

Essay :-

## " Unethical use of AI tools in education and its consequences "

### OUTLINE

#### 1. Introduction

Thesis Statement : The responsible use of AI tools in Education brings numerous benefits. But its unethical use in education can breed serious consequences for the education system. However, adopting careful measures can help mitigate this unethical use.

2. What is AI? How it is used in Education,

3. How AI tools are unethically used in Education,

- a) AI tools like ChatGPT are the new facilitators of students.
- b) Teachers also rely on AI generated responses for <sup>their own</sup> lectures.
- c) AI driven writing services are preferred over <sup>one's own</sup> creativity.
- d) AI tools are diminishing the role of human educators.
- e) Automated grading systems might not be fair.
- f) AI tools are misused for online testing platforms.

4. Consequences of unethical use of AI tools in Education.

- a) Quality of education gets severely affected.
- b) Cheating and plagiarism leading to academic dishonesty.
- c) AI replaces human educators, creating discrimination.
- d) AI grading systems can be biased against certain groups.
- e) Breach of students' privacy and personal data.
- f) Algorithmic Bias can lead to inequality among students.
- g) Overreliance of students on AI hampers their creativity.

5. How unethical use of AI tools in Education can be minimized.

- a) Promoting awareness among students and teachers.
- b) Implementing strict rules in evaluation, ensuring fairness.
- c) Responsible usage of AI in education should be promoted.
- d) Introducing concept based and critical thinking examination.

6. Conclusion

"Success in creating AI would be the biggest event in human history. Unfortunately, it might also be the last, unless we learn how to avoid the risks" (Stephen Hawking). In today's modern society, it is almost impossible to live without encountering applications and tools powered by AI. We are constantly using the applications of AI and its assistance in our lives. It is also present in education through machine learning systems and algorithm productions. Nowadays, AI tools are widely used in Education like ChatGPT. Students are heavily dependent on AI generated responses for their study and work tasks. The tools of AI are misused for educational purposes and online testing platforms as well. This results in serious consequences for the education system and the youth as well. The unethical use of AI tools is disrupting the natural creativity of students along with replacing human educators as well. Therefore, promoting awareness about its

responsible use is the need of the hour. Our Education system needs to promote and encourage responsible usage of AI tools. Because it brings <sup>numerous</sup> benefits for the education system whereas its unethical use can breed serious consequences. However, adopting careful measures can help mitigate this unethical use.

AI systems and tools are being widely used in education these days. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the intelligence of machines or software, a field of study in computer science that develops and studies intelligent machines. Simply, it is the science of making machines that can think like humans. These AIs are considered "smart". A good use of AI tools in education can be extremely beneficial. But its unethical use in today's world is breeding severe consequences for the education system. It is very important to learn the ethical use of AI tools for the betterment of Education system. Therefore, several measures should be taken to avoid its unethical use in education.

AI tools, despite their benefits, are used unethically in education, chief among them is ChatGPT. ChatGPT is the new best friend of students, who are heavily relying on it. The reason is that it generates quick response for them, providing students with all facts and details.

It saves them time but immensely hampers their ability to write their own original hardwork. Therefore, Researchers have raised concerns about its use and ethics in education arena (Susnjak, 2022).

In short, ChatGPT acts as the new facilitator of students.

Although students are heavily dependent on AI tools, even teachers also tend to AI tools for preparing their lectures. To save their time and to cover multiple dimensions of the topic, they take help from AI generated responses. This facilitates them to cover a huge task in the blink of an eye. However, it prevents the students from learning novel ideas as there is no space left for creativity and analytical thinking.

Teachers even use ChatGPT for writing lessons or creating academic plans for students (Brenda Thomas, Teachers: Are you using ChatGPT ethically, March 2023).

Thus, teachers also use AI tools for their academic tasks.

