

## **Comparative Analysis of the Use of AI in Mediation: Application in the USA & Efficacy in the Indian Context**

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### **Abstract**

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into mediation marks a transformative development in the field of dispute resolution. As technology increasingly permeates legal and quasi-legal processes, the adoption of AI tools in mediation promises to enhance efficiency, consistency, and accessibility in resolving disputes. From automated document review to AI-driven decision support systems, these technologies are already reshaping how mediators, legal practitioners, and disputing parties engage with the mediation process. However, alongside the perceived benefits, the rise of AI in this domain raises important questions concerning reliability, ethical responsibility, and regulatory preparedness. Concerns about data privacy, algorithmic bias, and the transparency of AI decisions are particularly pronounced, necessitating a critical evaluation of the frameworks governing their use. This paper seeks to explore the evolving role of AI in mediation, with a specific focus on its current and potential impact in the United States. It also aims to draw a comparative perspective from the Indian legal context, examining differences and similarities in how each jurisdiction addresses the integration of AI in mediation. By analyzing legal literature, policy frameworks, and practical applications, this study will identify both opportunities and challenges posed by AI technologies in this field. Furthermore, it aims to understand how regulatory bodies and stakeholders—including mediators, clients, and developers—can collaboratively foster responsible innovation. Ultimately, this paper intends to offer informed

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recommendations that ensure AI enhances rather than undermines the core values of mediation: neutrality, confidentiality, and voluntary participation.

**Keywords:** artificial intelligence, mediation, dispute resolution

## **Introduction**

The debut of ChatGPT in November 2022 represented a pivotal moment in technology, capturing the attention of one million users in just five days. This remarkable surge in adoption stands in stark contrast to the timelines of earlier social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram, which took months to achieve similar milestones. Such rapid acceptance underscores the profound influence that artificial intelligence is exerting across multiple domains, particularly in mediation. As AI technologies proliferate, they prompt essential inquiries about their capacity to enhance or potentially replace the role of human mediators, who traditionally excel in skills like effective communication, active listening, and emotional intelligence. Recent advancements in AI, particularly with tools like OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google Bard, have captured public interest due to their impressive capabilities and transformative potential. As AI continues to reshape industries and impact decision-making, it also presents significant opportunities for mediation. While online dispute resolution has been around for years, the emergence of next-generation AI-powered mediation could represent a major advancement, enabling digital third parties to facilitate negotiations in ways that closely resemble human interactions.

## **The Role of Human Mediators**

Mediators play a crucial role in conflict resolution, employing a combination of verbal and non-verbal skills to guide disputing parties toward a mutually satisfactory agreement. Their effectiveness often hinges on the ability to navigate complex emotional landscapes, as conflicts frequently involve heightened feelings such as anger, fear, and frustration. Human mediators create a safe environment where participants can express these emotions constructively, facilitating dialogue and understanding.

The skillful use of language is another hallmark of successful mediation. Mediators must not only articulate their thoughts clearly but also listen attentively, allowing them to understand the underlying interests and concerns of each party involved. This dynamic interaction requires a level

of empathy and emotional awareness that AI, at least in its current state, struggles to replicate fully. While AI tools can generate coherent responses and analyze data efficiently, they lack the genuine human experience and emotional depth that often prove vital in mediation contexts.

## Various Aspects

### 1. Communication Skills for Independent Mediation

Mediation typically occurs through one-on-one conversations with the parties involved. One key consideration when using ChatGPT as a mediator is whether the AI can effectively conduct a mediation on a linguistic level, interact with the parties, understand the context, and guide conflict resolution.

As a generative AI trained on natural language models, ChatGPT can express itself fluently and convincingly<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, it can remember user input and recognize context, allowing it to maintain a conversation autonomously<sup>2</sup>. With the introduction of features like AutoGPT and AgentGPT in GPT-4, AI can even be assigned specific conversational goals. This means that ChatGPT has the potential not only to respond to the parties' input but also to guide the discussion toward resolving the conflict<sup>3</sup>.

