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C O N T E N T S

ARTICLES

Similar Interpretations, Different Conclusions: The Criminalization of Hate Speech in the West

Michael Goryelov & Wesley S. McCann, Ph.D.....131

The United States is unique internationally in that hate speech is not considered a criminal offense. Drawing from a sample of Western countries and their respective statutes, the analysis will look at different nations' interpretations of hate speech criminality. This study identifies common patterns in international criminal legal codes and compares them to U.S. jurisprudence, focusing on content neutrality and the ideological content of these laws. It was found that hate speech statutes internationally tended towards content neutrality, were structured similarly to anti-defamatory codes, and generally did not result in amendments/extensions of new regulatory laws. These findings imply a closer relationship between the logic of hate speech criminality to U.S. jurisprudence than otherwise assumed.

This is Not a Game: Blockchain Regulation and Its Application to Video Games

Diana Qiao.....176

The use of blockchain technology as a financial instrument is often viewed with the same skepticism as emails from a foreign prince promising a portion of his inheritance for a "small" fee the recipient must pay for banking fees. Contrary to popular belief, there are various useful applications of blockchain technology, namely through the issuance and utilization of coins and tokens. "Tokens" are digital assets built on top of a particular blockchain, stored within the blockchain rather than through a central bank or regulatory authority, and provide a wider range of functions than that of Initial Coin Offerings. One of such functions include a potential utility in video games.

This Article explains the basics of blockchain technology, the many types of blockchain tokens, coins, and the current blockchain regulations between the SEC and CFTC, including an analysis and discussion of the potential issues that arise from the gaps in regulation, and how the current regulations (and gaps) may be adjusted to suit the various types of tokens in a way that encourages the development of technology. Furthermore, the

Article also provides other uses for blockchain technology such as improving aspects of a video game's in-game economy, taking lessons from game developers who utilize certain tokens such as KarmaGames and Forte, as well as providing video game developers an alternative to monetizing video games long-term without using unsatisfactory monetization tactics such as "pay-to-win" or loot boxes.

Our English Legal Forebearers and Their Contributions to the Practice of Law and American Jurisprudence: Sir Thomas More, Sir Edward Coke, and Sir William Blackstone

Heather R. Darsie227

This Article seeks to remind lawyers of the important duty to uphold the law, and how that was shown through the actions of several English and British attorneys from the sixteenth through eighteenth centuries. Beginning with Sir Thomas More, considered as a secular person in this Article, and his refusal to go against what he believed to be the law, to Sir Edward Coke, whose legal judgments assisted early Americans, and ending with Sir William Blackstone, whose careful thinking paved the way for the American legal system. This semi-biographical Article relays the legal changes occurring during the time periods mentioned and how those changes were met by the aforementioned individuals.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Illinois Supreme Court Rule 352(a): An Attempted Revival of the Appellate Oral Argument

Laura Peters238

Though long considered a bedrock of the American legal system, oral argument has steadily lost popularity in appellate courts across the country. Due in large part to ever-increasing caseloads and limited judicial resources, most jurisdictions now favor the expediency of written briefs over oral argument to decide appeals. While written briefs have their place, oral argument offers an inimitable opportunity for lawyers and judges to directly converse. As such, the practice of oral argument at the appellate level should be preserved.

The Illinois Supreme Court took a step towards revitalizing appellate oral argument with its revised Rule 352(a). However, the current rule does not go far enough in its attempt to encourage appellate oral argument while also maximizing judicial efficiency. The Illinois Supreme Court should consider adopting more aggressive protections in order to truly revive appellate oral argument in Illinois.

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*Katlin Kiefer, Kevin Scheer, Colin Siegel, and Staci Vazquez are hereby recognized for their superb efforts and talents in the editing process and are thus named Best Cite Check Performers for Volume 40, Number 2.

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Special thanks to our dedicated staff and faculty members who continue to support the journal and serve as mentors year after year. We appreciate all you do.