## Abstract

# Common Origin of Substantial Similarity and Fair Use Doctrine, and Defining Copy Normatively in Copyright Act

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The purpose of this article is to search for the source of the problem that second level creation, which did not diminish the market value of the plaintiff's copyrighted work, has severely been hindered by copyright, and to propose a legislative solution to the problem. This article made the following conclusions.

First, 'substantial similarity' means that copyright is infringed even when the defendant did not publish the whole part of the plaintiff's work, verbatim. 'literal-fragmented or comprehensive-non-literal similarity,' 'substantial similarity,' or 'feeling substantial attributes' is no more than repetition of 'similarity.'

Second, three factors of fair use doctrine in *Folsom* was actually 3 factors to consider in determining 'substantial similarity,' which had long been considered by 18th and 19th century courts before *Folsom*. However, since the meaning of 'copy' had changed from 'normative one' to 'physical one,' the meaning of 'substantial' had also changed from 'diminishing the market value of plaintiff's copyrighted work' to 'feeling substantial attributes of plaintiff's work.' Consequently, those three factors in determining 'substantial similarity' had become the factors of fair use defense, which had also transferred the burden of proof from plaintiff to defendant.

Third, those three factors are related with each other, that is, one is prerequisite factor to the other. For example, 'the value of plaintiff's work, which is diminished by defendant's use,' cannot be considered until the effect of the defendant's use to the plaintiff's market value is determined. And where

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plaintiff and defendant are not in the same market, 'the effect to the plaintiff's market' cannot be considered until it is determined whether plaintiff could be allowed to realize profit from defendant's market.

Fourth, most scholars, judges and members of the society have already agreed that 'unjust copy,' not mere 'physical copy,' is the infringement of copyright. To make the agreement happen in copyright dispute, this article proposed that 'to satisfy the public needs' should be added to the definition of 'copy' or 'reproduction,' which would turn the definition of 'copy' from physical one to normative one.

### Keywords

substantial similarity, fair use doctrine, copyright history, Statute of Anne, normative copy, physical copy, copyright reform

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