### 2. Processing & Filtering of Big Data

One significant advantage of ChatGPT over a human mediator is its ability to efficiently and rapidly process and analyze large volumes of information. A human mediator relies primarily on their past experiences from similar disputes and accumulated theoretical knowledge. In contrast, thanks to advancements in ChatGPT-4, AI can access real-time data from the Internet, going beyond previously imported datasets. This means ChatGPT can draw from a vast reservoir of up-to-date information much faster than a human could<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Manuel Lamiroy, *ChatGPT for Lawyers*, LAMIROY CONSULTING BLOG (Jan. 25, 2023), <https://www.lamiroy.com/blog/chatgpt-for-lawyers/>.

<sup>2</sup> Manuel Lamiroy, *supra* note 1.

<sup>3</sup> Gary Doernhoefer, *Artificial Intelligence and Dispute Resolution: A Primer and Opportunity for the Future*, ADR NOTABLE (Mar. 21, 2023), <https://www.adrnotable.com/ai-primer/>.

<sup>4</sup> James Melamed, *Optimization in Mediation and Artificial Intelligence*, MEDIATE.COM (Apr. 11, 2023), <https://mediate.com/optimizing-ai-in-mediation/>.

With its self-supervised learning capabilities, AI can more easily identify potential solutions, patterns, and trends compared to a traditional mediator. When insights from ChatGPT are presented effectively, they can enhance understanding of the underlying issues in a conflict and facilitate exploration of various resolution options<sup>5</sup>.

However, for ChatGPT to effectively contextualize and conduct conversations, it must store user data, which raises important privacy concerns, especially given the confidentiality requirements inherent in mediation. Therefore, it is essential to consult with the parties involved to determine what data will be collected and retained during the mediation process<sup>6</sup>.

On the downside, ChatGPT's effectiveness is limited by the datasets it has access to. If these datasets contain errors or biases, it cannot independently detect these issues and may base its responses on flawed information<sup>7</sup>.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of ChatGPT is contingent on the person using it. It is crucial to ask the “right” questions to elicit reliable responses from AI. Additional context may be necessary for optimal performance, which requires specialized training or knowledge. Therefore, it is advisable not to leave parties solely to their own devices but to involve mediators trained in asking the right questions<sup>8</sup>. This approach implies that ChatGPT should only be utilized by skilled mediators who can review its outputs before presenting them to the parties. By doing so, the risk of misunderstandings or inadequate responses—which could lead to stalemates in mediation—can be minimized<sup>9</sup>.

### 3. The Bias of the Human Mediator

One advantage of ChatGPT is that, unlike human mediators who may be consciously or unconsciously influenced by external factors, AI-based tools can offer an objective and neutral perspective. This impartiality is crucial for building trust among the parties and can create a solid foundation for settlement. However, there are concerns that ChatGPT is not entirely free

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<sup>5</sup> Kenneth Cloke, *Mediation, Artificial Intelligence and ChatGPT*, MEDIATE.COM (Jan. 8, 2023), <https://mediate.com/mediation-artificial-intelligence-and-chatgpt/>.

<sup>6</sup> Marcin Frąckiewicz, *ChatGPT-4 for Conflict Resolution: AI-Powered Mediation and Negotiation*, TS2 (Apr. 12, 2023), <https://ts2.space/en/chatgpt-4-for-conflict-resolution-ai-powered-mediation-and-negotiation/>.

<sup>7</sup> Manuel Lamiroy, *supra* note 1.

<sup>8</sup> Kenneth Cloke, *supra* note 5.

<sup>9</sup> Robert Bergman, *ChatGPT and Mediation*, MEDIATE.COM (Feb. 10, 2023), <https://mediate.com/chatgpt-and-mediation/>.

from bias or discrimination<sup>10</sup>. As AI primarily relies on statistical methods and probability calculations, its responses may reflect gender, racial, and various other biases present in the data from the internet and society<sup>11</sup>. Additionally, altering the context can manipulate its outputs<sup>12</sup>. Consequently, ChatGPT does not appear to be fully independent.

