



Prifysgol Abertawe
Swansea University

Contract Cheating + the law

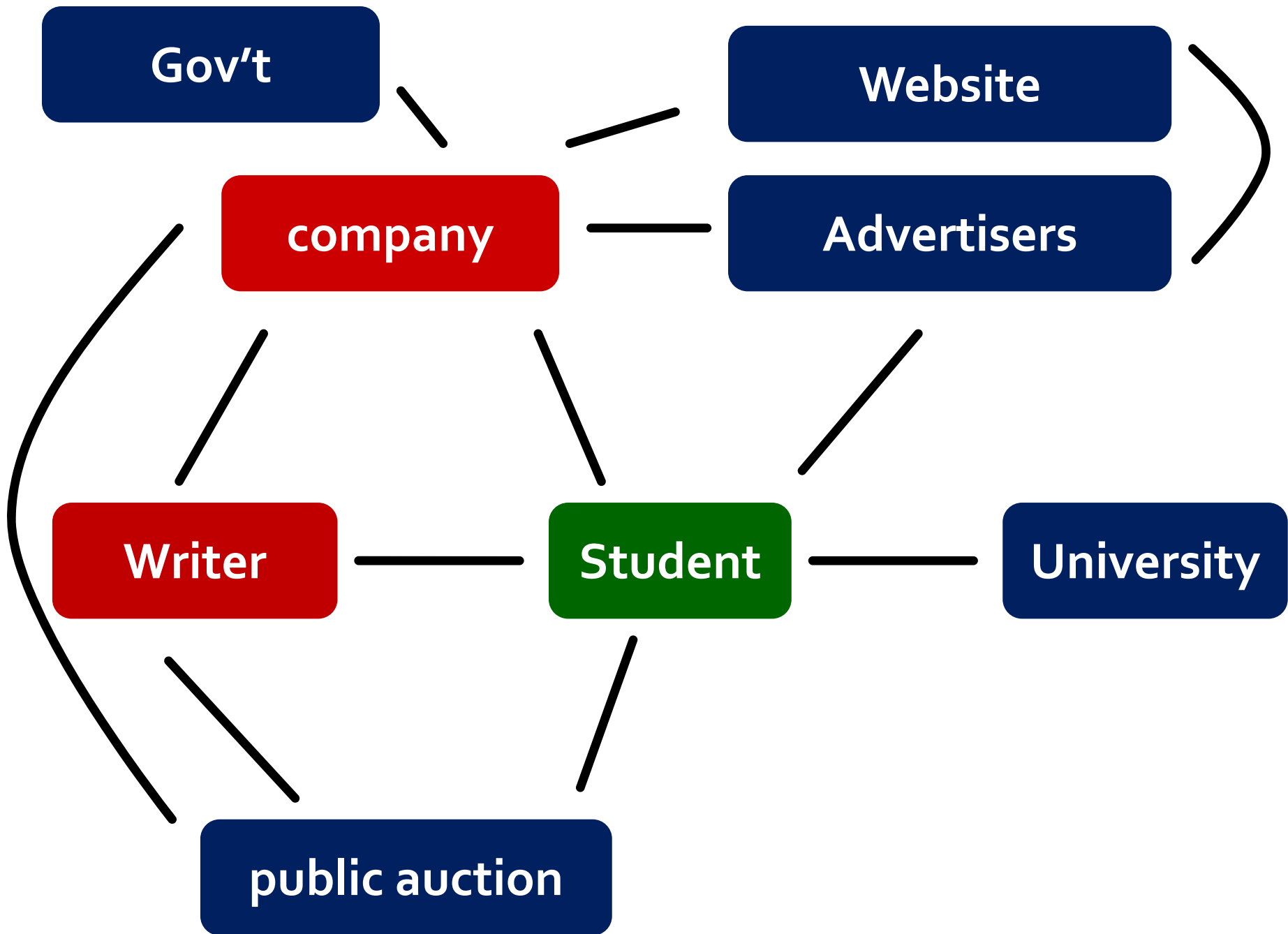
Professor Phil Newton

Mr Michael Draper

[@newtonsneurosci](#)

The use of ghostwriting services for contract cheating

- Questions about a legal approach
 - What would success look like?
 - Which behaviours should be targeted?
 - How would it be enforced?
 - Unintended consequences?



A legal approach?

