

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LEGAL PRACTICE – TRANSFORMING THE PROFESSION OR THREATENING TRADITION?

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ABSTRACT

Artificial intelligence significantly enhances efficiency and productivity across various sectors by automating tasks and optimizing processes. It enables deeper insights from data analysis, improving decision-making in areas like Healthcare, Education, Transportation, Finance. Furthermore, Artificial Intelligence is driving innovations in areas like personalize learning and developing new technologies, shaping the future of various industries. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly reshaping legal practice, promising outstanding efficiency gains but raising profound questions about professional tradition and ethical safeguards. Artificial Intelligence is changing the way of lawyers. This Research paper explains if these changes are good or bad. On the one hand, AI tools can make legal work much faster. They can help with research, reviewing contracts, Drafting and pleading, summaries the case texts, providing cases related bare acts and planning for court cases. On the other hand, AI raises concerns. It could threaten lawyers' skills, the data privacy and security of client information, ethical consideration, transparency, explainability, accuracy, reliability, IPR related issues, deepfake or misinformation or fairness in our courts. We found that Artificial intelligence is very good at handling the simple and routine task which can lead to the lower the legal cost and helps more people to get legal aids. Moreover, if we don't watch it closely, AI can also have hidden biases, and people might not check its work carefully enough. We believe that to use Artificial Intelligence in good way, we need a clear regulation and ways to test if the AI is transparency and accurate. By mixing the new technology with old ethical standard procedures of courts, we can get the fruits of AI without hampering our justice system.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Legal Practice, Professional Ethics, Transparency, Data Privacy.

INTRODUCTION

As we proceed with this research article, questions arise: what is AI and why are we talking about it? Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the ability of a computer or machine to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence like learning, reasoning, and solving problems. Nowadays, AI has become powerful enough to help with complex jobs, including the work that lawyers can do.

This has started a big discussion in the legal community. Some people are excited. They see AI as a way to make legal work faster, cheaper, and better. Others are worried. They fear that AI could replace lawyers, make mistakes that hurt clients, or damage the core principles of justice that have been built over hundreds of years.

For lawyers, it's important to know that AI is not just one thing. It is the set of technologies made to do tasks that usually need human intelligence.

This paper will explore both sides of this argument. We will look at how AI is changing the legal profession for the better, and what dangers we need to watch out for.

LITERATURE REVIEWS

In the past, the law books and case files were stored into the computers. This made searching for information easier than looking through physical books, but it was still just basic keyword searching. Now since 2010 AI has made technology much smarter. Instead of just searching for words, new tools can understand the *meaning* of sentences. They can find patterns in thousands of documents. This allows AI to do advanced tasks like guessing how a judge might rule in a case or automatically finding important information in long contracts.

Main Arguments About AI in Law

- The Optimists Groups

These experts see AI as useful in legal profession.

- *Richard Susskind*: - He is a leading voice. He believes it will make legal help much cheaper and more accessible to ordinary people who can't afford lawyers today. For decades, he argues in support of intersection of technology and law including AI which completely change the legal profession for the better (Susskind, 2023).

- *Daniel Katz:* - He believes AI can analyse thousands of cases to help lawyers make smarter predictions and give better strategic advice (Katz, 2021)
- The Sceptics Groups

These experts are concerned about the risks of AI. They worry about job losses, hidden biases, and a lack of accountability.

 - The concern about AI tools in making important legal decisions is that it is impossible to know if the advice is fair and good. In the book "The Black Box Society" the authors explain the danger of secret algorithms (Ebers & Navas, 2020).
 - *Kate Crawford and Ryan Calo:* - Both Scholars raise alarms about bias data. They both emphasises that if AI is trained of bias data it will lead to unfair outcomes (Dignum, 2021).
 - Many official legal groups, like the **American Bar Association (ABA)**, also fall into this group. They express deep concern about professional ethics. For instance, if an AI makes a mistake, who is responsible? The lawyer or the software company?

HOW IS AI TRANSFORMING LAWYER'S WORK?

