Ethics Assignment

Copyright

**What is Copyright?**

Copyright is a type of intellectual property that protects original works of authorship as soon as an author fixes the work in a tangible form of expression. In copyright law, there are a lot of different types of works, including paintings, photographs, illustrations, musical compositions, sound recordings, computer programs, books, poems, blog posts, movies, architectural works, plays, and so much more!

Under copyright law, a work is considered original if the author created it from independent thinking void of duplication. This type of work is known as an Original Work of Authorship (OWA). Anyone with an original work of authorship automatically has the copyright to that work, preventing anyone else from using or replicating it. The copyright can be registered voluntarily by the original owner if they would like to get an upper hand in the legal system in the event that the need arises.

**What is Copyright infringement?**

Copyright infringement (at times referred to as piracy) is the use of works protected by copyright law without permission for a usage where such permission is required, thereby infringing certain exclusive rights granted to the copyright holder, such as the right to reproduce, distribute, display or perform the protected work, or to make derivative works. The copyright holder is typically the work's creator, or a publisher or other business to whom copyright has been assigned. Copyright holders routinely invoke legal and technological measures to prevent and penalize copyright infringement.

**Generalized case study of Copyright infringement**

Section 51 of the Copyright Act specifies when a copyright is infringed. According to Section 51 of the Act, Copyright is deemed to be infringed if:

* A person without obtaining the permission of the copyright holder does any act which only the copyright holder is authorised to do.
* A person permits the place to be used for communication, selling, distribution or exhibition of an infringing work unless he was not aware or has no reason to believe that such permission will result in the violation of copyright.
* A person without obtaining the authority from the copyright holder reproduces his work in any form.

Real Life Scenario of Copyright infringement:

A famous example between Apple and Microsoft, when both operating systems windows as well as macintosh were in the developing phase. Apple filed a case against Windows for copyrighting their work in version 2.0. Apple lost all claims in the Microsoft suit except for the ruling that the trash icon and folder icons from Hewlett-Packard's NewWave windows application were infringing.

**Remedies**

These suggestions will help you avoid inadvertently pirating another individual's creative works:

**Understand what copyright laws protect.**

Copyright laws are often confused with trademarks, patents, and licenses. Although these are all forms of IP, copyrights are perhaps the easiest to obtain and also to violate—either intentionally or unintentionally.

**If it's not your original work, don't use it**.

We're all probably familiar with the saying, "If it's not yours, don't touch it." Copyright laws adhere to the same philosophy: the golden rule is to obtain the express permission from the owner, creator, or holder of the copyrighted material.

**What you find on the internet is generally not fair game.**

Generally speaking, anything you see or read on the internet has been copyrighted, by default, given that the material (blogs, literary or artistic works, etc.) were created by someone else. If you copy, reproduce, display, or otherwise hold out another's work (such as an image, musical recording, article, or any other type of work that you did not create) as your own, you are undoubtedly infringing on copyrighted material. This is true whether you benefited financially from the use or not.

<https://www.copyright.gov/what-is-copyright/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copyright_infringement>

<https://www.legalzoom.com/articles/how-to-avoid-copyright-infringement>