- **Against**

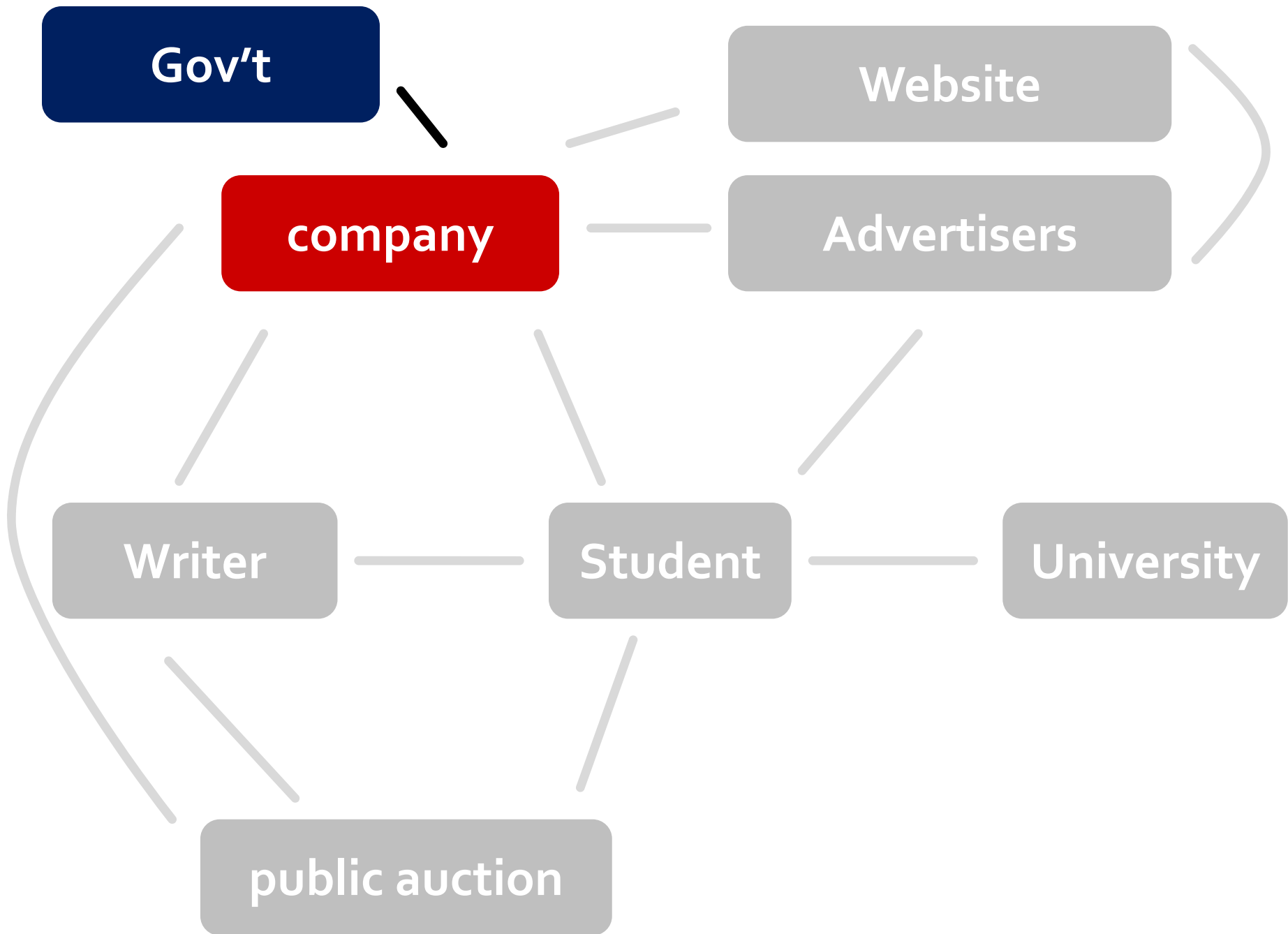
- Whose law is it?
- What is the crime?
- Who is the victim?
- Hard to detect
- Prevention
- 'for reference only'
- Alcohol

- **For**

- Deterrent
- What is the crime?
- Shifts context
- Just one tool
- Guns
- **It should be illegal**

Lessons learned

So far





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Is it legal?

