

Plagiarism in Higher Education and Impacts

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Abstract

The development of information technology has made it easy to access all information according to certain interests and purposes, including bringing a tendency to plagiarism. In the world of education, plagiarism can occur starting from various levels of education, including at the university level. Plagiarism at the university level carried out by various circles can be categorized into plagiarism carried out intentionally or unintentionally both on all or part of the work of others without including adequate reference sources in order to achieve certain goals or targets. The impact of plagiarism can occur in three aspects, namely, the impact on the perpetrators of plagiarism, especially the losses that will be felt in the future, the development of science that will be hampered, and the future of educational institutions in Indonesia related to public trust and the quality and value of its usefulness which results in a decrease in the quality of human resources in an effort to advance the nation and state.

Keywords: *Plagiarism, Higher education, Impact of plagiarism.*

INTRODUCTION

Along with the rapid development of information technology, consciously or unconsciously, it has made most people in Indonesia familiar with the digital world. Various sources or platforms available in the digital world make it easy for the wider community to access all information according to the interests and goals of each individual. The ease of plagiarizing writing from online sources can increase a person's tendency especially when they are under pressure, pressed for time and ignorance in writing (Annisa, 2023). But unfortunately, the ease of access to information often causes individuals as users to escape unjustified actions, one of which is plagiarism. Technological advances undeniably make it easier to copy and paste activities, which in turn can lead to acts of plagiarism (Magdalena et.al, 2023). Regardless of the intent and purpose, common activities such as copy and paste that are not done wisely and proportionally tend to lead users to acts of plagiarism.

In the world of education, plagiarism is something that is closely related to the integrity of the academic community at the educational institution concerned. This is because plagiarism is a form of action that can harm the principle of intellectual honesty which should be something that must be maintained and upheld in the academic world, especially at the university level. Plagiarism in the world of education can be possible starting from various levels of education, one of which is at the university level. Plagiarism at the university level in Indonesia can involve all parties who are related to writing activities, be it articles, research, or other assignments that usually apply scientific principles in their writing so that they must be written systematically and accompanied by clear references. In a literature, it is mentioned that plagiarism is a reality that often occurs in academic circles, students, lecturers and even professors have committed plagiarism. Facts in the field also explain that acts of plagiarism among students are found in the

completion of academic assignments, namely papers, papers, reviews, and small research, especially in making field notes (Akib et.al, 2016). Plagiarism among students can be caused by the availability of reading sources that are relatively easy to access online, which is then responded to by students as a shortcut to create a scientific work without the need to try hard.

Another cause can also be caused by the lack of reading book references recommended by lecturers, not to mention the limited provision of these references in the local library (Hermawan, 2019). Based on the results of other studies (Pahlevi, 2023), it is stated that the factors causing plagiarism consist of self-factors which include academic pressure or demands, time management, and lack of knowledge. Furthermore, the supervision factor can be identified from the absence of a tiered supervision mechanism up to the level of university leaders, the lack of prevention efforts by lecturers in the learning process, and the unoptimized electronic system to check a scientific work. The last factor that cannot be ruled out is the environmental factor which is less supportive of an anti-plagiarism culture. From this explanation, it can also be seen that the role of lecturers in teaching the learning process for students is quite instrumental in facilitating and directing students to actively work and innovate properly and correctly away from elements of plagiarism. In addition, what is no less important and can be most decisive is the awareness of the students themselves in responding to everything wisely, including in obtaining and analyzing the information received before being converted into a particular work. So in this case, students are required to constantly improve their knowledge and abilities in order to minimize and avoid elements of plagiarism.

