**Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in Doctoral Writing: Implications and Guidance for Professional and Dissertation Supervisors**

Dararat Khampusaen
Jiraporn Lao-un
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Khon Kaen University

**Abstract:** This research, titled 'Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in Doctoral Writing: Implications and Guidance for Professionals and Dissertation Supervisors,' provides an extensive exploration of ethical considerations within the domain of doctoral writing, with a particular focus on academic plagiarism. The study investigates various facets of plagiarism, encompassing its diverse typologies, underlying causative factors, and the level of awareness prevalent among doctoral students. This research establishes the role of AI technologies in the context of doctoral writing as a foundational framework for our study. Our research cohort comprised 14 doctoral candidates specializing in Applied Linguistics at Khon Kaen University, with their written submissions serving as the principal data source. To comprehensively evaluate the prevalence of plagiarism, a dual-pronged methodology was employed, initially involving the use of plagiarism detection software and followed by meticulous manual scrutiny. Subsequent statistical analysis of the data, collected through these methods, facilitated the quantification, categorization, and identification of the frequency and manifestations of plagiarism. Additionally, in-depth interviews were conducted with six select subjects representing varying degrees of plagiarism, ranging from the highest to the lowest occurrences. The interview transcripts underwent meticulous analysis utilizing the Coding method to extract valuable insights concerning the personal attributes, knowledge, and ethical awareness associated with writing integrity among these students. Our findings revealed a spectrum of plagiarism rates, ranging from a high of 79% to a low of 5%. Predominant forms of plagiarism identified included Find-Replace, Remix, Ctrl + C, and Hybrid, constituting 10.9%, 9.9%, 7.4%, and 0.7% of the instances, respectively. The interview data shed light on the root causes of plagiarism, with personal challenges, particularly time management issues, emerging as a prominent contributing factor. These findings are contextualized within the framework of academic integrity, accentuating the pivotal role of honesty in scholarly endeavors. This research underscores the critical significance of instilling ethical principles within the realm of academic writing and advocates for the incorporation of integrity-related topics into Ph.D. curricula. By shedding light on the prevalence and origins of plagiarism, our study aims to foster a constructive dialogue among educational institutions, professionals, and dissertation supervisors, facilitating effective strategies to address these ethical challenges.

Keywords: Doctoral Writing, Ethical Dilemmas, Academic Plagiarism, Integrity, Professional Guidance, Dissertation Supervisors, Scholarly Ethics, Writing Integrity, Education Ethics, Academic Ethics, AI in Doctorate Writing