

Why focus on student 'cheating' misses the real ethical issues

- Dominant moralist focus on individual students

- 'cheating', 'dishonesty' etc.

- Alternative perspective: focus on social rather than individual ethical issues

- How central is meaningful student learning central to every aspect of our educational systems?

- *Parable of jaywalking immigrants*

Why focus on student 'cheating' misses the real ethical issues

- Our research: ethnography of five university departments
- Student copying omnipresent in exams and papers
 - from peers, notes, online sources etc.
- Student copying omnipresent also at lessons
 - required to replicate authoritative knowledge
 - two interchangeable strategies: memorizing and copying

Why focus on student 'cheating' misses the real ethical issues

- Why don't academics teach differently?

- Blame the teachers!

- Teaching is dependent on context:

- How central is good teaching central to every aspect of our educational systems?

- Work overload of academics: teaching, research, supervision, administration, professional expertise

- Research central to rewards and promotion: motivated to de-prioritize teaching

Why focus on student 'cheating' misses the real ethical issues

- Replication of authoritative knowledge dominant despite desired by neither teachers nor students
- Students didn't copy to avoid learning
 - Students copied when prevented from meaningful learning
- Social ethical perspective: how to organize our education systems to prioritize meaningful learning for all students at all times?
 - 'cheating' just a symptom of dysfunctional context