### **Internet Law**

- Module 1
- Regulatory Paradigms for Electronic Commerce



Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter

Copyright © 2009 Greg R. Vetter ahts reserved. Provided for student use only.

#### 1-1

### **Barlow**

- Place and Cyberspace
- No Government?
- Ordinary legal concepts don't apply?
- Global social space naturally independent of tyrannies?
- Methods of enforcement not to be feared?



#### **Johnson & Post**

- Old borders; new borders
- Law pervades a territory
  - Power -> enforcement
  - Effects (ex: trademark in Brazil)
  - Legitimacy
  - Notice by borders
- Application to cyber-borders?





Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter

1\_2

#### Goldsmith

- Application of local law to exterritorial behavior with substantial local effects
- Regulate domicile or citizen's extraterritorial behavior
- Choice of law
- . . . all leading to weak notice requirements
- Examples . . .
- Insights for cyberspace . . .





Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter

#### Rothchild

- Online communications are like . . .
- Effects of online communications may vary from place to place
- Most law-enforcing difficulties are practical
  - Virtual addressing
  - Cost/speed advantages
  - "border" "crossing-points"
- Deceptive practices resistant to control by market forces





Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vette

1-5

# Pluralist Regulation of online conduct

- Transnational cyberspace law
- Intermediaries . . .
  - ISP
  - Payment intermediaries
  - Online auction operators
  - Search engines
  - Domain name system
  - Package delivery companies
- Norms
- Coordinated private action
- Code

at&t

PayPal

Coogle

TCANN

Market

Norms

1-6

Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter

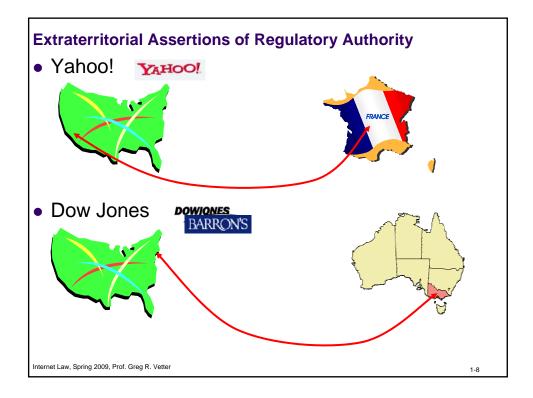
## **Federalism and Internationalism**

ICANN example



- Pros/Cons of U.S. Federal law versus state law in the U.S.
- Current example:
  - Security Breach Notification Legislation

Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter



#### **Dormant Commerce Clause (DCC) and Online Activities**

- ALA v. Pataki (SDNY 1997)
  - DCC: discriminate; unduly burden, cohesive national treatment
  - Not merely intrastate, not limitable to NY, impacts a means of "commerce"
  - Applies to conduct wholly outside NY
  - Invalid indirect regulation of interstate commerce (IC): burdens on IC are excessive in relation to local benefits
    - Pike: legitimacy of state interest; weigh burdens
  - Is the area one admitting of diversity of treatment by the states?
    - Can't "steer around" part of the Internet

Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter

1-9

#### **Dormant Commerce Clause and Online Activities**

- State v. Heckel (Wash. 2001)
  - DCC: discriminate; unduly burden, cohesive national treatment
  - Pike: legitimacy of state interest; weigh burdens
  - Act protects interests of ISPs, domain name owners, and email users
  - Truthfulness requirement of Act
    - Minimal burden from cost of compliance; actual compliance facilitates commerce
    - No conflict with other states' statutes, additional but not inconsistent requirements
  - No sweeping extraterritorial effect
    - Not as broad in coverage as law at issue in <u>Pataki</u>

Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter



Telephony



Internet Law, Spring 2009, Prof. Greg R. Vetter