**ABSTRACT**

Even if you can reuse or share that photo, meme or text, should you? This mixed-methods, interdisciplinary research project explores the current state of awareness of a range of legal and ethical issues involving User-Generated Content (UGC) and other forms of Electronically Stored Information (ESI) on social networks and devices for personal and for enterprise use and for several affinity groups, including journalists, bloggers, photographers and videographers.

The quantitative data collected from online survey research as well as qualitative, descriptive data gathered from semi-structured interviews with participants and observations gleaned in contextual inquiry and field studies will help address gaps in research.

In addition, the research findings will guide design directions for a tool, intervention or affordance to help users become better informed about privacy, intellectual property rights and information governance and more easily put this knowledge into practice.

**RELATED WORK**

- Erickson and Kellogg (2000) found that “socially translucent” digital systems are characterized by visibility, awareness and accountability for participants and their activities.
- Fiesler and Bruckman (2014) found widespread misinformation about fair use among online creators of fan fiction and other “remix” art.
- Terms of Service; Didn’t Read (2012-present) is an example of a desktop-based solution for rating website terms and policies.

**METHODOLOGY**

- A 15-20 minute survey coded in Google Forms will collect data on items keyed to our research questions from up to 400 likely users of the apps in the study who are U.S. residents age 18 or older. Participants have the chance to enter a gift-card drawing.
- Descriptive data is being gathered via semi-structured interviews and observations “in the wild” with up to 40 participants.
- The results from these and related studies will be integrated to answer questions + guide design directions.

**INTRODUCTION**

**Purposes of the research:**
To gather data about current awareness of and attitudes about legal and ethical issues regarding content publishing, sharing and reuse in digital media.

**Significance of the research:**
To help reframe and redesign systems to better serve users, and to fill gaps in existing knowledge in and contribute to legal informatics, jurisprudence, public policy and work in applied ethics.

Future directions:
- Analyze collected survey data and conduct further semi-structured interviews and observations
- Brainstorm solutions or ideas for interventions to address issues
- Develop and evaluate solutions
- Present the findings to users + the academic community for review

**REFERENCES**