Handbook of Academic Integrity

DOI 10.1007/978-981-287-079-7_38-1

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Custom Essay Writers, Freelancers and Other Paid Third Parties

Philip M. Newton^{a*} and Christopher Lang^b

^aCollege of Medicine, Swansea University, Swansea, UK

^bOffice of Appeals, Discipline and Faculty Grievances, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

Yes, in most countries
(New Zealand an exception)

**“the nearest applicable legislation
is the Fraud Act 2006”**



Plagiarism in Higher Education

Custom essay writing services: an exploration and
next steps for the UK higher education sector



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Open Access



Are Essay Mills committing fraud? An analysis of their behaviours vs the 2006 Fraud Act (UK)

Michael J. Draper¹, Victoria Ibezim¹ and Philip M. Newton^{2*}

* Correspondence:

p.newton@swansea.ac.uk

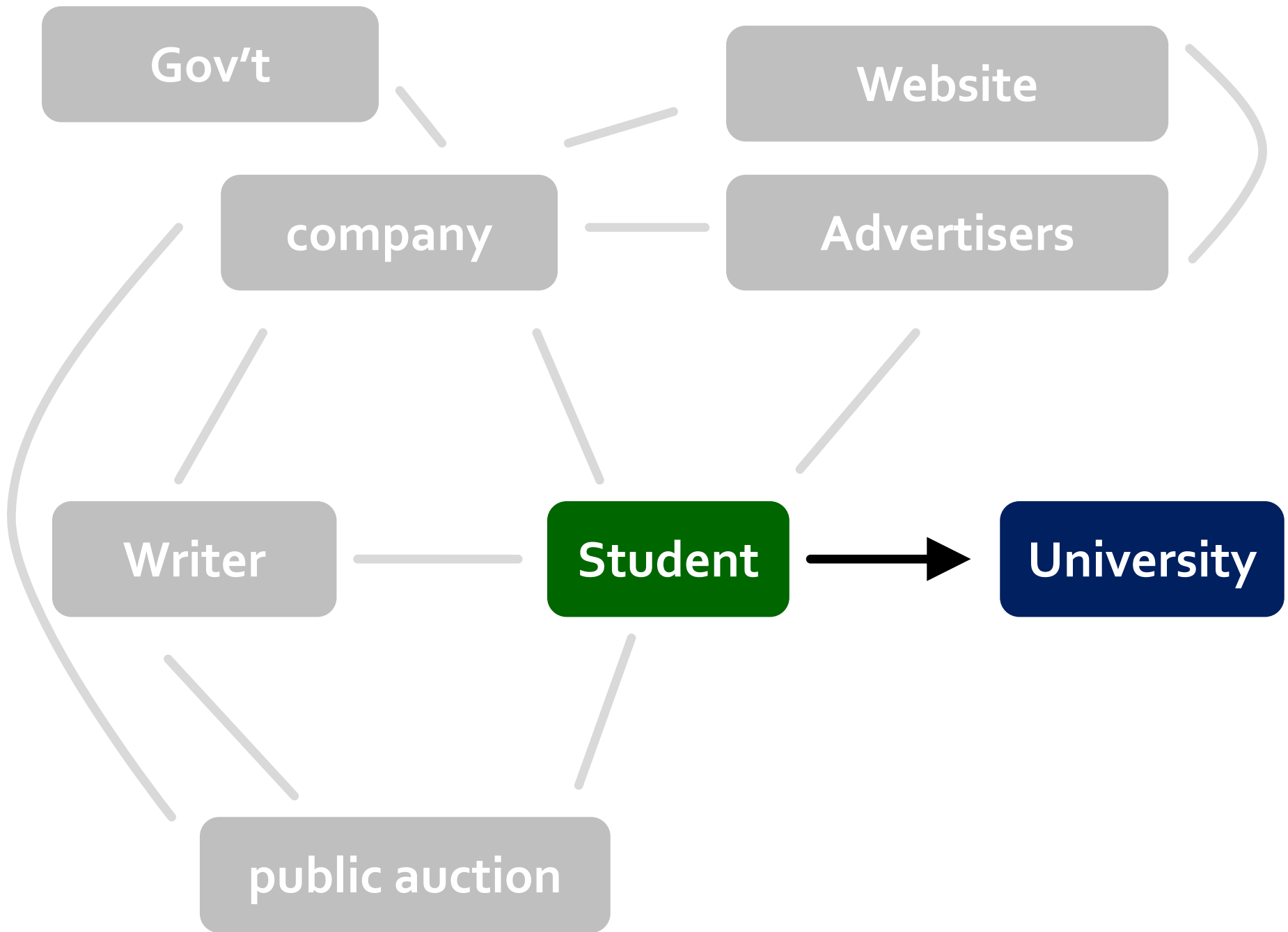
²Swansea University Medical School,
Swansea University, Swansea SA2
8PP, UK

