

## **An Investigation into Careless Errors Made by 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Students**

### **Abstract**

In this action research study, I investigated the careless errors made by my seventh-grade mathematics students on their homework and tests. Beyond analyzing the types of careless errors and the frequency at which they were made, I also analyzed my students' attitudes toward reviewing their work before they turn it in and self-reflection about the quality of work that they were producing. I found that many students did not know how to review their test before turning it in; no one had ever taught them how to do so. However, when students were given tools to help them with this task, they were able to make strides towards reducing the number of careless errors that they made and began to turn in high quality work that demonstrated their understanding of the content that had been taught. As a result of this research, I plan to teach my students how to go back over their homework and tests before turning them in. I also intend to continue to use the tools that I have produced to encourage students to self-reflect on the work that they have done. Assessment is such an important piece of educating my students and the careless errors made on these assessments needed to be addressed.