AI is a set of tools which can help lawyer to do their jobs more effectively and with efficiency. Here are some of the main ways AI is helping right now.

- **Legal Research:** - Finding the right precedent and laws for an argument which the lawyers were used to prepare for days or even weeks, AI can do it in seconds and find most relevant information, it leads to save time, money and efforts. Therefore, it helps in Super-Fast Legal Research.
- **File and Document:** - A lawyer might have to read contract which contain hundreds of pages, it can bore, and time consuming, also for human brain to miss something important. AI tools can read the same contract in minutes, spotting risk and make suggestions to build strong documents (Baskaran, 2023).
- **Predict case outcome:** - By analysing past court cases, AI chatbot can predict the out based on past cases. On 23rd May 2023, the Punjab and Haryana High Court in India became the first court in the country to use Chat GPT technology to help decide on a bail plea. The use of Chat GPT by the Punjab and Haryana High Court marks an

important step forward in the adoption of AI technology in the Indian legal system. (Ani, 2023).

- **Legal Help more affordable:** - AI Chatbot can help in making legal advice more affordable, for many people hiring a lawyer can be expensive activity for petty issues like rent agreements. AI chatbots can answer basic legal questions and help people to understand their rights. This is often called increasing "access to justice."

RISK OF USING AI IN LEGAL PRACTICES

While the benefits are exciting, the risks of using AI in Legal Practices are serious and must be taken seriously.

- **Algorithmic Bias:** - AI can be unfair. AI can learn from the information it is provided. Means AI model can be trained on data, if bias data is given then outcome is also bias, which can lead to algorithm bias (Dignum, 2021).
- **Data Privacy:** - Lawyers have strict duty to confidential protect the data of their client. When a lawyer uploads a sensitive document to an online AI service, where does that information go? Could it be hacked? Could the AI company use it? This is a major security and ethical risk.
- **Critical Thinking:** - Law is not just about facts and figures. It is about people. A good lawyer understands a client's stress, fears, and goals. They show empathy. An AI cannot do this. It cannot offer human advice or make a moral judgment. Over-relying on AI could make the legal system feel cold, mechanical, and less focused on the people it is supposed to serve. Hence, there is ample chance of losing 'Human touch'.
- **Responsibility of Mistake:** - If an AI tool makes a mistake that causes a client to lose their case or money, who is to blame? Is it the lawyer who used the tool? The company that made the AI? The programmer who wrote the code? Our current laws are not prepared to answer these difficult questions (Ebers & Navas, 2020).

THE FUTURE OF AI AND LAW

AI probably won't replace lawyers, but it will completely change their jobs. The future is about lawyers and smart computers working together, not against each other.

The Law and Lawyers: As AI gets smarter, it will create new and tricky legal problems. The legal system will have to change quickly to deal with these new issues. Lawyers, judges, and law students will need to constantly learn about technology to keep up.

Bridging the Gap: For a country like India with a significant "justice gap"—where many citizens cannot afford or easily access legal help—AI presents a monumental opportunity.

INDIA'S DIGITAL JUMP

India's journey with legal AI is led by a special mix of government action and court leadership, mainly to solve deep-rooted problems like language and huge number of pending cases.

1. **E- court Project:** This is the significant project of government of India to make India's court system more digital. Government of India allocates 7000 crore in budget and some of that money is specifically for using AI to help manage court cases better and make court work faster across the country. (Government of India, 2025).
2. **SUVAS (Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software):** As Eight schedule of constitution of India have 22 languages. Therefore, it reflects language barrier, so the Supreme Court created this AI tool for translation. (Government of India, 2023).
3. **SUPACE (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court's Efficiency):** This is an AI tool created by the Supreme Court of India to help judges with their research. It helps them to quickly understand the case facts and find past precedence for relevance. (Government of India, 2025).

Past Chief Justices of India have supported AI as a "great asset" for improving speed, while various High Courts have shown doubt and given warnings against the careless use of AI by lawyers, especially about the risk of wrong information.