#### 4. Empathy, Emotions, and Cultural Differences

There are valid concerns regarding ChatGPT's ability to demonstrate empathy toward the parties involved<sup>13</sup>. Empathy is a vital resource for mediators, often described as the "soul of mediation." It helps mediators understand the parties better and alleviates emotional pressure on participants. In dispute resolution, it is crucial for parties to feel heard and understood before they are willing to negotiate<sup>14</sup>.

Empathic accuracy is a challenging skill to develop<sup>15</sup>. To empathize, one must first understand and classify emotions, a capacity that AI like ChatGPT typically lacks<sup>16</sup>. While ChatGPT can explain how emotions affect human behavior and conflicts, it does not possess emotions or feelings itself<sup>17</sup>. Moreover, ChatGPT currently lacks access to non-verbal cues such as gestures and facial expressions, making it difficult to accurately recognize the emotions of the parties involved<sup>18</sup>. Since AI can only infer emotions from verbal exchanges and not from body language, it may miss key emotional signals and fail to understand them within the context of specific arguments. Cultural factors, which often underlie emotional conflicts, especially in international disputes, are particularly difficult for AI to identify and address, complicating its ability to uncover underlying interests<sup>19</sup>.

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<sup>10</sup> Manuel Lamiroy, *supra* note 1.

<sup>11</sup> Robert Bergman, *supra* note 9.

<sup>12</sup> Robert Bergman, *supra* note 9.

<sup>13</sup> John Lande, *AI and Empathy*, INDISPUTABLY (Feb. 26, 2023), <http://indisputably.org/2023/02/ai-and-empathy/>.

<sup>14</sup> Sarathi Susheela, *Empathy in Mediation*, MEDIATE.COM (May 17, 2023), <https://mediate.com/empathy-in-mediation/>.

<sup>15</sup> Marcin Frackiewicz, *ChatGPT for Sign Language Translation: Advancements and Challenges*, TS2 (Apr. 24, 2023), <https://ts2.space/en/chatgpt-for-sign-language-translation-advancements-and-challenges/>.

<sup>16</sup> Cloudmoyo, *7 Reasons to Use ChatGPT (& 5 Reasons You Shouldn't)*, CLOUDMAYO (Apr. 5, 2023), <https://www.cloudmoyo.com/blogs/7-reasons-to-use-chatgpt-5-reasons-you-shouldnt/>.

<sup>17</sup> Kris Hartung, *Can ChatGPT Exhibit Emotional Intelligence? (Part I)*, LINKEDIN (Apr. 18, 2023), <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/can-chatgpt-exhibit-emotional-intelligence-part-i-kris-hartung>.

<sup>18</sup> Marcin Frackiewicz, *supra* note 15

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

## 5. Ethical and Legal Issues

The deployment of AI technology in mediation raises several ethical and legal concerns that must be addressed, particularly regarding whether ChatGPT respects laws and social values<sup>20</sup>.

Given these legal and ethical considerations, several additional criteria should be examined before ChatGPT can fully replace human mediators. Autonomy and control are critical aspects to explore: to what extent can AI be used effectively and with self-determination?<sup>21</sup>

Additionally, it is vital to ensure that ChatGPT treats all parties fairly during mediation<sup>22</sup>. However, fairness is subjective, necessitating a focus on transparency. Users should be able to understand how ChatGPT reaches its decisions<sup>23</sup>. Questions about the reliability and manipulability of ChatGPT also arise: is the AI safeguarded against errors, accidents, and external attacks? Furthermore, is privacy adequately protected?<sup>24</sup> These are just a few of the issues requiring further investigation.

## 6. Interim Conclusion

Given all these criteria, it is essential to ensure that AI like ChatGPT is used ethically, legally, and responsibly. There needs to be not only regulation but also ongoing monitoring of AI usage<sup>25</sup>. Thus, one might question whether ChatGPT can serve as a stand-alone mediator. AI does not fully grasp emotions, hindering its ability to understand the perspectives of conflict parties or to exhibit empathy and provide emotional support<sup>26</sup>. Moreover, numerous unresolved ethical questions must be addressed. Without appropriate guidelines, AI cannot be equated with a mediator, even as its capabilities evolve<sup>27</sup>.

