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Copyright Law Is Obsolete

By Anna Mancini

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 COPYRIGHT LAW IS OBSOLETE Before the advent of writing, the human body was used as the only storage device for information, and memory was much valued. Knowledge was passed from person to person through speech. It was obvious that, as the speech could not be touched and seized, knowledge could therefore not be owned in the same way as we own objects. Knowledge was clearly a matter of human relationships. With the invention of writing, all possible means were used to store information: bones, shells, clay, stone, animal skin, paper, wood, and metal. They all shared a common point: they materialized information. This led to people and lawyers coming to believe that knowledge could be an object of property, and ultimately, the concept of intellectual property. Considering the author s right as a right of property was not of great inconvenience as long as knowledge remained materialized. As digitalization has once again dematerialized knowledge,...



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