

Endangering Academic Integrity: A Discourse of The Negativities Attached to Age Restriction While Distributing Academic Scholarship Among the Applicants from Developing Countries

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Abstract

Academic integrity has been methodically investigated. In prior researches, the investigations focus largely on students' nature of conducts regarding academic and school activities in general after the admissions, while being so limited in their acumens about paramount causality. This study has theoretical and practical contributions to the literature and the real world by uncovering the negativity associated with the age-limit criterion in scholarship admissions and how it jeopardizes the stability of integrity within and outside institutions. A total of 82 participants from 11 countries across 2 continents of Africa and Asia were interviewed at five selected countries. Age restriction in scholarship admission was reported to deprive and discriminate against aged competent and qualified scholarship applicants. Thus, adjustment of age to meet the required age in the scholarship has been considered as a defense mechanism overtime. Implications of this misconduct are discussed, and recommendations are provided.

Keywords: scholarship, academic integrity, age, negativity, applicants developing, countries