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<sup>20</sup> Louis Byrd, *Ethical Evolution in the Age of AI: Why Fear and Complacency Are Not Options*, MEDIUM (Apr. 7, 2023), <https://uxdesign.cc/ethical-evolution-in-the-age-of-ai-why-fear-and-complacency-are-not-options-2f8fd35eec16>.

<sup>21</sup> Kenneth Cloke, *supra* note 5.

<sup>22</sup> Robert Bergman, *supra* note 9.

<sup>23</sup> Marcin Frąckiewicz, *supra* note 15.

<sup>24</sup> Mohamed Al Husrom, *Uncovering the Hidden Risks of ChatGPT: Keeping Your Data Secure*, MEDIUM (Dec. 27, 2022), <https://medium.com/nextray-ai/uncovering-the-hidden-risks-of-chatgpt-keeping-your-data-secure-99911f3ed777>.

<sup>25</sup> Kenneth Cloke, *supra* note 5.

<sup>26</sup> Marcin Frąckiewicz, *supra* note 15.

<sup>27</sup> Louis Byrd, *supra* note 20.

This sentiment is echoed by ChatGPT itself when asked about its potential to replace a human mediator: “As an AI language model, I can provide information and suggestions based on data and algorithms, but I cannot replace the role of a human mediator. A mediator is a trained professional who helps parties in conflict to reach a mutually agreeable solution. A mediator often relies on a combination of communication skills, active listening, empathy, and the ability to recognize and address power imbalances to help people in dispute find common ground. While I can provide general information on conflict resolution, I cannot replace the human qualities that a mediator brings to the process. Mediation often involves emotional intelligence, which is an area where AI models like myself still have limitations.”

## Risks of AI in Mediation

Despite the promise of AI in improving mediation practices, significant risks accompany its integration. One of the primary concerns is the potential for inaccuracies in the information generated by AI systems. Chatbots like ChatGPT, for instance, can sometimes produce misleading or nonsensical outputs—referred to as “hallucinations”—that may confuse or misguide users. Such inaccuracies can have serious consequences in the mediation process, where precise language and clarity are paramount.

Christopher K. Poole, CEO of JAMS, has highlighted the dangers of relying too heavily on AI without sufficient human oversight<sup>28</sup>. In the legal context, where nuanced interpretations of language and context can significantly influence outcomes, the risk of AI inadvertently violating legal and ethical standards is a pressing concern. Therefore, while AI can serve as a valuable resource, it is essential that its use is complemented by the expertise of trained mediators who can interpret and assess the information generated.

Another critical issue is the emotional intelligence gap between AI and human mediators. Mediators possess a unique ability to manage and respond to the emotional states of the parties involved, creating a supportive environment conducive to resolution. AI, however, lacks the capacity for genuine emotional engagement. Joseph Panetta notes that the mediation process often

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<sup>28</sup> JAMS announces rules for handling matters involving AI. In *Daily Journal*.  
<https://www.jamsadr.com/files/uploads/documents/articles/poole-taylor-dailyjournal-jams-announces-0509.pdf>.

requires mediators to help parties navigate feelings such as anger and frustration—emotions that are integral to the conflicts at hand<sup>29</sup>.

As Robert Bergman suggests, AI should not be seen as a replacement for mediators but rather as a supportive tool that enhances their capabilities<sup>30</sup>. AI can assist in organizing information, generating insights, and even suggesting potential solutions, but the human element remains indispensable in effectively managing interpersonal dynamics and emotional complexities.

As with any rapidly evolving technology, there are valid concerns about the use of AI in mediation. Effectively managing this “fourth party” will require careful consideration and the establishment of guidelines to avoid negative consequences.

## Benefits of AI in Mediation

Despite the associated risks, the integration of AI into mediation offers numerous benefits that could enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the process. One of the most significant advantages is AI's ability to handle large volumes of data quickly and accurately. Mediation often involves sifting through extensive documentation, evidence, and communications to identify relevant information. AI's advanced natural language processing capabilities enable it to analyze, summarize, and extract insights from vast amounts of text, images, and data with remarkable speed.

