

Tate Hinger  
*Cheater, Cheater*

Cheater, Cheater is a pair of identical experiments designed to reveal the typical Middle School student's behavior when tempted to do something they generally know is wrong, cheating. This project designed to see what could possibly deter the number of incidents of cheating during an exam. Two of the most commonly held as effectual deterrents, a teacher & a peer advocating against cheating, were used as variables. The purpose was to find which would decrease the probability that a student will give into cheating. Three 5-minute intervals were performed in the two experiments. The units measured in this experiment were incidents of being persuaded to, refusing to, not knowing the answer to, and voluntarily cheating.

Initially, the data showed a significant difference between those who cheated with a teacher in the room and those who cheated when he/she was out of the room. The one with the least cheating incidents was when a peer spoke out against cheating. The second test proved that a teacher was more effective when it came to cheating. The outcome of both tests combined suggested that a peer advocating against cheating deterred it the most. In the first test an unexpected event turned out to be a door opener in the topic of cheating. This was when one of the test subjects noticed the hidden camera. Next year, I could continue this experiment by testing to see if the video camera will affect the actions of the test subjects like it did in my experiment.