

CPSC Reading Response 1

For this problem, you are asked to find one article (of 2 pages or more) in the magazine "Communications of the ACM", in one of the issues: June, July, August, September 2025 See <http://cacm.acm.org/>.

Read the article and answer the following three questions:

My Article: *Law and Technology: Deconstructing the Take It Down Act*, by James Grimmelmann. Doi 10.1145/3747203

- a. What did you know about the topic prior to reading the article?

I knew about the Digital Millennium Copyright Act prior to reading this article, because record labels have filed claims with streaming platforms like YouTube to strike creators that I follow for using unlicensed music in their videos. I have also been exposed to AI media content on platforms like Instagram. This content tends to be humorous, and I know that it can sometimes portray celebrities and politicians in a bad light, much to their disdain. I have also used AI image generators before and know that some models have more restrictions in place than others. I also remember seeing news about high-profile deepfakes, like when Elon Musk's twitter account was hacked and a deepfake of his likeness promoted a cryptocurrency scam.

- b. What did you learn from reading the article?

After reading the article, I learned about the importance of ensuring that regulations regarding censorship are airtight. This article's author expressed concerns that the Take It Down Act's legislators opened the door for parties to take extremely expansive positions on the definition of an "intimate visual depiction" while also being stringent about what counts as a reason to take content down. I can see interest groups choosing to single out sex-ed materials or LGBTQ content, and because there is no liability or even risk of perjury held by those who submit takedown requests, there are few repercussions for maliciously spamming false requests. That said, I am glad to know that there are protections now in place for individuals who are being stalked or abused with deepfakes online. In my opinion, the next logical step is for legislators to fix their overcorrection and approach this topical issue from a more mediated point of view.

c. What more would you like to know about the topic?

I'd like to learn more about how AI-generated pictures and video work; I know that they use diffusion under the hood, but I'd love to dive into what that really means. I'd also like to learn who in Congress is advising technology-related bills, given my assumption that politicians are not all specialized in the nuances of artificial intelligence to such a degree that they may individually weigh in on such policies' technical side. I am also curious to see how social media platforms implement the reporting mechanisms associated with the Take It Down Act. I'm assuming they will bundle it with their existing buttons, but it would be interesting to see these features on the apps I use on a daily basis. Finally, I'm wondering whether the Barbra Streisand Effect might take place as a result of this bill. Individuals who previously may have had no idea what a deepfake was could see the headlines about the Take It Down Act and suddenly become interested in deepfakes for their own malicious intents. We'll just have to wait and see!