For instance, AI tools like CoCounsel can assist legal professionals by streamlining document analysis, which allows mediators and disputants to focus on more strategic aspects of the mediation process. By automating routine tasks, AI can save significant time and resources, enabling human mediators to concentrate on facilitating dialogue and understanding between parties.

Moreover, AI's role in negotiations is becoming increasingly sophisticated. Generative AI models can propose targeted questions that help uncover the underlying interests of each party, facilitating a more in-depth exploration of the issues at stake. AI can also suggest potential offers based on

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<sup>29</sup> Institute for Water Resources & U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. (1998). *Public Involvement and Dispute Resolution - Volume 2: A reader on the second decade of experience at the Institute for Water Resources* (J. L. Creighton, J. Delli Priscoli, C. M. Dunning, & D. B. Ayres, Eds.; Report No. 98-R-5). Institute for Water Resources.

<sup>30</sup> *Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Mediation – ChatGPT as Mediator 4.0*. (21 C.E., June). mediate.com. Retrieved May 5, 2025, from <https://mediate.com/artificial-intelligence-ai-in-mediation-chatgpt-as-mediator-4-0/>.



historical data and predictive analytics, helping mediators assess the likelihood of acceptance for various proposals. This functionality can empower mediators to ensure that they address all relevant points and consider diverse perspectives during discussions.

AI also holds promise in mitigating biases that may influence human decision-making. Miles Mediation & Arbitration notes that AI systems operate without the emotional and personal biases that often affect human judgment<sup>31</sup>. By analyzing data objectively, AI can help promote fairness in mediation outcomes, reducing the potential for skewed results that may arise from unconscious biases.

## Scope of AI in Mediation

Susan Guthrie, a leading figure in the integration of technology in mediation, emphasizes the transformative potential of AI within this field<sup>32</sup>. She advocates for a proactive approach, encouraging mediators to embrace technological advancements rather than shy away from them. By adapting to the evolving landscape of dispute resolution, mediators can enhance their practices and remain relevant in an increasingly digital world.

Guthrie introduced the ASPEN Protocol, a comprehensive framework designed to help mediators navigate the challenges posed by legal technology<sup>33</sup>. The ASPEN Protocol consists of five key steps:

- 1. Awareness & Education:** Mediators should stay informed about the latest developments in legal technology by engaging with various resources, such as blogs, webinars, and professional groups. Continuous education ensures that mediators remain updated on technological advancements that can enhance their practices.
- 2. Strategies & Protocols:** Developing clear technology use policies is essential. This includes documenting workflows, assigning roles and responsibilities, and establishing effective communication channels to facilitate the integration of AI into mediation.

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<sup>31</sup> James, K. (2024, January 23). *Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Mediation: Technology-Based versus Human-Facilitated Dispute Resolution*. Miles Mediation. <https://milesmediation.com/blog/learn-how-ai-is-being-using-in-mediation/>.

<sup>32</sup> *Practical Applications of AI in Mediation: CPR Committee Meeting Highlights - International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution, Inc.* <https://www.cpradr.org/news/practical-applications-of-ai-in-mediation-cpr-committee-meeting-highlights>.

<sup>33</sup> *Practical*, *supra* note 28.

- 3. Preparation & Practice:** Investing in training and conducting simulations can equip mediators with the skills necessary to navigate new technologies effectively. Seeking expert guidance can further enhance their understanding of AI's capabilities and limitations.
- 4. Education Again:** Ongoing learning is vital to keep pace with emerging trends in technology. Engaging in ethical discussions and contributing to broader conversations within the field that can help mediators stay ahead of the curve.
- 5. Notice & Transparency:** Building trust with clients is paramount. Mediators should obtain informed consent, address privacy concerns, and clearly communicate the limitation and capabilities of AI in the mediation process.

