

International Journal of Law www.lawjournals.org ISSN: 2455-2194

Received: 28-07-2023, Accepted: 13-08-2023, Published: 29-08-2023

Volume 9, Issue 4, 2023, Page No. 176-177

The impact of social media on the legal system

Pallavi Mayur Parmar, Pallavi Narendrabhai Chauhan

Assistant Professor, Department of Law, Anand College of Legal Studies (Aff. Sardar Patel University), Anand, Gujarat, India

Abstract

Social Media now a days become integral part of our life, every day we make conversation to the outer world and express ourself on online mode through various platform. But sometimes when we see such bullying on the social media with some person at that time the real impact of such on real world on the people become worst. The media justice on criminal matters, social matter put stress on judicial system. Through this paper I am trying to analyze the impact of social media on various fields of judicial system or quasi judicial system.

Keywords: Social media, judicial system, quasi judicial system, criminal matter

Introduction

Social media has become an important and undetachable part of our life in 21st century. Social media has changed our communication and interaction method. Now a days person has many choices or say platform to express himself such platform are virtual and has worldwide spread so a person can increase his reach to any corner of the world. These platforms have created new opportunities for businesses to reach out to their customers and for individuals to connect with each other. However, the impact of social media on the legal system is a topic that has been widely debated in recent years.

Social media has had a significant impact on various legal fields, including marketing, employment, torts, criminal law, and copyright. For example, social media has changed the way businesses market their products and services. It has also created new challenges for employers in terms of managing their employees' social media use. Social media has also had an impact on tort law by creating new forms of defamation and invasion of privacy. In criminal law, social media has been used to commit crimes such as cyberbullying and harassment.

However, the impact of social media on the legal system is a topic that has been widely debated in recent years. Social media has had a significant impact on various legal fields, including marketing, employment, torts, criminal law, and copyright. For example, social media has changed the way businesses market their products and services. It has also created new challenges for employers in terms of managing their employees' social media use. Social media has also had an impact on tort law by creating new forms of defamation and invasion of privacy. In criminal law, social media has been used to commit crimes such as cyberbullying and harassment.

In this paper, we will explore the impact of social media on the legal system and discuss its implications for the future. We will examine how social media has affected various legal fields and discuss the challenges that it poses for lawmakers and legal professionals. We will also explore how social media can be used to improve access to justice and promote legal education.

Here are some examples of how social media has impacted various legal fields:

- Marketing: Social media has changed the way businesses market their products and services. For example, businesses can now use social media to target specific audiences based on their interests and demographics. This has created new challenges for lawmakers in terms of regulating online advertising and protecting consumers from false or misleading claims.
- Employment: Social media has created new challenges for employers in terms of managing their employees' social media use. For example, employers must balance their employees' right to free speech with their own interests in protecting their reputation and intellectual property. This has led to new legal issues such as whether employers can discipline employees for their social media posts.
- Torts: Social media has had an impact on tort law by creating new forms of defamation and invasion of privacy. For example, individuals can now use social media to spread false or defamatory statements about others. This has created new challenges for lawmakers in terms of balancing the right to free speech with the right to privacy and reputation.
- Criminal law: Social media has been used to commit crimes such as cyberbullying and harassment. For example, individuals can use social media to harass or intimidate others anonymously. This has created new challenges for lawmakers in terms of regulating online behaviour and protecting individuals from harm.

The impact of social media on marketing

Social media use can have a significant legal impact on marketing. The marketing in any business is most important in todays world, because without the publicity of your product your business can not grow, but one of the medium of marketing is social marketing and when a business indented to use it, business has to consider many legal issues like privacy issues, copyright of content infringement, fake content and fake media posting against original content etc. Businesses must ensure that their marketing and consumer outreach efforts comply with the terms of use, platform

International Journal of Law www.lawjournals.org

guidelines, and privacy policies of the applicable social media venues.

The new work culture in the digital era is such that most of the time employee connected to the social media website and at that time business needs to carefully monitor employees activities with outer world and make sure that employee intentionally or casually done the activities on digital world, so that business could make necessary arrangement of legal or training course of steps.

