

**An Ontological Update: Are Polish Higher School
Learners Consistent in Their Agreement with Cheating
in Examinations Sessions?**

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this ontological look is to determine if Polish higher school students are consistent in their agreement in favour of cribbing in exams. Seventeen students who study at AGH University of Science Technology, Cracow, Poland and Cracow Pedagogical University were surveyed, and the author found that only 35% of the learners are in agreement with cheating in examinations. Therefore, the research prediction was not confirmed. The theoretical framework for this article is provided by the general idea of the school as an organization and social institution

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Purpose of the Article

This brief ontological look attempts to determine whether Polish higher school student's are in agreement with cribbing in exams.

Motivation for the Article and Theoretical Framework

It is advisable to examine cribbing in examinations in Polish higher schools now because of the new challenges that educators are facing in terms of quality control as a result of Poland's recent (April, 2004) entry into the European Union (EU).

The theoretical framework for this article is supplied by the general notion of the school as an organization and social institution

Higher Schooling in Poland

Poles have been interested in higher learning activities for many years. The Jagiellonian University (1364), where Copernicus once studied, is their oldest university (Liwicka, 1959, 10). Higher education is carried out in various types of state (public) and non-state institutions such as universities, technical universities and higher pedagogical schools and is regulated by the 2005 Bill on Schools of Higher Education. Besides, a number of ministries (for example, education, agriculture and transport) are involved in the administration of higher education.

Polish higher schools are now subject to accreditation. Consequently, better equivalence of degree arrangements can be made with EU countries because there is an assurance of higher quality education. Earlier ones appear to be based on "comparable study organization procedures and student exchange programs (Edmondson , 1998, 90).

Research Question

Are Polish higher school learners in agreement with cheating in examinations? The predicted answer was 'yes' because Poles do not respect authority due to the fact that in the past it was imposed upon them against their will

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Student Responses and Results

On 27 April 2007 seventeen and AGH University of Science and Technology and Cracow Pedagogical University students were asked to indicate on small sheets of paper if they are in agreement with cheating in exams. The results are as follows: 35 % (yes) and 65% (no). Therefore, the predicted answer to the research question was not confirmed.

Concluding Remarks

It is recommended that further research be conducted involving additional institutions.

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