Plagiarism behavior cannot be separated from the character of the perpetrator, which is certainly a character that is not commendable (Nurgiyantoro, 2015). The lack of students' ability to write scientifically and conduct scientific research as a form of lecture assignments and writing student final assignments such as essays, theses, and dissertations is one of the main things that causes students to more easily commit acts of plagiarism (Baskoro, 2022). Plagiarism cases can be interpreted as shortcuts that are often taken by the perpetrators to achieve certain goals and targets and cannot be separated from the characters and habits that are intentionally or unintentionally formed as a result of the unwise use of technological developments. The development of science and technology (IPTEK) has a lot of impact on these educational actors, especially in universities, which has created a sense of irresponsibility by some users because scientific work is easily copied and used as their own work without even mentioning the name of the owner of the work. This is an ethical threat in the academic tradition, especially in writing activities (Ruslan, 2020). Therefore, to prevent the act or practice of plagiarism in higher education, the government has specifically regulated through the Minister of National Education Regulation Number 17 of 2010 concerning Prevention and Control of Plagiarism in Higher Education. The prevention of plagiarism in question is a preventive measure taken by the Head of Higher Education which aims to prevent plagiarism from occurring in the higher education environment. Meanwhile, overcoming plagiarism is a repressive action taken by the Head of Higher Education by imposing sanctions on plagiarists in the higher education environment which aims to restore the academic credibility of the college concerned. So the existence of these regulations is expected to be used as a legal basis in the prevention and prosecution of plagiarism behavior at the university level. By maintaining the originality of a written work that is free from plagiarism, it also indirectly helps maintain the quality and usefulness of the work so that it can be applied in everyday life both on a small and wider scale and even in making certain policies.

RESEARCH METHODS

The qualitative approach emphasizes an in-depth analysis process using non-numerical data. In qualitative research, literature can be used to build a theoretical basis and deepen understanding of a particular phenomenon, including the use of secondary data from scientific articles and books (Creswell, 2014). The research method used in writing this journal is a qualitative approach method through literature studies by collecting information relevant to the topic discussed and analyzing secondary data from various reliable sources of information in the form of scientific articles, research results, books and government policy rules to provide a comprehensive understanding of plagiarism and know the impact of plagiarism that occurs at the level of education in higher education.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Plagiarism Perspective

The word plagiarism comes from Latin, namely “plagiarius” or “plagiare” which means robbing, stealing, or hijacking. Plagiarism can generally be defined as the act of taking the work or thoughts or opinions of others without listing the source and making it as if it were one's own work or thoughts or opinions (Magdalena, 2023). In plagiarism, there are several different terms that need to be understood, namely plagiarism, plagiarism, and plagiarism. The Big Indonesian Dictionary states that plagiarism is plagiarism that violates copyright; plagiarism is taking someone else's essay (opinion and so on) and making it as if it were one's own essay (opinion and so on); plagiarist is a person who takes someone else's essay (opinion and so on) and broadcasts it as his own essay (opinion and so on). According to the Regulation of the Minister of National Education Number 17 of 2010 concerning Prevention and Control of Plagiarism in Higher Education, plagiarism is the act of intentionally or unintentionally obtaining or attempting to obtain credit or grades for a scientific work, by quoting part or all of the work and/or scientific work of other parties recognized as their scientific work, without properly and adequately stating the source.

Plagiarism behavior is a moral offense. This violation can have an impact on reducing self-quality, such as being lazy in making a work (Fatimah, 2018). In simple terms, plagiarism is an act of copying and pasting from other people's intellectual products without mentioning or listing the names of the original authors, inventors, and initiators. Plagiarism can occur intentionally or unintentionally, but both reasons are still considered plagiarism if there are similarities in two scientific works without being accompanied by citations and changes in the original text using their own words (Shadiqi, 2019). In general, plagiarism is often seen as an ethical violation that is prevalent in the academic field, but a violation of Copyright law can also be categorized as plagiarism if the act is committed against a work that has been protected by Copyright (Putranto, 2009). Based on some of these explanations, plagiarism is an act of taking part or all of the work of a person or group in the form of ideas, opinions, writings without including a reference source which is then recognized as the result of personal thought in order to achieve certain goals or targets.

Impact of Plagiarism

No university in Indonesia is relatively free from plagiarism. Plagiarism, which can be referred to as the misappropriation of knowledge, seems to be often carried out by academics from almost all universities, both public and private, public and religious, in various ways for various interests, such as intellectual popularity, promotion, or academic titles (HS Riyadi, 2017). In the world of education at the tertiary level in Indonesia, cases of plagiarism still seem

to be found quite a lot and are increasingly becoming a serious concern. This is considered very reasonable considering that plagiarism can be said to be a violation of ethics that can tarnish the good name of the educational institution and furthermore can be categorized as a violation of the law, especially if it is related to something that has been assigned copyright according to copyright rules in force in Indonesia.

