BPL Analysis

Torts I Eric E. Johnson

ericejohnson.com



B = burden
P = probability
L = loss

how much the defendant must spend to undertake the precaution

L = loss \$\$\$

measured in dollars

how much the plaintiffs stand to lose if the preventable accident comes to pass

P = probability

€ 0...1

measured as a fraction

the likelihood that the preventable accident comes to pass

IF B < PL THEN THEN THEN

the defendant is NEGLIGENT

because the precaution would have been worthwhile from the perspective of society as a whole

B > PL THEN the defendant is NOT NEGLIGENT

because the precaution was <u>not worthwhile</u> from the perspective of society as a whole