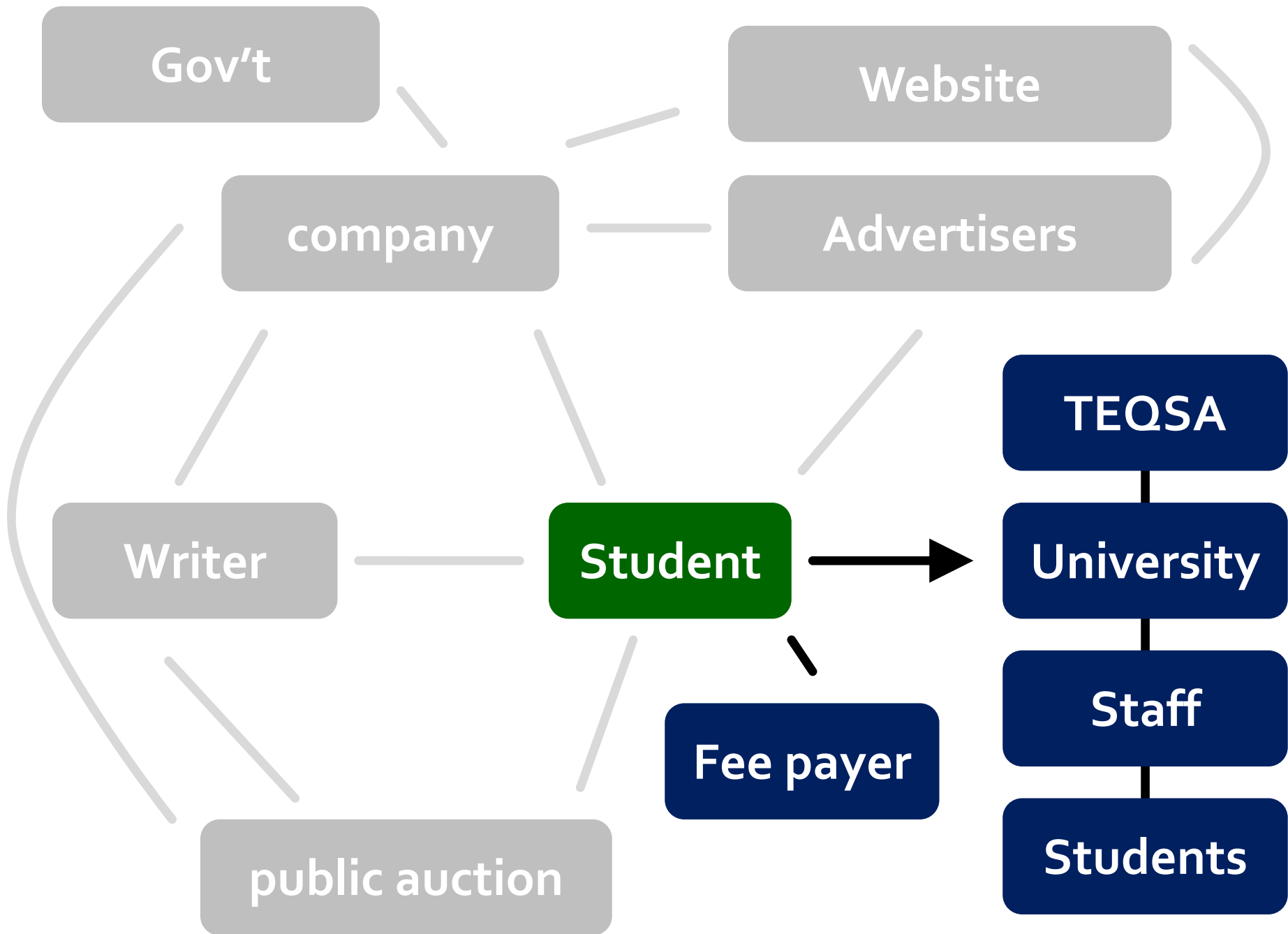
Full list of author information is
available at the end of the article