One of the most common academic dishonesty behaviors is plagiarism, which is rewriting (copy-pasting) all parts or parts of other people's writings without including the source, or not using their own sentences (paraphrasing) in writing material from the internet into assignments (Fatimah, 2018). In terms of intent and purpose in the context of higher education, plagiarism is usually committed in order to fulfill an obligation or demand imposed on a person or group to create a scientific paper and publish it to a certain media. As quoted from previous studies, it is explained that there are types of plagiarism that are divided into several groups, namely (Hermawan, 2019):

- (1) Types of plagiarism based on stolen aspects, including plagiarism of ideas, content (research data), words, sentences, paragraphs, and total plagiarism;
- (2) Types of plagiarism based on whether or not the plagiarism was intentional;
- (3) Types of plagiarism based on the proportion or percentage of words, sentences, paragraphs that are plagiarized, plagiarism is said to be mild if <30%, moderate plagiarism 30-70%, and severe or total plagiarism >70%.
- (4) Types of plagiarism based on plagiarism patterns, namely word-for-word plagiarism and mosaic of plagiarism.

Based on its practice, plagiarism in scientific work can be categorized into 2 types, namely (Aji, 2018):

- (1) Copying and pasting part or all of the writing without showing that the part is the result of quoting other people's work, called direct plagiarism;
- (2) Quoting other people's writings by paraphrasing even though the paraphrase is done only on certain words, called mosaic plagiarism.

In the process of making scientific papers, there is a tendency for the practice of plagiarism to be carried out with various possibilities, namely the practice of plagiarism which is carried out totally or thoroughly by using other people's work absolutely which is then recognized as the result of personal thought without making modifications or adjustments to personal understanding and perspective based on the topic of discussion. Such conditions are usually caused by limited factors both in terms of the ability of the plagiarist and the time needed to complete the work so that plagiarism in this case is carried out intentionally. Next is the practice of plagiarism that is partially carried out which is then assembled in such a way as a mosaic without any proportional adjustments according to personal understanding and point of view based on the topic of discussion which then the part is recognized as the result of personal thought. The tendency to practice plagiarism in these conditions can be caused by the perpetrator's low knowledge of the standards or provisions of good writing and free from the category of plagiarism, including the aspect of writing references or bibliographies that are forgotten to be included so that plagiarism in this case is carried out unintentionally. Therefore, the role of universities, especially in this case the leaders of universities, is very important in efforts to prevent plagiarism through various efforts such as through the establishment and supervision of the implementation of a code of ethics for the entire academic community in the form of guidelines or rector-level regulations that contain the rules for preventing and overcoming plagiarism within the scope of educational institutions.

As an act that is not justified, there is a need for serious handling of plagiarism and of course also indicates that plagiarism can have a negative impact on education at the tertiary level in Indonesia. The impact of plagiarism can occur in three aspects, namely, the impact on

plagiarists, the development of science, and the future of educational institutions in Indonesia. In the perspective of intelligence, plagiarism can be considered as a threat to human security by considering the possible impacts that will occur for the sustainability of human quality and character development, especially master students in Indonesia (Pahlevi, 2023). Plagiarism can indirectly limit the pattern of critical thinking, especially students, making students' mindset unpolished and worse can be rooted into a bad habit which certainly brings harm to themselves. The losses experienced by plagiarists can be felt directly such as tarnished reputation or good name and the emergence of doubts about credibility due to a decrease in the level of trust in the ability and integrity of the plagiarist. These conditions also make it very possible for plagiarists to experience emotional and psychological shocks due to shame, loss of confidence, and anxiety related to reputation so that it will be very difficult and certainly require a lot of effort and time to restore self-image. It is also feared that it can have a long-term impact on the future of plagiarists in the future, including opportunities related to the academic world to the professional career concerned. In fact, what is very heartbreaking is that if the act of plagiarism is deliberately often carried out, it is not impossible to be categorized as a violation of applicable legal provisions such as academic sanctions to legal sanctions. In the academic environment, plagiarists are often faced with sanctions ranging from reprimands to expulsion from educational institutions. Some institutions can even cancel diplomas and revoke academic degrees that have been given if cases of plagiarism are proven after graduation. These academic sanctions certainly have a great potential to stop the academic development of plagiarists accompanied by bad records that can affect the future of plagiarists in terms of learning opportunities. Reviewing from the aspect of applicable law, legal sanctions that can be imposed for plagiarists are related to acts of copyright infringement where according to Law Number 28 of 2014 concerning Copyright it is stated that plagiarists can be sanctioned in the form of criminal fines and imprisonment.

