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CS 30600: Computers in Society

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Intellectual Property Challenges in The Cloud

Cloud Computing is the technology that allows services and hardware, in addition to other computing resources, to be outsourced to locations and domains that can only be accessed through the internet. This revolutionized the world of computing and served as a boon to start-up companies and businesses that didn’t have the resources to set up massive networks with the storage space to serve their needs.

However, by storing all this information on the cloud can serve as a risk to a business, especially if you store trade secrets. Additionally, enforcing patents can become complicated, since patented systems could be illegally replicated across multiple locations and by multiple offending groups. Copyright infringement is also a more prevalent problem in cloud systems. Especially since users will store movies and art that has been copied illegally on services like Google Drive in order to distribute it. Since copyright laws vary from country to country, someone can perform a violation on your word and be legally protected in their country (Heer & Halkyard).

This could theoretically be remedied through uniting national law making on certain subjects such as Intellectual Properties and Privacy. However, this would be a near impossible task given the ideological differences in many nations. So, what should be done to prevent unjust behavior? Is there even truly unjust or criminal behavior when the person committing the perceived crime is doing so in a country where it isn’t criminal?

Works Referenced

Heer, Christopher and Sarah Halkyard. “Intellectual Property Challenges In The Cloud”. *Innovation & Tech Today*. 24 Sept. 2020. <https://innotechtoday.com/intellectual-property-challenges-in-the-cloud/>. Accessed 24 Sept. 2020