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Liars, cheaters essentially lazy: Will do it if it's easy, U of T research suggests

Postmedia News · Thursday, Nov. 25, 2010

You're more likely to lie, cheat and behave badly if it doesn't involve a lot of work, suggests new research at the University of Toronto. "If [people] can lie by omission, cheat without doing much legwork, or bypass a person's request for help without expressly denying them, they are much more likely to do so," says Rimma Teper, PhD student and lead author on the study. She conducted two experiments, the results of which were published Wednesday in *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. In one, 84 participants were told to take a math test after being warned there was a glitch in the system. Half were told if they pressed a space bar, the answer would appear. The others were told if they did not press the enter key right away, the answer would appear. Those who could wait for the answer to appear cheated an average of 1.5 times out of 15. Those who had to click the space bar cheated an average of 0.18 times.

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