The behavior of plagiarizing other people's work without including the source and name of the original author can have a negative impact on the development of science, because only by quoting will not appear new thoughts (Wibowo, 2012). More broadly in terms of science itself, plagiarism can hinder the development of science because plagiarism indirectly limits the mindset and the emergence of new ideas or ideas that should be able to bring science forward. The integrity of a scientific work will be damaged because the work produced can no longer be considered to contribute, which should be able to enrich science from various aspects as a key in technological development and innovation, which is highly dependent on continuous and original research. On the other hand, when talking about the quality of a work, it is considered to tend to cause a decrease in the quality of research as a whole because the knowledge produced is no longer reliable as valid new information and there is certainly a repetition of an activity in producing a work which of course also provides a loss in terms of time, cost, and resources which then leads to a decrease in motivation in producing an innovation through a work. Plagiarism can also create an element of distrust in a scientific community or forum. When plagiarism occurs, trust between researchers, academics, and the general public in research results can collapse. This is very dangerous because it can create skepticism towards science itself, and the public may become less confident in the results of research or innovations produced by the community.

The mental impact on the nation due to plagiarism is far greater than the financial loss (HS Riyadi, 2017). In terms of the future of educational institutions, the rise of plagiarism cases can result in a loss of integrity and the emergence of a negative stigma which will certainly have an impact on the substance, namely reducing the quality of the value of education provided by universities. In addition, this can also affect the credibility of the university in the eyes of the community or public and the academic world, thus reducing the value of the benefits that

universities should be able to provide to society, nation and state. The impact of plagiarism will also affect the accreditation and status of educational institutions both at the national and international levels. Educational institutions that fail to maintain and enforce academic integrity and allow plagiarism to flourish may lose their accreditation status or receive low rankings in education quality assessments. This will affect the educational institution's chances of getting financial support, both from the government and the private sector, as well as opportunities to collaborate with other educational institutions abroad. In addition, if plagiarism occurs at the level of lecturers or academic staff, it can tarnish the institution's name and cause them to lose the opportunity to participate in international research projects or obtain research grants that are important for scientific and technological advancement. Furthermore, such conditions are feared to reduce the motivation of certain people or groups to continue their further studies in higher education. Of course, if that happens, it is certain that the quality of human resources in the country will be eroded and unable to compete in the global arena in an effort to advance the nation and state because it does not have enough quality human resources from the educational aspect that should be born from a learning process in higher education

CONCLUSION

Plagiarism is an act that is not justified because plagiarism can harm the principle of intellectual honesty which should be something that must be maintained and upheld in the academic world, especially at the level of higher education. Plagiarism can be categorized into intentional or unintentional plagiarism of all or part of the work of others without including adequate reference sources. The impact of plagiarism can occur in three aspects, namely, the impact on plagiarists, the development of science, and the future of educational institutions in Indonesia. The impact of plagiarism that can be felt by the plagiarist is like a tarnished reputation or good name and the emergence of doubts about credibility to affect the future of the plagiarist in the academic world to his career. Next is the impact of plagiarism on the development of science which is hampered due to the limitation of mindset and the emergence of new ideas or ideas that should be able to bring science to develop more advanced. Then the last is the impact of plagiarism on the future of educational institutions in Indonesia related to public trust and the quality and value of its usefulness which results in a decrease in the quality of human resources in the country in an effort to advance the nation and state.

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