast those achievements as it can give others the impression that they are great parents. Because of that, they always have high expectations on their children. However, those expectations can be too high for the students to reach sometimes, and every student wants their parents to be proud of them, so they would push themselves to the limits so they won’t let their parents down, which gives them a lot of pressure. Eventually, they will cave in to that pressure and they will start to worry and feel guilty for not reaching their parents’ expectations. Because of that guilt, they give in and start to cheat during the exams.

**Lack of Effort**

Not all students give in to external pressure, some are just not as motivated as others. They do not study, they do not pay attention during lessons, and they just fool around. However, they still want to have a future, they just don’t like the heavy work along the way, and the only easy way out is to copy off of someone else’s homework and cheat in the exams.

However, whatever reason the students have to cheat in the exams, it cannot justify their actions. Cheating during the exams is a dishonest behavior to do, and it is unfair for those who work really hard. In the real world, honesty is very important. It is vital for your self-relationship and peer-relationship.

**Self-relationship**

When you tell a lie, you may not feel guilty at first, but eventually you will feel guilty. It will eat up your insides, and you will feel awful for being dishonest. The lie will eventually follow you and you will have to come up with even more and bigger lies, which you will have to remember to pull it off. You’re just going to keep lying and lying until you’re living a lie.

**Peer-relationship**

When you lie to someone you care about, that breaking that someone’s trust. They trust you to tell nothing but the truth, and once you lie, they will start to doubt whether you are actually telling the truth or not. They won’t trust you with what you’re saying, and they won’t trust you with any of their secrets.

To those who feel the need to cheat, we understand the struggle, but it is never worth it to do a dishonest thing.