Abstract

Many strategies have been proposed to address the use of Essay Mills and other 'contract cheating' services by students. These services generally offer bespoke custom-written essays or other assignments to students in exchange for a fee. There have been calls for the use of legal approaches to tackle the problem. Here we determine whether the UK

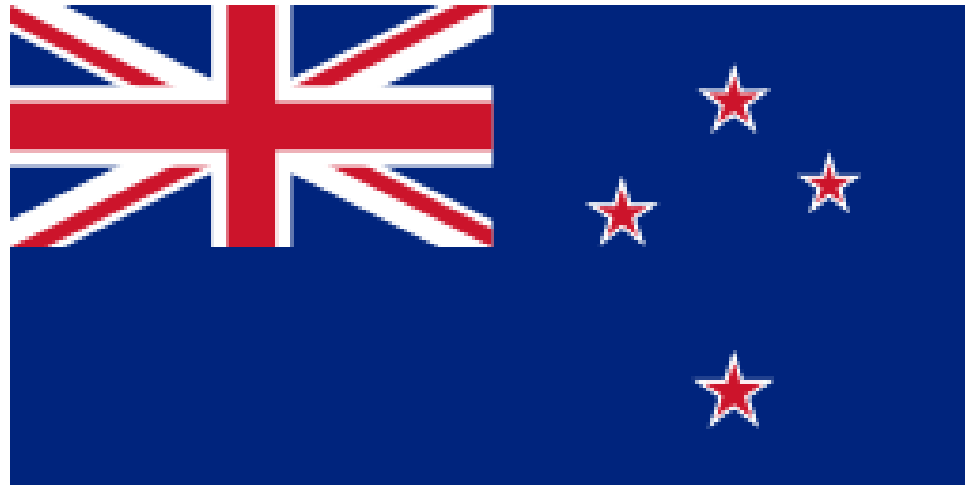
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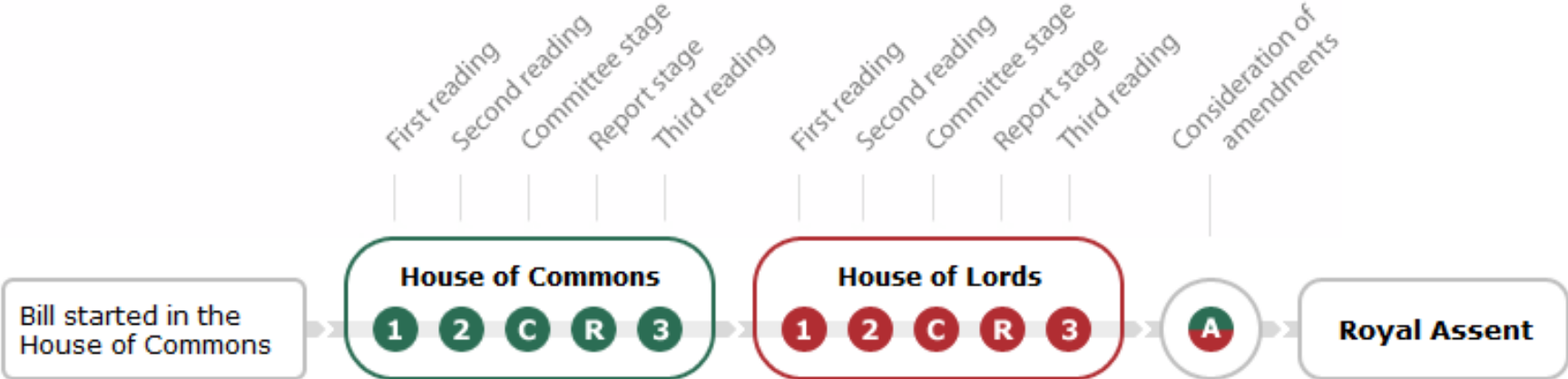
Lord Storey of Liverpool



Higher Education and Research Bill 2016-17

Type of Bill: Government Bill
Sponsors: Justine Greening
Department for Education
Viscount Younger of Leckie

Progress of the Bill



An offence to.....