The Indian cultural in the new digital era is such that employees work most of the time through digital medium and so connected to social media, another business strategy adopted by business in today's world is influencer marketing, and through this company promote its product and itself, but while doing so company need to comply with Consumer Protection Act, 2019 provisions of misleading advertisement.

Businesses must be aware of the legal implications of using social media for marketing purposes and take steps to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

The impact of social media on employment

The wider usage of social media in employment creates alarming impact on business now a days. The employees are actually representative of any business, how they represent business creates image of any business in the consumers' mind. Above all sometimes the issues emerges due to social media indulgence by employees makes uncomfortable to business and gives a unnecessary legal issues like defamation, privacy breach, discrimination ect, to business. Sometimes employees also faces discrimination and harassment at that time business has to take action against the such notorious employees and protect the employees harassed.

The use of social media in the workplace can have significant legal implications for both employers and employees. It is important for employers to have clear and lawful social media policies in place and for employees to be aware of their rights and responsibilities when using social media. I hope this information is helpful. Let me know if you have any further questions.

The impact of social media on torts

Tort law can be significantly impacted by social media. The relationships between social media platforms and their users are still defined by traditional tort principles. For instance, defamation is considered a civil wrong in most states, while harassment and cyberbullying are criminal offenses that can result in imprisonment. Tort law in India is primarily governed by judicial precedent except defamation which is governed by The Indian Penal Code, as in other common law jurisdictions

But America like country where it is governed by The Communications Decency Act of 1996 which provides protection to internet service providers, social media platforms, and website hosts from defamation claims by preventing courts from treating them as publishers of statements made by other content providers. This means that social media platforms are generally not held responsible for defamatory statements made by their users.

Social media use can implicate a wide range of legal issues in the context of tort law. It is important for individuals and businesses to be aware of their rights and responsibilities when using social media to avoid potential legal liability.

The impact of social media on criminal law

Social media has had a profound effect on criminal law in India. A paper by Pankhuri Thukral and Vanshika Kainya suggests that social media has become a haven for criminals, resulting in an increase in cybercrime. The anonymity and deception of social media, as well as jurisdictional issues, have contributed to a rise in online violence that affects people of all ages and is a global problem. Their article examines the relationship between social media and criminal law and analyzes the role of law enforcement in detecting and preventing cybercrime committed through social media.

The Indian Evidence Act has been amended to allow for the admissibility of electronic evidence supplemented with paper-based documents as evidence in Indian courts. Significant amendments include granting electronic records the status of documents for the purpose of presenting evidence. Additionally, the definition of 'admission' was changed to include electronic form, suggesting that any interference with any fact in issue or any other relevant fact. Accessing social media evidence used in criminal proceedings has advantages and good policy reasons. For example, photos can be uploaded and shared quickly, alerting authorities to crimes in progress or those already committed.

The impact of social media on copyright

Social media has had a profound effect on copyright law in India. The Copyright Act of 1957 provides for the protection of photographs posted on social media websites and the rights of photographers in India. This is because the law protects not only hard copy photographs but also photographs posted online.

However, when it comes to digital media, including social media, copyright law in India is somewhat uncertain as it does not hold intermediaries liable for infringements. As a result, clients are not prevented from posting unauthorized information on the platform. There is therefore a need to strengthen copyright protection for both digital creations and copyrighted content used on digital media.

Social media platforms have had a significant impact on copyright and trademark law, presenting new challenges for intellectual property rights. While social media platforms have taken steps to address these challenges, more needs to be done to protect the rights of creators and businesses.

Reference

- Article published by Thomson Reuters and available on its website The compliance risks of social media Thomson Reuters
- Blog written by David Klein (attorney in technology) and published on 21st September, 2021 and published on the KMT website The Legal Implications of Social Media Marketing in 2021 - KMT (kleinmoynihan.com)
- 3. Thukral, Pankhuri and Kainya, Vanshika, How Social Media Influence Crimes (April 12, 2022). Indian Journal of Law and Legal Research, 2022:4(2):1-11. https://doi-ds.org/doilink/04.2022-
 - 64941518/IJLLR/V4/I2/A18, Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=4107673