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## AI IN LAW: THE FINE LINE BETWEEN THREAT AND OPPORTUNITIES – EXPLORING STAKEHOLDERS DILEMMA

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### ABSTRACT

Artificial intelligence (AI) is defined as the ability of a computer to carry out a job which typically requires human brain power. Today artificial intelligence has attained a steady pace in advancement, starting from unlocking our phones using facial recognition till setting our alarms for the next day. With this serious advancement people often see it as a threat to their jobs. Looking at it from a positive perspective, the way these machines are making people's jobs easier and saving so much time and energy, contrary to that statement it does make people feel insecure about their skills, people's constant need to be updated all the time, so that they don't get replaced by a robot. This study focuses on the impacts of AI incorporated with the legal profession and also the perception of people towards it. The data for the study had been collected through an online survey. The survey was prepared to collect opinions from people belonging to three different working sectors such as advocates, law students, IT professionals and common people also known as clients. This diversity is to get the perspectives of people from the user end, developers end and from the people who will have the most impact. The study had concluded stating that the positive effects of AI in the legal field outweighs the negative effects.

**KEYWORDS:** Artificial Intelligence, Technology, Career, Threat.

### INTRODUCTION:

Artificial intelligence (AI) is defined as the ability of a computer to carry out a job which typically requires human brain power. Artificial intelligence generates results based on the inputs that are fed. Few best examples of applications of AI are speech recognition, natural language processing and more. AI has become a significant part of our lives and we cannot deny the fact that they make our lives easier. But will that be the same when it comes to them being incorporated in the legal field? This paper makes an attempt to explore how artificial intelligence works with the legal field and to understand the impacts of them. Artificial intelligence helps reduce the workload of people. There has been tremendous advancement in technology and it covers almost all the fields that exist in today's world

like law, medicine, engineering, agriculture and chemical industries. Artificial intelligence has gradually been used by legal scholars which is a sign of its start in the legal field. There exists a lot of new ideas, confusions and conclusions around it and a lot more opposition from lawyers.

This study has been focussed to explore the impacts of the artificial intelligence in the legal environment and the samples has been collected from people belonging to four different working sectors like the advocates and law students to know it from the user end, next being the IT professionals to understand the perspective from the creators end, and last one being the clients or civilians to know their understanding about the topic and how they would feel about the involvement of robots in their cases. The fear in people's mind regarding

their job being taken over or occurrence of error due to the involvement of bots is high. To understand the entire working, it is better to know about the uses of artificial intelligence in the legal field and the different ways of applications of AI in the lawforce. This article makes an attempt to clear the typical myths that are around the usage of robots in the legal environment.

#### APPLICATIONS OF TOOLS OF AI IN THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT:

There are a wide range of applications of the artificial intelligence, some of them are explained in a concise way for a better understanding of the working of the tools that aid lawyers. Artificial intelligence has been used for legal research in the preliminary stage. It helps in gaining understanding on the related cases, statutes, jurisdictions and more. The cost of the paperwork is reduced since the work can be done online within a few minutes. The use of AI in the research work improves efficiency and speeds up the work giving us quality content at the same time. AI helps in knowing the success or failure ratio of a case by using the previous judgements available with the facts that match the present case. This will help the legal professionals to draft the document in a simple and efficient way. The reviewing of contracts and documents usually takes a lot of time and it is considered as one of the toughest tasks in the legal firms. Companies use AI incorporated softwares which helps in reviewing the documents and saves lawyers time. These tools will provide us with the documents needed for due diligence. It informs about any changes to be made. Intellectual property documents have a vast and complex history, making it challenging for lawyers to manually review them within a limited timeframe. Advanced tools and technology help analyze large volumes of data, retrieve historical information, and break down complex texts into simplified formats for easier decision making and comprehension.

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To understand the opinion of people on whether they think the legal decisions made by AI would serve the purpose.
- To understand the opinion of people on whether people consider AI as a threat to their career
- To understand the perception of people on whether AI would alter the nature of legal work in the forthcoming years.

#### REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

This study states the existing rules, regulations and moral contemplations around artificial intelligence in the legal fraternity. It is further emphasized on the importance of developing laws that balance technological advancement with precautions for public safety and rights. The study finishes up by recommending a few potential ways to deal with issues like Data privacy, bias in algorithms, ethical concerns. **Sheeba (2023)**. The study highlights the emerging trends in legal technology and provides recommendations for legal professionals to adapt and flourish in the AI-driven legal world. The author also encourages the introduction of AI related knowledge into legal education to make the future lawyers get prepared for an expanding landscape. The study further contributes a futuristic perspective on responsible integration of Artificial Intelligence **Antony Thekkanath (2023)**. This study mentions that artificial intelligence (AI) has the power to reduce the cost incurred for legal services, increasing access to justice for a larger group of people. The author highlights that artificial intelligence is a modern day reality that is increasingly being integrated into the practice of law, rather than a sci-fi idea. The author suggests that the legal sector should recognize AI as a scientific breakthrough and a practical necessity in order to meet changing needs and client expectations **Bui (2023)**. This article examines the advantages and difficulties of using artificial intelligence to help lawyers in practice. It contends that at present AI is not a

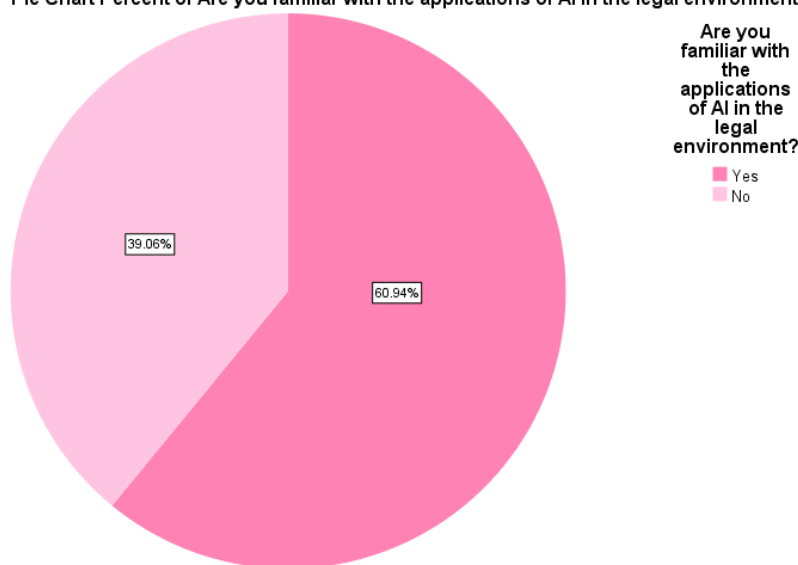
danger to assume control over lawyers positions, yet rather an amazing asset that can improve the proficiency and nature of an attorney's work. It additionally cautions that

artificial intelligence tools are not always reliable and require proficient and mindful management by legal practitioners. **Chatterjee (2022).**

## ANALYSIS:

FIGURE 1

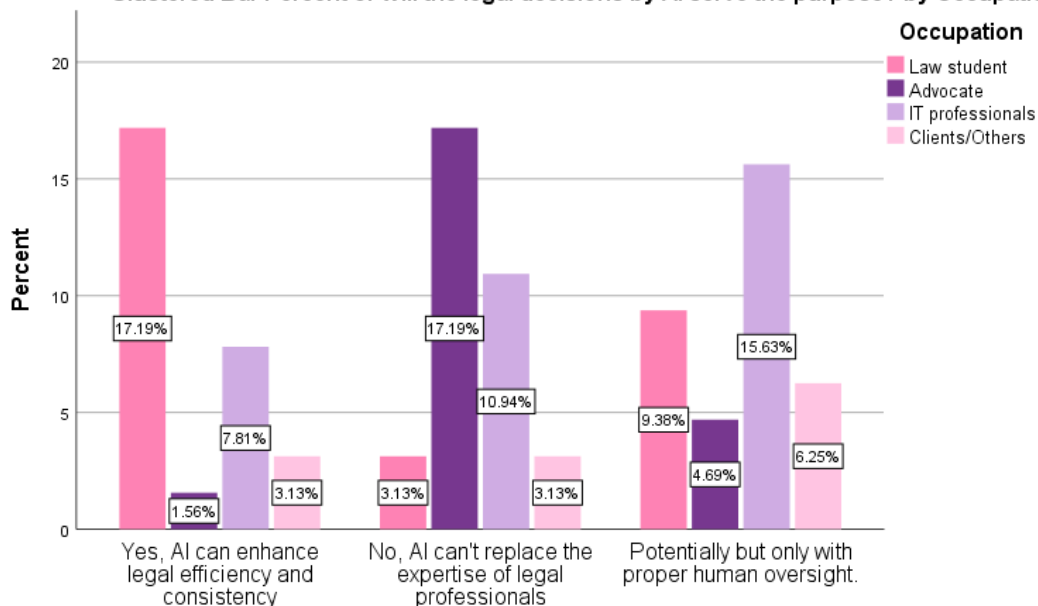
Pie Chart Percent of Are you familiar with the applications of AI in the legal environment?



