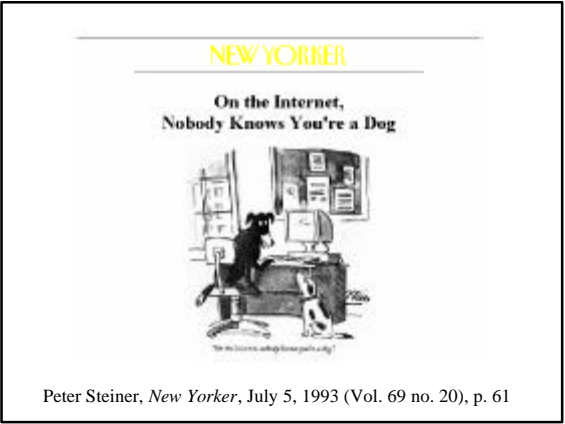



# Jurisdiction and Sovereignty



Peter Steiner, *New Yorker*, July 5, 1993 (Vol. 69 no. 20), p. 61

## Where's Waldo's Bookstore?



- Your client, Waldo Emerson, owns a bookstore in Brooklyn. He's just heard of Amazon.com (he's a bit behind the times) and decided he needs a website too. Waldo purchased the domain name [whereswaldosbooks.com](http://whereswaldosbooks.com), but he's a bit concerned -- his shelves include books appealing to the "prurient interests" and a broad history section with World War II propaganda, of which he knows some states and countries disapprove, and he's also got some pesky trademark problems. He doesn't need answers to the liability questions right now, but he wants to know where he could be sued.
- Waldo has a few ideas in mind for the website, ranging from a simple page showing his catalog and store address to a full-fledged online ordering system. Advise Waldo on the way courts might view these activities for jurisdictional purposes, as you try to help him balance business interests with avoidance of jurisdictional risk.

