

Week 12 Journal Entry 14

Andriy Slynchuk has described eleven things Internet users do that may be illegal. Review what the author says and write a paragraph describing the five most serious violations and why you think those offenses are serious.

I think the five most serious offenses are faking identity online, collecting information on individuals younger than 13, Using other people's internet networks, sharing passwords, addresses, and photos of others, and bullying and trolling. These five offenses have serious consequences in relation to the harm that can be done to individuals outside of the digital realm. While copying protected material is harmful, it only poses harm to those with a lot of money, and not necessarily something that would be expected to cause death or serious bodily injury. Faking someone's identity online can be done in such a way as to harm someone financially or to ruin someone's reputation, or possibly put them in physical risk. Collecting information on individuals younger than 13 presents both digital and physical risks that are unnecessary, including the possibility of stalking and kidnapping, among other types of harm. Using the networks of others compromises information for both sides, where the person using that network has their machine exposed to the network, while the person owning the network being used is at risk to the possibility of an attack or data breach that could negatively impact their day-to-day life. Sharing passwords, addresses, and photos of others could lead to an individual being stalked as it provides a greater level of detail about someone which would otherwise be unknown. This may include their address if not already available through other means, the photos can show a person's current location and could be harmful if they frequent that location regularly, and passwords are used to access a variety of accounts with information, and many people unwisely use the same password for multiple accounts. Bullying and trolling are severe in the physical world as well, where individuals targeted in such a way experience depression, other serious mental health issues, and sometimes go as far as committing suicide.