**LEGEND:** Figure 1 shows a pie chart displaying the responses to the Yes/No Question: “Are you familiar with the applications of AI in the legal environment?”.

FIGURE 2

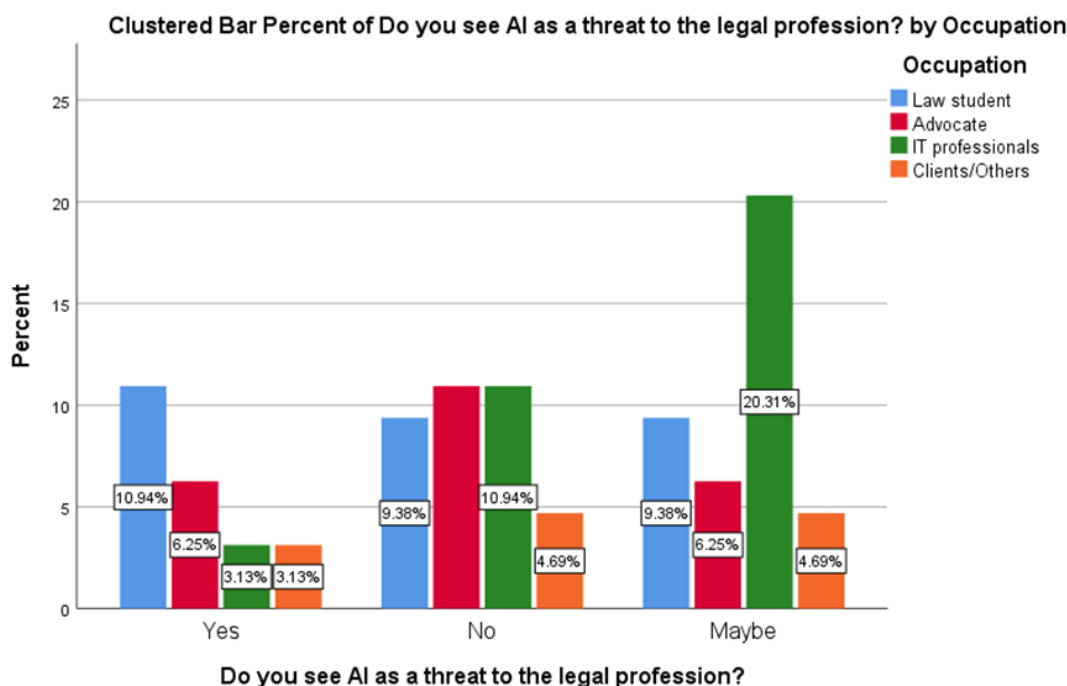
Clustered Bar Percent of Will the legal decisions by AI serve the purpose? by Occupation



Will the legal decisions by AI serve the purpose?

**LEGEND:** The complex graph illustrates the responses to the multiple choice question posted before the public, “Will the legal decisions by AI serve the purpose?” based on the occupation of the respondents.

**FIGURE 3**



**LEGEND:** The complex graph illustrates responses to the Yes/No question, “Do you see AI as a threat to the legal profession?” with the data analyzed according to the occupation of the respondents”.

