**Crisis Report - College Admissions Scandal**

"Operation Varsity Blues," the college admissions scandal, revealed that over 30 parents had bribed and committed fraud to get their kids into prestigious colleges.(*What’s Changed Since the College Admissions Scandal? | Time*, n.d.) It sparked a debate on admissions fairness and exposed unfair advantages for wealthier applicants. The issue will be tracked in this report along with its effects, reduction of the scandal, and success. The scandal damaged confidence in admissions by exposing weaknesses and injustices in the American college application process. It involves affluent parents using bribes to get their kids into prominent colleges.

**Metrics:**

1. **Media Coverage**: Monitor the amount and tone of scandal-related media coverage. Use pertinent keywords and hashtags to keep track of the number of news stories, blog posts, and social media mentions.
2. **Social Media Engagement**: Examine the sentiment, reach, and engagement of online discussions on the scandal. Follow hashtags like #OperationVarsityBlues and #CollegeAdmissionsScandal to monitor public opinion and find key opinion leaders.
3. **Surveys or sentiment analysis:** The analysis can determine how the public felt about the college application procedure before and after the incident. Moreover, keep tracking alterations in people's perceptions of fairness, equity, and reliability in the admissions process.
4. **Admissions Policies**: Keep an eye on any adjustments that schools and universities make to their admissions policies and procedures due to the scandal. Keep up with changes in testing criteria, admissions decision transparency, and initiatives to resolve conflicts of interest.
5. **Academic Performance:** Examine the academic success and graduation rates of underprivileged students admitted under new admissions regulations. Compared to statistics from prior years, evaluate their performance.

**Actions to be considered:**

The following actions can be taken to address the situation and lessen its effects:

* **Enhance Transparency:** Increase transparency in the admissions process by making the selection criteria and procedures apparent. Make sure that choices reflect fairness and equity and are based on merit.
* **Reform Standardized Testing:** Examine the function of standardized exams in admissions and suggest alternate techniques for determining academic potential.
* **Increase Oversight:** Implement greater oversight and monitoring methods to detect and prevent fraudulent behaviour. Create procedures to validate unique skills, athletic prowess, and other factors utilized to make admissions decisions.
* **Enhance Access for Underprivileged Students:** Implement plans to aid and broaden access for students of colour and those from low-income families. Expand outreach programs, scholarship options, and financial aid to level the playing field.

**Progress and success evaluations:**

* **Drop in Scandals Mentions:** Keep track of the amount and tone of commentary on the controversy in the media and social media. Progress can be seen in a drop in critical remarks and a shift toward positive dialogues.
* **Positive Public Opinion:** To monitor changes in the public's opinion of fairness, equity, and trust in the admissions process, conduct systematic surveys or sentiment analyses. Positive emotion rising is a sign of development.
* **Reforms to Admissions Policies:** Track and assess adjustments made to college and university admissions policies and procedures. Analyze the extent to which these changes address the scandal's core problems.
* **Accessibility and Diversity:** Keep tabs on the accessibility and diversity of accepted students. Calculate the proportion of minority and impoverished students, then compare it to pre-scandal data.

The application process needs significant reforms to ensure justice, equity, and equal opportunity, which the college admissions crisis has brought to light. Tracking important variables, implementing reforms, and monitoring the right indicators can all result in progress. Transparency, community involvement, and correcting structural flaws are crucial for re-establishing trust.

**Bibliography:**

*What’s Changed Since the College Admissions Scandal? | Time*. (n.d.). Retrieved May 31, 2023, from https://time.com/5801167/college-admissions-scandal-changes/