



International Concerns about Fake IDs

Rampant use of fake ID's has been recorded in the United States of America, the United Kingdom and other countries in the world. These two leading countries have encountered a spike in the production and use of fake ID due to minors or underage children who use these to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages. They also use the fake identification cards to enter restricted clubs and bars. Many also use these to buy cigarettes and tobacco products.

Both lawmakers in the U.S and the UK are trying to come up with laws that will bring down the rampant manufacture of these fake ID's since these result in drunken driving and brawls for underage children. Many accidents have occurred due to drunken driving and some underage children have figured in these accidents as well. The local authorities are now stricter with online companies that sell, produce or manufacture ID's which may pass as the real thing. In the United States, laws have been passed that target these stores or organizations that manufacture fake ID's.

Not only are the underage children the customers of stores that sell fake ID's but also illegal immigrants and criminals are taking advantage of the huge turnout of counterfeit ID and fake documents. Illegal immigrants (1) [benefit from fake Identification](#) because they can work and earn money in spite of their current status as tourists. Other illegal immigrants may have nefarious schemes regarding the safety and security of the country they are in. Terrorists who were the cause of the 9/11 disaster had fake ID with them which they used to gain access and to be educated in the United States of America.

Criminals on the other hand, have two major reasons for procuring fake ID. One is to assume someone else's identity like in an identity theft related crime where they use another persons' identity to charge items and acquire loans in the name of the person they are masquerading as. This is also one of the major problems in the United States today because identity theft has cost the government and other companies millions of dollars. Thieves often get their victims personal data and information and use these to further their goals. Many victims are unaware that they have been victimized until the bills come and there are people asking for payment for items they have not purchased. Many people have to be more careful regarding their personal information and the way they get rid of their trash. Most thieves get their stolen data from forms and other statements from banks and companies that are offering loans and other credit cards to individuals.

Some individuals who are stealing personal data and information are employees who work for companies that handle data and information for the people. The United States government has acted on these kinds of thievery by enforcing stricter penalties on the criminals, especially in cases of employees stealing information from work. These companies that hold the public trust should also be held accountable as to how and why their employees have resorted to (2) [stealing information](#). Some of the information and data which was stolen is reportedly sold to criminal syndicates that use the information for identity theft related crimes. Higher penalties and charges have been acted upon by authorities to squash the trend of information stealing by the employees themselves.

Criminals also use fake ID's to foster another identity in order for them to erase their criminal records and work in a better job. This deception may seem harmless to some but it is still potentially dangerous because employers have no idea they are dealing with people with criminal records and so do their parole officers. Although, some employers do discriminate against ex-convicts and make finding jobs for them more difficult, it is still not reason enough to compound their reputation with another misdemeanor or crime id they are caught using fake identification.

Fake ID manufacturers also have their own scams because some of these manufacturers in the internet advertise authentic looking ID's but they do not deliver. Others just receive the individual's money and do not deliver the goods at all while others actually send the fake ID but these are really not as authentic as the



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underage child may be expecting. Other sites that sell fake ID's have disclaimers that state that their ID's are not real and that they are not liable for any illegal use that the buyers may do with the ID's. Others are also offering real templates and formats to make DIY ID's.

- (1) <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/consumers/about-identity-theft.html>
- (2) <http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/politics/article447792.ece>