## RESULTS:

The above figure shows the pie chart of the familiarity of people on applications of AI in the legal environment. The results show that 61% of the population are aware of the AI tools and their applications in the legal field whereas 39% of the population is unaware of the applications of AI in the legal environment (**Fig 1**). The above figure shows the complex graph of comparing the opinion of people on whether the legal decisions taken by AI will serve the purpose which has been compared with occupation. The results show that 17% of the entire responses have been given by advocates saying that AI cannot replace the expertise of legal professionals, whereas the same amount of votes have been given to the option yes, AI can enhance legal efficiency and consistency by the law students. IT professionals have voted to the

option of neutrality saying it can be done only with human oversight (**Fig 2**). The above figure shows the complex graph of comparing the opinion of people on whether they see AI as a threat to the legal profession compared with the occupation of the population. The results show that 11% of the advocates in the population have firmly said no they don't see AI as a threat to their professions, whereas 20% of the IT professionals have said they may be a threat or may not be a threat to their jobs. Law students have given their highest votes for yes by contributing 11% of the entire responses to it, which might be a threat to them in the future (**Fig 3**).

## DISCUSSIONS:

**Figure 1** clearly shows that the majority of the people are well aware of the applications of AI

in the legal field and it is to be noted that awareness among the people increases the quality and the rate of relevancy of the research outcomes. **Figure 2** depicts that the advocates think that the decisions taken by AI will not serve the purpose since it cannot replace the legal decisions taken by experts, since legal decisions involve human interpretation and empathy to decide on a case which AI lacks. The law students have said AI would serve the purpose by enhancing the legal efficiency of the research it does and would actually be helpful. The IT professionals and clients have said that it would potentially serve the purpose but only with the proper human oversight which sounds very appealing, since IT professionals know about the working from the user end and it could bring its full potential only when proper human sight is provided, otherwise it could end up with a lot of errors. **Figure 3** shows the opinion of respondents whether they see AI as a threat to the legal profession. Here the researcher focuses more on the opinions of advocates and law students, since it's their career which may or may not be taken over. The results show that the majority of the advocates have denied it, this could be due to their understanding that AI is only going to make their jobs easier, or it might also mean that AI taking over the legal profession would actually take much time and will involve the advancement in the technology to lessen the errors present today. The majority of the law students have agreed to the question that it would be a threat to their jobs. This could be due to the stigma around it and the lack of awareness on the subject. There will be a stronger need for them to be updated in their particular stream.

#### LIMITATIONS:

The sample size of the study is small and it cannot represent the entire population. The researcher had faced time constraints since research study with this huge scope was little too hard to complete within the prescribed time limit. Since the topic is evolving it was hard to get secondary data on the particular subject.

#### SUGGESTIONS:

The researcher suggests that there should be proper awareness on the subject, because without proper awareness it would create a lot of confusion and will lead to misuse of the tools. There must be a subject about artificial intelligence which must be made as a core paper for the law students to keep them updated. This way they wouldn't be clueless when they step out of the college. Giving them practical knowledge on the AI tools will also help them in understanding its pros and cons. There must be regulation of these tools and softwares. With regulation there will be restrictions on the usage of these tools, as the users can know to which extent they can use the tools and the regulation is vital to answer questions like who will be held liable when the AI makes any errors regarding the case. The awareness should also be given to present advocates to erase the stigma around the job takeovers by artificial intelligence.

#### CONCLUSION:

After analysing the opinion of people on the impacts of AI in the legal field, it is understood that the majority of the people are aware about the applications of AI. There have been respondents who find AI as a threat but the majority of them don't find AI as a threat to their career. The respondents believe there will be significant changes in the legal field due to advancement in the usage of artificial intelligence in the future. Artificial intelligence is definitely going to increase the efficiency of the research process. There is less threat to their jobs because computers need someone to feed in inputs and that can be done by only legal professionals. Even though entry level lawyers or less skilled ones can have insecurity about their need to be constantly updated, AI is only going to make their work easier. If the research work is given to these softwares, the lawyers can focus on other important works like their argument skills in the courtroom. And not to forget the fact that everything done by AI is not going to be right, since it is a machine it will make errors

and there will be a need for a lawyer to oversee the output. With the world changing and the advancement in technology would actually make firms to adopt these systems in their company because it reduces time used for research from 10 hours to 10 seconds. In reality, Even when firms want to go with the traditional style it would make them outdated. The companies which use AI tools would get more profits in less time and there will be cost reduction since the research job is done by the software. There will be no destruction of jobs but this will create better jobs for people with different roles. There will be a better outcome when the man and the machine work together as a team and not see them as their rivals, which could result in neutralizing the pros and cons. There is no guarantee that it would turn out this way in the future, but as of now the positive impacts of the AI tools in the legal field outweighs the negative impacts.

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