

This week we are learning about copyright and how to effectively enforce it. Our copyright office founding goes back to the 1790s, and it is instrumental in protecting works, and the authors who made them.

The big take away for me, learning about copyright, is that leadership can make or break your how you follow copyright, plagiarism, fair use, and the TEACH act. After looking at the required reading, I found the former Librarian of Congress stepped down in 2015 after being criticised for poor leadership. Out of their 160 million resources only 11,000 have been digitized (2015). The organization was receiving more material than ever to protect for future generations, but they were not doing a great job organizing it, and making it accessible for the larger public (Tepp, Oman 2015). This has opened a door to certain groups that want to radically change the way the office functions. The Hudson group wants to separate the copyright office from the federal government and have it be run under a private organization. This could limit access, raise costs, and do more damage if not under the federal government's control. Right now, the Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution. Congress uses it regularly for its research, and it has enormous influence in our society. By understanding this we can make better decisions regarding its future. Whether it needs to be under federal government control or privatized.

I enjoyed reading about the copyright myths from BYU. The first one is a big hurdle for people who are inexperienced in copyright basics. Just because you bought a creative work or art, does not give you the right to make copies, distribute, publicly perform, or display that material. While working as a video producer, I get asked to videotape student performances of copyrighted plays, book readings, and more. They see me make videos of other students doing creative works of art, but they can not see why I can not video tape. It is important to have adequate leadership who is knowledgeable about these things so everyone in an organization does not make mistakes.

Also, I have really good equipment and people ask me to screen record websites, or copy DVDs for their classroom. I kindly explain about copyright and try to best help them in anyway I can. I explain the fair use doctrine and how they are able to use clips of copyrighted material in their classroom or share on twitter as long as they source the material and comment on the material fairly. I am trying to model good leadership in my job and respecting current copyright laws.

A popular video project is "lip dub". This is where student lip sync to a song to highlight an event or celebration. Students and staff will use a popular song and sing along to it for the entire duration of the song. Looking at BYU's copyright basics we still need permission even if the students are innocently infringing the work or because the video was produced on school grounds. These schools are not being held accountable because they're young students. If this continues the music artists risk a future where they will not be able to enforce their copyright because so many schools are doing lip dub videos. Copyright infringement occurs when material is used without permission. This is an example of school leadership not following

copyright norms to protect works of art. A better leader would find music that could be used for a fun lip dub video.

Another thing to consider about copyright that can have huge implications is, can animal's own copyrights? A photo taken in 2011 has brought the debate to the front when a monkey took a photo of itself and the ensuing legal battle. This reminds me of when elephants or other zoo animals create works of art. Someone buys the painting, but who gets the money, and who is the author of the painting? Until we can figure out an appropriate banking system for animals, copyright ownership belongs to humans. At least we are easier to negotiate with than say, an 800-pound gorilla. We need impartial and fair leadership avenues like the federal copyright office to make determinations on tough issues like these. Someone has to have the final say of ownership, payment, and more. My big take away this week was leadership in the copyright industry. There are good systems in place that protect content creators.

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