A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE LAWS GOVERNING SPAM IN MALAYSIA

By

ANAS BIN BASHARI (2011755653) AHMAD ZA'IM BIN ABD RAHMAN (2011178179) AMEERUL SHAFIQ BIN ABDUL ALEEM (2011536871) SYED MUHAMMAD ANWAR BIN SYED LOKMAN HAKIM (2011972409)

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

For the Bachelor in Legal Studies (Hons)

UNIVERSITY TEKNOLOGI MARA FACULTY OF LAW

JUNE 2014

The students/authors confirm that the work submitted is their own and that appropriate credit has been given where reference has been made to the work of others.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah S.W.T, the Benefit, the Merciful

First and foremost, our deepest gratitude goes to our supervisor Dr. Hartini Binti Saripan because of her continues guidance and untiring effort in assisting us made this research became reality. Our heartfelt appreciation also goes to our beloved families, especially our parents, brothers and sisters for their never ending support and timeless love throughout the course of completing this research. We were also like to gives special thanks to our two respondents for helping us until this research exits as reality. All of your guidance and love will always be remembered and cherished as the pillar of our strength in achieving our dreams. We hope that this research will be useful to other researcher which is connected in one way or another with our proposal.

ABSTRACT

This research mainly focuses on the issue of the laws governing spam in Malaysia. This research deals with the issue of the governance and enforcement of laws in curbing the spam in Malaysia. The laws used to govern spam in Malaysia include the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998, the Penal Code, the Evidence Act 1950 and the Personal Data Protection Act 2010. The series of literature are reviewed as we compare the laws in Malaysia with the laws in other countries including United States of America, Australia and Singapore. From the literature review as well as the background of the research, it is evident that the question of proliferations of spam in Malaysia is the issue which has become a national agenda which the rate of spam that was sent had been increasing in a catastrophic rate. The challenges and the problem of the governance and enforcement of laws regarding spam in Malaysia are demonstrated in regulating this research. This study also hopes to improve the current laws that governing spam and also to assist the policy maker in drafting the specific law on spam.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement	ii
Abstract	iii
Table of Contents	iv
List of Cases	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	
1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	. 1
1.2 Research Questions	4
1.3 Research Objectives	4
1.4 Scope	5
1.5 Research Methodology	5
1.6 Limitation	6
1.7 Significance	6
1.8 Outline of Research Structure	7
1.9 Conclusion	8
CHAPTER TWO: THE RISE OF SPAM	
CHAITER I WO. THE RISE OF STAM	
2.0 Introduction	10
2.1 Emergence of the Internet	11
2.1.1 Concept of the Internet	11
2.1.2 History of the Internet	12
2.1.3 The needs of the Internet	16
2.1.4 Risks of the Internet	18
2.2 Concept of Spam	21
2.2.1 History of Spam	21
2.2.2 Proliferation of Spam	22

2.3 Spam in Malaysia	25
2.3.1 Problems of Spam	26
2.3.2 Consequences of Spam	28
2.4 Governing Spam	30
2.4.1 Theory of Governance	30
2.4.1.1 Code (Technology)	31
2.4.1.2 Law	32
2.4.1.3 Social Norms	33
2.4.1.4 Market	33
2.4.2 Justifications for Governing Spam	33
2.4.3 Mechanisms in Governing Spam	34
2.5 Conclusion	35
CHAPTER THREE: ANTI SPAM LAWS IN OTHER JURISDIC	TIONS
3.0 Introduction	37
3.1 Background of the Spam Laws	38
3.1.1 Australian Spam Act 2003	39
3.1.2 United States of America CAN-SPAM ACT 2003	42
3.1.3 Singaporean Spam Control Act 2007	45
3.2 Analysis of Cases	43
3.2.1 Australia	47
3.2.2 United States of America	57
3.2.3 Comparative Analysis of cases	69
3.3 Legal Issues of spam	71
3.3.1 Definitional Issue	74
3.3.2 Procedure	76
3.3.3 Criticisms	79
3.3.4. Remedies in Other Countries	81
3.4 Conclusion	83