**Task 5**

**Discuss and do a critical analysis of your software in this areas, privacy concerns, intellectual property rights and effects on the society.**

1. Personal Data Protection Act 2010 (PDPA)

The Personal Data Protection Act also know as PDPA was published in the Gazette in the 10th of June 2010. This act is meant to regulate how the user’s personal data is being processed by the people who has access over the user’s data. According to the Department of Personal Data Protection, this law applies to any individual who process data and any individual who has access and authorisation to process any personal or encrypted data. This extends towards similar activities such as collecting, recording, storing and modifying data as well. The PDPA contains seven principles of information handling procedures that must be abided by, which are the General Principle, Notice and Choice Principle, Disclosure Principle, Security Principle, Retention Principle, Data Integrity Principle and Access Principle. If one decides to collect data illegally, the person will be met with a fine not exceeding RM500,000 or imprisonment for a jailtime not over 3 years or to both.

So, for the college buddy system, it is reasonable for this law to apply towards the registration and activity log section of the application since both of those sections collect data from the users and store it in a database. The registration section stores the user’s personal email address, contact number and links to the user’s other social accounts on other platforms whilst the activity log stores the interactions made by the user on the app to sort out the preferences of the users for commercial purposes. The users have given their consent for the user’s personal data to be collected and recorded into the database after the users complete the registration process since the users need to accept an agreement of the terms and conditions apply to use the college buddy system before continuing to log into the app.

If the PDPA law isn’t abided by the users of the college buddy system, the users may face the risk of being a victim of identity theft and on a larger scale, a data breach would be possible if precautions are not being made for the user’s safety. This is why the users are advised to verify their personal details and set up a proper 2-factor authentication or even a security question to enhance the security of the user’s data after the users have finished registering and login to their respective accounts. Not only does this help reducing the risk of getting hacked but it could also let users to develop a sense of security for their personal information.

1. Promotion of Respectful and Responsible Relationships Act

Since Malaysia has yet to introduce any specific laws regarding cyberbullying, we could look towards one of the countries which has the strongest cyberbullying laws in the world which is Canada. The Promotion of Respectful and Responsible Relationships Act was made to amend the Education Act to focus more on prevent bullying and cyberbullying from happening. Individuals who engage in either of these activities will face a suspension from school or even worse according to some school’s code of conduct. Individuals who have reported to have several cases of bullying or cyberbullying may face expulsion and possible jail time.

Since the college buddy system acts as a centralized communication hub, it is crucial to foster a safe environment where all students are respected and accepted for the person they are. This act may apply to the chatting section and feed section which allows authorities to monitor the user’s activities and observe if there is any suspicious activity of cyberbullying occurring in this space. Furthermore, if a user witnessed any activity of cyberbullying, the user may report the incident towards the support agents to notify them of this matter so that the administrators may take action to suspend the bully’s account and report its name towards the officials of college in order to prevent cases of bullying occurring in the campus.

If the users fail to abide by this law, it would be disastrous for the college buddy system since it has failed to moderate and foster a safe place for the users to socialize and have a better quality of college social life. Victims of cyberbully are very likely to be traumatized by the bullies and cause psychological damage and diseases such as severe social anxiety or even depression. To prevent such disasters from occurring, administrators and official staffs from the college must work in tandem to foster a positive community and enforce rules and regulations towards such actions. Students who are caught in cyberbullying may face being suspended or even expelled by the school, victims of cyberbullying are also advised to seek legal consultation or counselling so that the victims may feel some sort of comfort and support by the community.

References:

1. *Personal Data Protection Act 2010.* [online] Available at: <https://www.pdp.gov.my/jpdpv2/laws-of-malaysia-pdpa/personal-data-protection-act-2010/?lang=en> [Accessed at: 18 November 2022]
2. *Promotion of Respectful and Responsible Relationships Act.* [online] Available at: <https://nslegislature.ca/legc/bills/61st_4th/3rd_read/b030.htm> [Accessed at: 18 November 2022]