Guthrie also highlighted specific AI tools that can be immediately beneficial for mediators<sup>34</sup>. For example, CalendarHero can automate scheduling, Descrybe.AI assists with legal research, and Sonix provides secure meeting summaries and transcripts. By leveraging these tools, mediators can streamline their administrative tasks, freeing up time to focus on the substantive aspects of mediation.

### **AI's Emotional Capabilities**

An intriguing development in recent research is the evaluation of AI systems using psychological assessments typically reserved for humans. Studies like “Who is ChatGPT?” have explored AI's capacity for emotional recognition and intelligence<sup>35</sup>. These assessments measure various traits, including empathy, emotional awareness, and personality characteristics.

The findings from these evaluations have shown that AI models like ChatGPT can effectively recognize and articulate human emotions. In tests designed to assess emotional awareness, ChatGPT outperformed human control groups, demonstrating a remarkable ability to identify and describe emotional states based on contextual information. Similarly, in emotional intelligence assessments, AI has consistently scored above average compared to human participants.

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<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>35</sup> “Who is ChatGPT? Benchmarking LLMs' Psychological Portrayal Using PsychoBench”  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.01386> (12.6.2024).

While it is important to note that AI does not possess feelings, the ability to simulate empathetic responses is noteworthy. As psychologist Marisa Tschopp suggests, “Empathy can be simulated.”<sup>36</sup> This means that AI can identify and respond to emotional cues in a way that facilitates communication and understanding in mediation contexts.

For mediators, this ability to recognize and categorize emotions can be invaluable. AI can assist in identifying the emotional needs of the parties involved, helping to create a more constructive dialogue. Furthermore, AI can generate prompts and suggestions that support mediators in navigating emotionally charged situations, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of the mediation process<sup>37</sup>.

## Case Studies

### 1. Tyler Technologies (Modria)

Modria, part of Tyler Technologies, is an advanced online dispute resolution platform designed to simplify the mediation process across various types of disputes, including family law and small claims. Utilizing AI algorithms, Modria analyzes submitted cases and draws from historical data to identify trends and recommend tailored resolutions. This streamlined approach allows users to submit claims online, facilitating quicker communication and resolution, ultimately reducing case backlogs in courts and improving access to justice<sup>38</sup>.

### 2. FairClaims

FairClaims is an innovative online mediation platform focused on efficiently resolving consumer and business disputes. It leverages AI to evaluate claims and analyze past cases, providing data-driven recommendations for potential resolutions. Users engage in mediation through video conferencing, with AI enhancing the experience by offering real-time insights

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<sup>36</sup> Psychotherapie und KI: „Empathie kann man simulieren“ <https://t3n.de/news/psychotherapie-ki-empathie-simulation-1522127/> (12.6.2024).

<sup>37</sup> J. Narimisaie, M. Naeim, S. Imannezhad, P. Samian & M. Sobhani, *Exploring Emotional Intelligence in Artificial Intelligence Systems: A Comprehensive Analysis of Emotion Recognition and Response Mechanisms*, ANN. MED. SURG. (LOND.), June 21, 2024, at 4657, <https://doi.org/10.1097/MS9.0000000000002315>.

<sup>38</sup> Tyler Technologies, *Clark County Family Mediation Center Case Study*, TYLERTECH.COM, <https://www.tylertech.com/successstories/courts-justice/Modria-Clark-County-Family-Mediation-Center-Case-Study.pdf> (last visited Apr. 15, 2025).

and guidance to mediators. This approach has enabled FairClaims to successfully resolve thousands of disputes quickly, often bypassing traditional court proceedings altogether.

### 3. Resolution 360

Resolution 360 offers a unique mediation solution that incorporates AI to enhance conflict resolution strategies. The platform employs machine learning to analyze mediation session dynamics, helping mediators identify effective negotiation tactics and predict outcomes based on previous interactions. By providing mediators with actionable insights and recommendations during sessions, Resolution 360 increases the likelihood of successful agreements and streamlines the overall mediation process<sup>39</sup>.

