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Emerging Technology

12 February 2014

Cheating in Sports

Since it has been going on for many years, cheating in sports has never been a new thing. There are many ways that someone could get ahead in sports whether its through drugs or lying. Cheating defined is having a gained advantage which in this case is also something or action that is violating rules. In past times, cheating in sports was different from present day. We are finding new ways to cheat by bending the rules around the situation. We now have social media and peer pressure to influence athlete's decisions even if we don't agree with it or recognize it at first.

Cheating has been caused by pressure whether it's from strangers or pressure from friends. News reporters write articles that can make athletes think badly about themselves on how they play or their appearance; which can cause athletes to cheat to make themselves better. Many athletes have stated that they spotted a teammate "cheating" to get better at sports, but they leave it alone and don't report it. Athletes think that ignoring it is the way to go but in the end it could come back and cause trouble for them and others. Jay Coakley stated, "players were frequently 'bought' by gamblers who wanted games 'fixed' so they would win their bets" and that "players at that time were not paid big salaries relative to the salaries of many working people, and the members of the White Sox had put up with the regularly broken financial promises of their stingy and exploitive owner."

When there is a cause, there is an effect that comes with it whether it is good or bad.

Depending on how long the players have cheated decides the kind of consequence. It could lead your whole team to take consequences or it may be a three-game suspension. For example, in the 2001 Little League World Series, Danny Almonte was leading his Bronx team and they had high hopes to win. The team coach conspired to forge records saying that he was two years older. The effects were “the team was disqualified and its entire season was erased from the Little League record books.”

Prevention is the key to stopping cheating for athletes. You will always leave the choices up to the athletes because it is their life and they have to deal with it in the end but you still need to enforce the rules. If you enforce the rules and tell them the consequences it will give them more of a reality check to make sure they are on their game. No one is going to understand an athlete better than another athlete. Their experience they go through together every day with each other creates a bond that will last a lifetime. In Armstrong’s position, “Armstrong’s teammates were in a position to discourage and possibly even prevent him from cheating at the time, but most of them chose to keep quiet and join in themselves.” One person can prevent dozens of people from cheating.

In the end, cheating in sports can lead to no good no matter what it is doing, with every decision there is a consequence. Sports itself can cause stress on the athletes since they want you to be perfect in every way. In some situations, a family can only hope their children get a sport scholarship since they won’t get a scholarship any other way.

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