Complete an assignment

Arranging for...↑

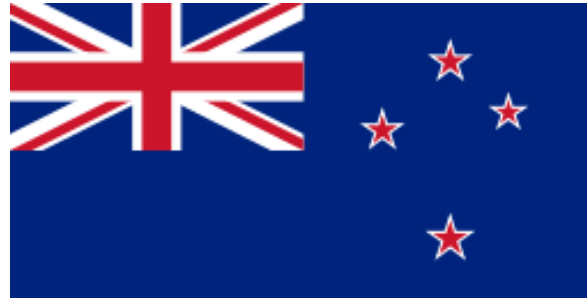
Giving exam answers

Sitting an exam

.....for a student....



Department
for Education

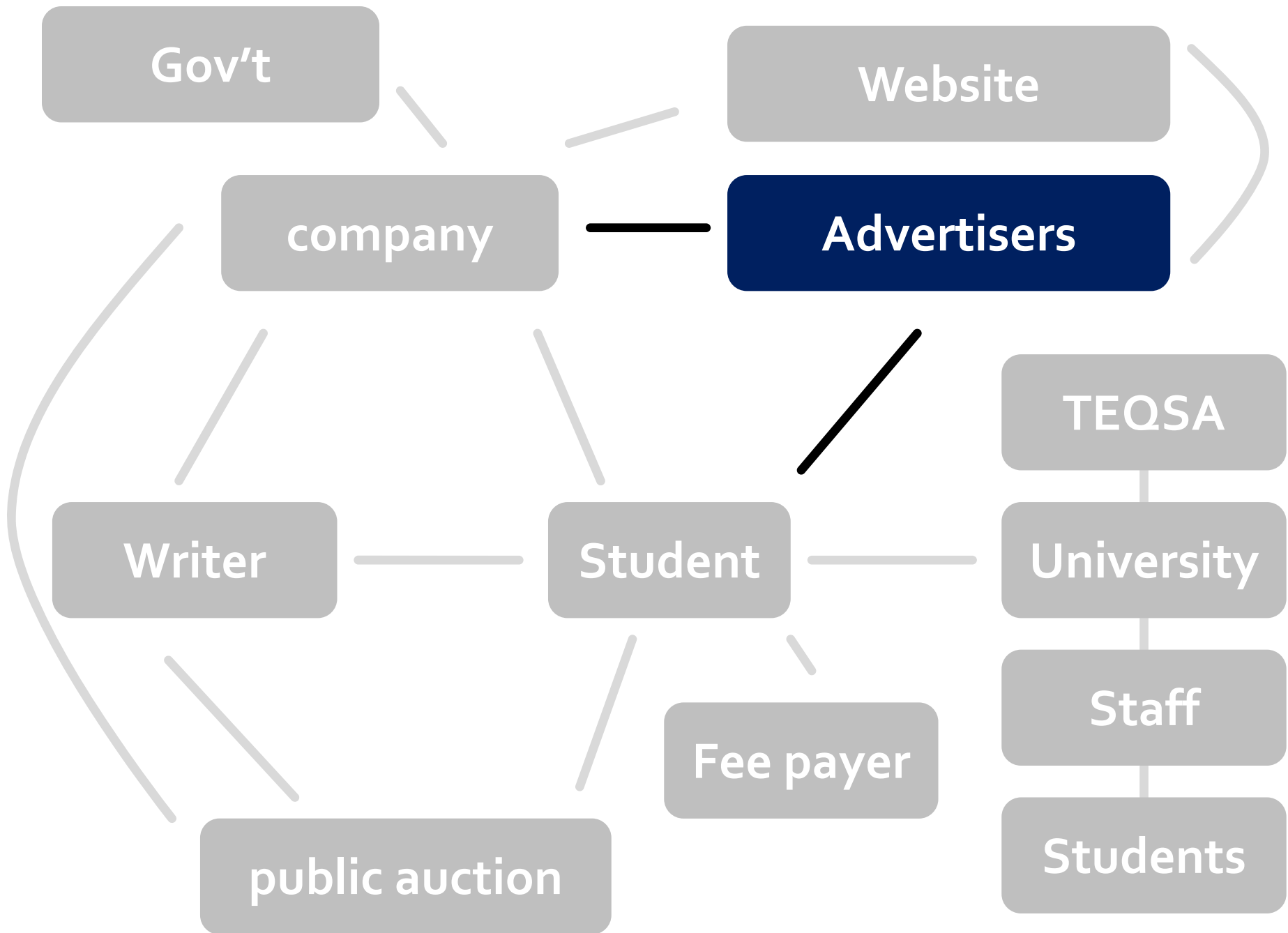


- A person commits an offence if the person provides any service specified..... with the intention of giving a studentan unfair advantage over other students

