

After reviewing the blog titled, “11 Illegal Things You Unknowingly Do on the Internet” by Andriy Slynchuk, I will go over what I think are the most serious violations that a user can do online along with describing why I think those offenses are serious. One of the five online violations that I think is the most serious is using copyright images. A lot of people will copy images off Google thinking it is okay without citing where the image came from. Every image has an owner and the second you take a picture off your phone or camera; you are considered the owner. You must give credit where credit is due and that means getting permission first before sharing.

The next online offense I will go over is sharing passwords, addresses, or photos of others. If you post a picture of someone or post their address without their consent this is indeed considered illegal. If you wouldn't want someone to post a picture of you or your address online for others to see then don't do it to someone else, especially if it is a bad or embarrassing picture of an individual. What people can do with the information you post is scary and I promise, you don't want it to ever happen to you because you may never be able to get that information back and it may ruin your life. The third online offense I consider to be serious is bullying and trolling. Bullying someone online can damage their reputation if taken seriously and can damage what those individuals think of themselves. Many victims of bullying can have severe implications including thoughts of suicide.

The fourth online offense is collecting information about people younger than the age of thirteen. As the author states in the blog, “Gathering and using data about children under 13 (through surveys, etc.) violates the Children's Online Protection Act and, without verifiable consent from parents/guardians, it's 100% illegal”. If you are collecting information about underage children, others can't help to think what you are using that information for including child pornography or even trafficking of minors which are both also illegal. There is no need for anybody to have an obligation to obtain information on children under the age of thirteen or minors that are children under the age of eighteen in that sense. The last online offense I will go over that I think is a serious violation is recording a VoIP call without consent. As the author states, “The use of such technologies to film, record, or photograph any person or thing in secret is illegal. Thus, you should obligatorily obtain consent before recording”. This is a serious offense because if someone can steal audio and recording of what you have said then they can edit it to make you say something that you never have said before to make you look bad which can ruin your reputation depending on who sees and hears it.

It is important to be aware of your activities online as they may have serious implications. Always remember if you wouldn't want someone to expose you or any type of information about you then don't do it to others. Lastly, limit the amount and type of information you share online because someone can steal that information for other nefarious purposes.