### 4. Gavel

Gavel is tailored for small claims disputes, providing a user-friendly online platform that facilitates quick and efficient resolutions without the complexities of traditional court systems. By utilizing AI algorithms to match disputants with suitable mediators, Gavel optimizes the chances for successful outcomes. The platform supports facilitated negotiations through an intuitive interface, with AI offering suggestions to keep discussions focused, ultimately increasing access to mediation services for users.

### 5. eQuibbly

eQuibbly is an online dispute resolution platform designed for U.S. consumers and businesses, utilizing AI to streamline the mediation process. The platform analyzes case details to evaluate potential outcomes based on historical data, guiding users through negotiations with AI-generated suggestions tailored to their circumstances. By simplifying access to mediation and reducing the time required for parties to reach agreements, eQuibbly enhances the overall dispute resolution experience for its users<sup>40</sup>.

## The Human-AI Partnership in Mediation & Challenges Ahead

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<sup>39</sup> Presolv360, Unlocking the Future of Mediation: ODR, *Presolv360*, <https://presolv360.com/resources/unlocking-future-mediation-odr/> (last visited Apr. 15, 2025).

<sup>40</sup> Presolv360, *supra* note 30.

As the field of mediation continues to evolve, the relationship between human mediators and AI tools will be crucial in shaping future practices. The ideal scenario involves a partnership where AI serves as a supportive resource, augmenting the skills and expertise of human mediators. This collaboration can lead to a more efficient and effective mediation process, benefiting all parties involved<sup>41</sup>.

Human mediators bring a depth of experience, emotional intelligence, and interpersonal skills that are irreplaceable. They can assess the nuances of each situation, respond to emotional dynamics, and foster trust among participants. AI, on the other hand, offers powerful analytical capabilities, rapid information processing, and an objective perspective that can enhance the overall mediation experience.

The integration of AI should not diminish the role of mediators; rather, it should empower them. By leveraging AI tools, mediators can become more effective in their roles, enabling them to focus on high-value activities such as building rapport, facilitating communication, and guiding parties toward resolution.

While the benefits of integrating AI into mediation are compelling, challenges remain. One significant hurdle is the need for robust ethical guidelines and standards governing the use of AI in mediation. As AI technology evolves, so too must the frameworks that govern its application. Mediators and legal professionals must work collaboratively to establish guidelines that ensure the responsible use of AI, particularly concerning confidentiality, informed consent, and the safeguarding of sensitive information.

Additionally, there is a need for ongoing education and training for mediators to effectively navigate the changing landscape. As new AI tools and technologies emerge, mediators must stay informed and adaptable. This requires a commitment to continuous learning and professional development, enabling mediators to harness the full potential of AI while maintaining the human touch that is essential in dispute resolution<sup>42</sup>.

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<sup>41</sup> Edwards Mediation Academy, Artificial Intelligence in Mediation: What the Future Holds for Mediators, *Edwards Mediation Academy*, <https://edwardsmediationacademy.com/artificial-intelligence-in-mediation-what-the-future-holds-for-mediators/> (last visited Apr. 15, 2025).

<sup>42</sup> Narimisaei J, *supra* note 28.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the integration of AI in mediation practices in India and the USA presents both unique opportunities and challenges shaped by cultural, legal, and technological contexts. In the USA, the adoption of AI tools has been facilitated by a more established legal framework and greater public trust in technology, leading to innovations that enhance efficiency and accessibility in mediation processes. Conversely, India faces a diverse landscape where varying levels of digital literacy and infrastructure pose significant hurdles, yet also present opportunities for AI to address traditional mediation challenges, particularly in rural areas.

Despite these differences, both countries share common goals: improving dispute resolution processes, increasing efficiency, and making mediation more accessible to a wider audience. Future research should focus on developing culturally sensitive AI applications and addressing ethical concerns related to bias and transparency. By leveraging their respective strengths and learning from each other's experiences, both India and the USA can harness the potential of AI to transform mediation practices for the better<sup>43</sup>.

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<sup>43</sup> Reynolds, G. D., *Artificial Intelligence in Legal Dispute Resolution: A New Era*, 12 STAN. L. & TECH. REV. 55 (2019).