New Survey shows 39% of Lawyers, 46% of Law Students and 45% of Consumers Agree Generative AI Tools Will Significantly Transform Practice of Law

New survey findings from a LexisNexis survey of 1,176 US lawyers, 1,239 law students, and 1,765 consumers demonstrates that the legal market is significantly more aware of generative AI than the general population (88% vs. 57%). In one of the first and most extensive surveys of its kind, the research was conducted to better understand overall awareness of generative AI, current use of generative AI tools in daily work, and willingness to adopt generative AI tools for various legal matters.

According to the March 2023 study, 57% of consumers are aware of generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, 32% said they have used generative AI, with half of these (15%) stating they had tried generative AI for legal advice or assistance. There were strong socioeconomic differences in the consumer data. The younger (under 45), wealthier, male, and more educated the respondent, the more likely they were to have tried generative AI for legal purposes.

Awareness was significantly higher among lawyers (86%). Of these, half (51%) had either already used it in their work or were planning on doing so. This is because 84% believe generative AI tools will increase the efficiency of lawyers, paralegals, or law clerks. It’s not just the practice of law, 61% of lawyers and 44% of law students also believe generative AI will change law schools and the way law is taught and studied.

The top five ways law firms, corporate counsel, and law students are currently or would like to use generative AI tools in their daily work include:
The survey revealed that a majority of lawyers and law students can see potential in generative AI in advancing the practice of law (77% positive or mixed sentiment toward impact). However, many cite concerns about the ethical implications (87% of lawyers, 91% of law students, and 72% of consumers).

The results of the study highlighted the top three legal areas most important to consumers. Specifically, consumers would consider using generative AI for:

- **60%** General legal advice
- **41%** Legal requirements for setting up a business
- **43%** Creating a will

**METHODOLOGY**

The survey was conducted across 4,180 people, including 1,176 lawyers, 1,239 law students, and 1,765 consumers in the United States from March 15-16, 2023. Surveys were conducted in English and respondents were prompted for feedback via Pollfish/Forsta.

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