- A person commits an offence if the person provides any service specified..... with the **intention** of giving a studentan unfair advantage over other students

Strict Liability

- A person commits an offence if the person provides any service specified.....
giving a studentan unfair advantage over other students



Exterior



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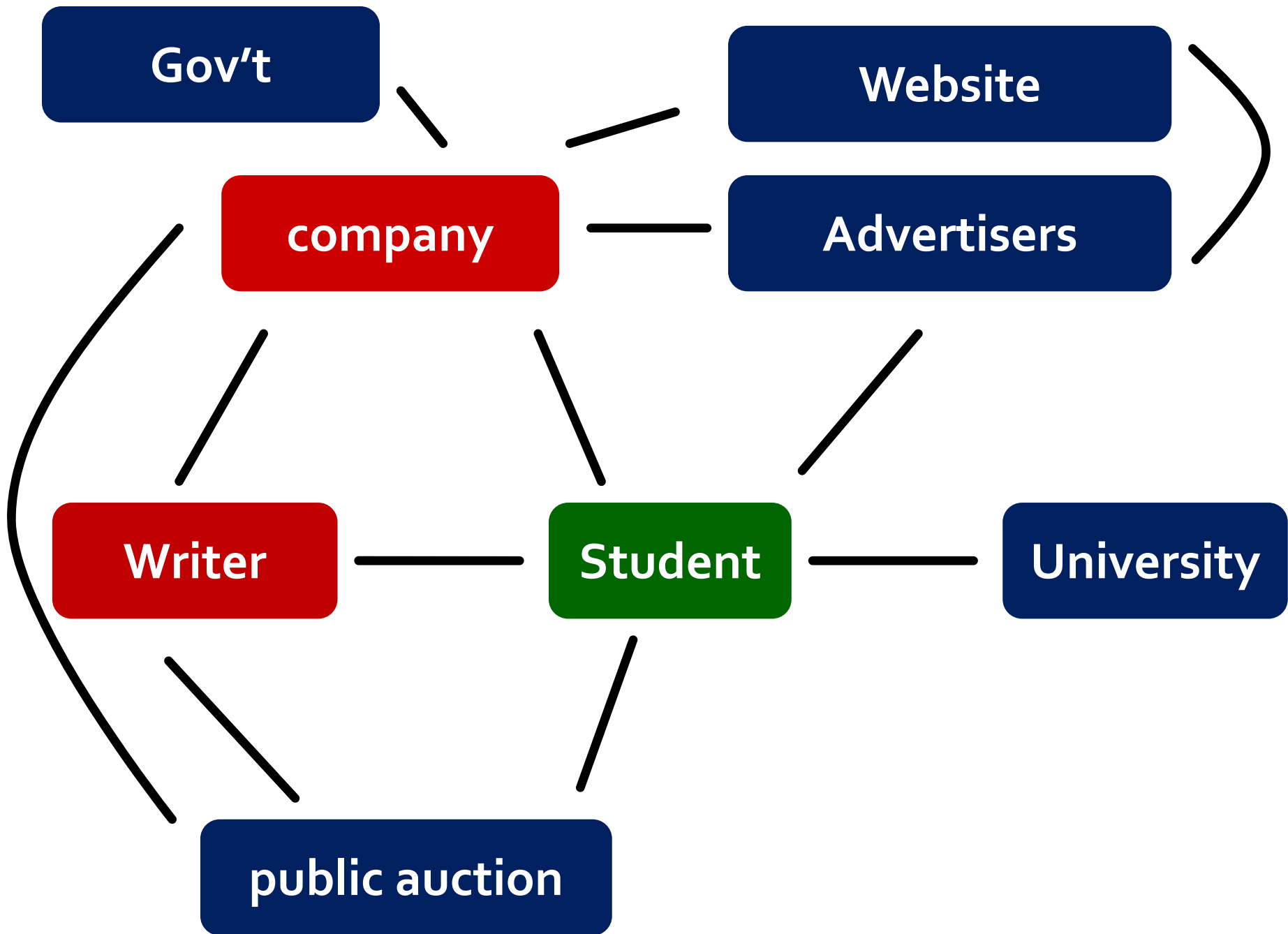
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