

## Re: OT but essential Cut, paste and moving text isn't quoting

*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.archaeology/2004-08/2788.html>

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*From:* Martyn Harrison (*nospam\_at\_spammers.of.the.world.unite*)

*Date:* 08/23/04

Date: Mon, 23 Aug 2004 14:43:42 GMT

Apparently on date 23 Aug 2004 16:25:54 +0300,  
Otto-Ville.Ronkainen@ling.helsinki.fi (O-V R:nen) said:

> *Martyn Harrison <nospam@spammers.of.the.world.unite> writes:*

>

>> *opinion that have, in any case, been publicly published on an international  
> other public sources can be used for a large number of purposes not  
> envisioned by the individual when posting a message. For instance, it  
> may not necessarily be legal for prospective employers to google for  
> the name of an applicant, at least if sensitive data show up in the search.  
> Not that anyone seems to care, really. (US law is very different from  
> EU law here.)*

I don't know why an employer cannot do this, but it is clear that it would discriminate against usenet users in favour of non-usenet users – a questionable advantage.

What law would they be breaking?

>> *This is like accusing someone of hacking, i.e. because they have altered data  
>> on my computer (well, the usenet messages are stored on my computer and these  
>> contain data from <poster>, therefore <poster> has modified the contents of my  
>> hard disk. Technically this might be true, but it is nonsense.)*

>

> *In all jurisdictions I know of, the actions have to be unauthorized  
> (against the will of the owner of the computer or whoever) in order to  
> qualify as the kind of hacking that is considered a criminal offence.*

That's true. Although, I haven't explicitly authorised anyone to post to me, not sure how that works.

There are whole rafts of laws that are out of date, though, peer to peer networks etc. Are you hacking when you place a virus into someone else's peer to peer server? Are they hacking when someone else downloads it? How about if you didn't know it had a virus or the virus did it via your computer?

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Are you deliberately infecting people by sending a virus to a mailing list or usenet? Or are they authorising your virus to come in and run the infection script by using Outlook?

<http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/sa/SAIRC/1997/50.html>