GLOBAL RULES: THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

European Union:

- Europe made one big set of rules for AI that is European Union AI law, is a comprehensive legal framework regulating the development and use of artificial intelligence (AI) within the European Union. These rules say a person must be in charge and the AI must be fair.

U.S.A.:

The U.S. is not making one big new law yet, instead of writing a new set of laws, the U.S. is mostly using the laws and government bodies it already has to deal with the new problems from AI. It is using its old laws to handle AI problems. When a problem with AI goes to court, the judge's decision helps to make new rules.

What Everyone Agrees On: No matter the plan, all countries want to:

- Keep the information private, because data is modern currency.
- Make sure AI treats people fairly and transparent.
- Keep us safe from AI that could hurt or trick us.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This section summarizes what we have learned and provides recommendations for how to use Artificial Intelligence in law safely and effectively.

- **Make AI companies honest:** - The issue of Black Box can solve accordingly, as back-end algorithm can be transparent.
- **Guidelines for lawyers:** - Write a clear rulebook for lawyers how to use AI in ethical ways. This would cover rules on keeping client data safe and making sure a human lawyer always has the final say.
- **Test AI for unfairness:** Before an AI tool is used for important legal decisions (like bail or sentencing), it must be checked to make sure it isn't biased against any group of people.
- **Lawyer's Training:** - We need to study the long-term impact on how AI affect the upcoming lawyer's skills.
- **AI that explains itself:** - We need to build AI that can explain its reasoning, which would make it much easier to trust.
- **Law Firms:** - This is direct advice for lawyers and law firms using AI. AI should not be the final decision maker. AI can use as helper. Human must be in charge. A lawyer must review the AI's work to check the mistake and fairness. This will ensure that human is always accountable for legal advice.
- **Other Countries:** - We need to study how other countries are using the AI in legal system.

CONCLUSION

AI in law is like a double-edged sword. On the one hand, the good edge offers great opportunities to make legal work fast efficient and cost effective. On the other hand, the sharp edge, comes with threat to privacy, black box issue, unfairness, threat to client, potential job loss. The main takeaway is that we can only get the benefits if we are very careful about managing the risks.

As the matter of fact, it argues that we don't have to choose between modern technology and traditional legal values. We need to balance the old traditions with new or modern technologies. In short, the conclusion states that technology should serve our legal values, not replace them.

The use of Artificial Intelligence in legal practice is one of the biggest changes in the history of the profession. This report has shown that AI is not one single thing but a complex technology with two very different sides. It offers the promise of a faster, cheaper, and more open legal system by automating the hard and heavy tasks that have long been a burden for lawyers. It can speed up research, improve the accuracy of document checking, and give data-based insights that improve legal plans. In doing so, it has the potential to make justice available to many who were previously left out.

However, this same power for change comes with equal risks. The dangers of wrong facts and AI "hallucinations" threaten the truthfulness of legal research and arguments. The use of public AI tools creates a serious risk to the sacred rule of lawyer-client privacy. The threat of unfair AI raises the scary possibility that AI could continue and even increase systemic injustices while looking like it is making objective, data-based decisions. And finally, the automation of routine work challenges the old economic model of the law firm and forces us to rethink what it means to be a lawyer.

Going back to the main question of this article, is AI changing the profession or threatening tradition? The analysis concludes that it is doing both. It is threatening old traditions that are based on being slow, manual work, and keeping information to oneself. It is challenging a business model built on the simple measure of billable hours. At the same time, it is creating the chance to change the profession toward a new and possibly better tradition which is based on strategic advice, human-focused service, and ethical control. The lawyer of the future will be valued less for their ability to remember information and more for their wisdom in using it; less for their speed in checking documents and more for their creativity in solving problems.

The way forward is not a simple choice between using AI or not. The technology is here, and its abilities will only get better. The future of law, therefore, will not be decided by the power of our machines, but by the wisdom, planning, and ethical dedication of the human professionals who choose how to use them. The biggest challenge for this generation of lawyers, judges, policymakers, and educators is to build a legal future where the technology will assist in management and not in beating drums around the ‘black box’ of non-transparency.

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