Furthermore, AI <sup>driven</sup> writing services are preferred over one's own creativity. AI tools are becoming alternatives for writing services because automated writing services are considered more efficient by students. They prefer it over their own creativity, thinking of it as a reliable source for outshining in academic activities. For instance, students use AI tools in

their academic writing for writing essays, vocabulary suggestions, proofreading etc (Alharbi, 2023). Therefore, students prefer these services instead of doing their own original work.

All these applications of AI tools lead to diminishing of human educators. AI tools are slowly undermining the role of human teachers, as students rely on them more. It is changing the trajectory of the way students learn. The reason is that it is considered an easy way to meet the ends because of its numerous advantages.

For instance, Intelligent Tutoring systems like "Carnegie Learning" are at the forefront of AI's educational impact (Stephanie Trovato, AI replacing Teachers: Fact or Fiction, Sep 2023).

In short, it raises a serious concern that AI tools are eliminating the role of teachers slowly.

Automated grading systems of AI is another major problem which might not be fair. In today's fast-paced technology driven world, AI has found its integration even into the realm of grading and assessment.

Despite the prominence that these automated grading systems have gained, they have their shortcomings. The reason is that these systems are based on the data which is fed. If the data input reflects human biases, AI can perpetuate

them too, making it an unfair grading system. Therefore, AI grading systems might not always be fair and transparent.

Another major area where AI tools are misused, is "online testing platforms". Students use AI tools to perform well in these online testing systems. Because there are certain AI-powered applications that can provide human-like typing patterns during online tests and even take tests on behalf of the student.

For instance, 48% of students <sup>have</sup> used ChatGPT or similar AI tools for at-home tests (Nerdyrav, Jan 5, 2024). Thus, AI tools are being misused by students for online testing.

Consequently, such unethical use of AI tools in education system affects the quality of education. It affects the standard of learning and evaluation processes, thereby impacting the overall quality of education. Both teachers and students depend more on these tools rather than fostering critical thinking and creative exercises for academic purposes.

According to a survey conducted by Best Colleges, 56% of college students have used AI on assignments or exams (Jane Nam, <sup>Nov</sup> 2023). This shows that unethical use of AI tools is affecting the quality of education.

Unethical use of AI tools like cheating and plagiarism lead to academic dishonesty. For academic students simply copy paste information from AI tools which is plagiarism. Further, they also take help of such tools to cheat in exams. Such practices make students vulnerable to academic dishonesty. For instance, "48% of students admitted to using ChatGPT for an at-home test or quiz, 53% had it write an essay, and 27% had it write an outline for a paper (Christ Westfall, Educators Battle Plagiarism, 2023). Such stats show that cheating and plagiarism using AI tools breeds academic dishonesty.

There are also worries that AI tools might harm the bond between teachers and students as there are slowly replacing human educators. It creates a lack of trust and connection between them, resulting in discrimination. Because students tend to only move on AI tools for their study and also compare the capability of teachers with AI generated study material. Intelligent Tutoring Systems to spoon-feed students are a great examples in this regard. Therefore, it arises the hot debate that these systems are slowly replacing human educators.

Another great concern regarding the unethical



use of AI tools is that they may generate discriminatory results against certain groups. This is because these automated grading systems operate upon the data analysis that is fed by none other than humans themselves. If they are programmed with biases or errors, their result will reflect the same racism for certain groups of society. For instance, "kids from black and latino or Hispanic communities", who are often already on the wrong side of digital divide will face greater inequalities if the world goes too far toward digitalizing education without considering the inherent biases of developers who create AI systems (Andre M. Perry and Nial Turner Lee, 2019). Thus, it can be biased against certain groups.

Furthermore, Breach of students' privacy is another alarming concern regarding the unethical AI usage. The privacy risks associated with AI in education can range from the inappropriate use or sharing of personal data to the potential for surveillance and profiling. For example, AI tools could potentially be used to track students' online activities, infer sensitive information or make predictions about their future behaviours or outcomes. It could <sup>also</sup> make schools a target for cyber-attacks as hackers could potentially access sensitive information.

