

31 March 2011

Stevie,

What you have so far is great. You do an excellent job of introducing Perez Hilton and explaining his way of doing things and why it gets him in trouble.

I think it will be essential to your paper to fully explain the nature/history of copyright and fair use in the United States. The fine line between the two is itself a hot issue, and I think Perez Hilton would be a great case study to explore it. Corporations want to make as much money as they can out of works they have control over, and so they'll try to bend or change copyright law as much as they can even if it hurts society as a whole. Perez Hilton raises the question: where is the line between journalism and entertainment, parody and infringement? In a world where the media's main purpose is to make as much money as possible, can journalists really expect to make a ton of money off of something and then call it fair use?

(You can probably tell this whole thing is something I feel strongly about.)

Here are a couple of articles about copyright I happened to come across recently (the second one is a scholarly article):

<http://dft.ba/-ib6> – “Google Books, Fair Uses, and “Copyright” as Misnomer”

<http://dft.ba/-ib5> - “Taking the Copy Out of Copyright”

Great start. This paper can go some very interesting places. Keep it up!

Your peer,

John Pray