

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

When people want to write something, they need a lot of references to complete their writing. They need to know what to write, thus, they have to find a lot of information to convey their writing in details. In fact, when they have no more information to provide, they might accidentally take people's words partially or even completely. When people take other people's idea and they do not put the name of the creator or they do not add any other information behind the citation, it can be considered as plagiarism.

Plagiarism can be said as the action of taking others words or sentences without giving the credit of the real writer. Apparently, taking the idea of other people is considered as plagiarism too.

Plagiarism ranges from the unreferenced use of others' published and unpublished ideas, including research grant applications to submission under 'new' authorship of a complete paper, sometimes in a different language. It may occur at any stage of planning, research, writing or publication: It applies to print and electronic versions.

Committee on Publication Ethics as cited by Skandalakis (2004).

It means that the action of plagiarism does not only happen for the published ideas but also from the unpublished ideas. This action changes the ownership of someone who has not published his work to be theirs, so that they can claim theirs to be original. In other words, plagiarism occurs when someone steals other's ideas or works and he pretends that it is his work. Thus, people who take other people's ideas without giving credit and pretend that those ideas are theirs are considered as plagiarists. They take other's ideas, but they claim that those are theirs. In fact, more and more people unconsciously take ideas from the Internet or books and they forget to give credit. Although they might be unintentionally doing that, it is still considered as violation of plagiarism. According to Ashworth, Bannister, & Thorne (as cited by Eret & Gokmenoglu, 2010, p. 200), plagiarism is defined as "a form of intellectual theft". It means that any kinds of stealing others' works can be said as an intellectual theft. It does not only for specific words or sentences but also for some ideas which have not been published into works yet.

Some researchers have conducted studies on plagiarism. In Hong Kong, a study showed that the first and the third year of the university students have similar perception of plagiarism. According to Deckert (as cited in Hu & Lei, 2012), the students as a group generally had little ability to detect plagiarism and the third-year students showed greater ability to

recognize plagiarism. It suggests that the first-year students tend to have less ability in detecting the plagiarism compared to the third-year students. It might be because the first year students are still strict and intolerant about the plagiarism while the third-year students are more tolerant and this idea of plagiarism is acceptable. Meanwhile in Australia, there was a study showed that the students in Australian universities need to follow the strict rules regarding the plagiarism. Devlin & Gray (2007) stated that plagiarism-related policies in Australian universities still tend to emphasize procedures to be followed in cases of suspected plagiarism and penalties to be applied should such 'academic misconduct' be detected or 'proven'. Those universities will give penalties whenever they find works which are suspected to have involved plagiarism. This strict rule will help both the lecturers and the students to reduce the number of plagiarism used in thesis.

In Faculty of Language and Arts Unika Soegijapranata, students who have finished writing their thesis have to check their thesis in the library to know whether they plagiarize or not. There is a rule that there should be less than ten percent of similarities of any references. Sometimes, it is found that the result of plagiarism checking shows that there are more than 10% similarities. Therefore, it is worth to know their awareness and perception on plagiarism. In this study, the writer will investigate whether students who are in the process of writing their thesis are aware of plagiarism and how they perceive plagiarism.

1.2 Field of the Study

The field of the study is in Applied Linguistics.

1.3 Scope of the Study

The study focuses on 30 students of Soegijapranata Catholic University from the Faculty of Language and Arts who are currently taking Thesis.

1.4 Problem Formulation

In order to get a great result of this analysis, the following problems have been formulated:

1. What are Soegijapranata Catholic University students' perceptions on the plagiarism?
2. What are the most dominant reasons of students for doing plagiarism?

1.5 Objectives of the Study

The problem of the study above leads the writer to the following study objectives:

1. To find out Soegijapranata Catholic University students' perceptions on the plagiarism.
2. To find out the most dominant reason of students for doing plagiarism.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The writer decided to analyze the perception of the Soegijapranata Catholic University students in order to know the Soegijapranata Catholic University students' perceptions of the plagiarism. The writer hopes this study could give some information for both the lecturers and students from the Faculty of Letters of Soegijapranata Catholic University regarding plagiarism.

1.7 Definition of Terms

Some terms which are used in this study are:

1. Perception

Perception is an understanding of the world constructed from information obtained by means of the senses (Lewis, 2001).

2. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is usually used to refer to the theft of words or ideas, beyond what would normally be regarded as general knowledge (Park, 2003a).

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

When students want to make their thesis, they need to have a lot of sources to depend on. They will know what to write and they will know