Thus, AI tools unethical use could infringe on students' privacy rights and autonomy.

Moreover, algorithm bias is another serious consequence of the unethical AI usage. It refers to AI systems and tools that produce biased results that reflect human biases within a society. These biases found in the data, algorithm or the predictions which these algorithm produces leads to inequality among students in education system. For instance, using flawed training data can result in algorithms that repeatedly produce unfair outcomes, errors and even amplify the bias inherent in flawed data (IBM data and AI team, Shedding light on AI bias with real world examples, Oct 2023). In short, unethical AI usage leads to such biases.

Lastly, the most important and serious consequence of such unethical usage is, overreliance of students on AI tools which hampers their creativity. Prominence of AI tools in education is gaining immense importance as students heavily rely on these chatbots for their academic needs. From copy pasting material to simply availing writing services of AI students are indulging in all sorts of unethical AI usage. Instead of using their own capabilities, such unethical usage undermines their creativity and analytical thinking skills. According to Faical Base,

"Students instead of trying to understand a topic, ~~submit~~ <sup>submit</sup> something they might not even understand" (AI in education, <sup>Jan</sup> 2024). Thus, overreliance of students on AI tools hampers their creativity.

All these serious consequences of unethical AI usage can be minimized using sound and effective measures. These adverse effects can be mitigated by employing useful strategies in our education system. First of all, promoting awareness regarding the negative impacts of unethical AI usage is very important. Students and teachers both should be taught and made aware of its serious consequences. Teachers should imbibe the spirit of moral obligation among students, making them realise the importance of hardwork and fairness. Hence, promoting awareness can ~~only~~ ~~be~~ be used as an effective strategy for minimizing the unethical use of AI tools in education.

Secondly, ensuring fairness in evaluation is of immense significance. Strict rules should be set up for evaluation and grading processes in schools, colleges etc. This would ~~allow~~ ~~allow~~ allow students to not look for alternative means and they would rely on their own capabilities. For instance, teachers should set up a standard for students to achieve, encouraging creative and novel ideas

to write in exams. This will motivate them to write unique content and excel in their academic activities. Thus, strict rules for evaluation can be effectively employed in mitigation strategies of this process.

Furthermore, promoting responsible usage of AI in education can be of extreme help. Students should be guided about the correct and balanced use of AI tools in education. For instance, they should be taught that AI tools can help them enhance their homework, point out their shortcomings, rather than relying on them completely. Seminars should be conducted in educational institutions to encourage healthy use of AI tools among students. Students can be encouraged to use their own critical thinking and problem solving skills while using AI tools in a balanced manner, just for assistance. In short, promoting a balanced use of AI in education can help overcome its unethical use.

Last but not the least, introducing concept based and critical thinking examination can be a powerful tool to minimize unethical use of AI in education. With the changing trends in education system, such concept based exams are the need of the hour. Education system should organize the examination in such a way that requires analytical reasoning of the students.

This will enable them to work hard and discourage the unethical use of AI. Therefore, introducing concept based exams can immensely help in overcoming the menace of this unethical AI usage in education.

In summation, one may say that although AI tools have gained popularity in education but their unethical usage can paint a bleak future for the education system. Overreliance of students on these tools ~~have~~ can cripple their creative abilities, thus giving birth to serious affects on their education learning process. It can also create a divide among them because of its algorithmic biases and errors. However, adopting strong measures can help mitigate the influence of this unethical use. Promoting a healthy and balanced use of AI tools in education can prove to be fruitful. It is never too late to pledge for a new change, to create a new tomorrow. Therefore, regardless of the obstacles, we can definitely achieve the goal of minimizing this unethical AI usage in education. As said by Faisal Bari, "The struggle is not to stop students from using AI, but to convince them to use it for understanding concepts and deepening their learning instead of cheating". (AI in education, Jan 2024).