Vice vs. Vise

The words vice and vise are homophones, two or more words having the same pronunciation but different meanings, origins, or spelling, which are often confusing to some because they not only sound alike but they also have similar spellings. However, these terms actually have different meanings and should be distinguished from each other. This post will help you identify this difference so you may be able to use them correctly in your writing.

The word vice is commonly used as a noun referring to "moral depravity or corruption," "a habitual and usually trivial defect or shortcoming" or "criminal activities involving prostitution, pornography, or drugs."

What is Dallas' new police chief not telling us about vice officers? Dallas News

Singapore bank turns on AI to fight vice activities ZDNet

British parliament: respected institution or 'den of vice'? Reuters

On the other hand, the term vise functions as a noun which pertains to "any of various tools with two jaws for holding work that close usually by a screw, lever, or cam" or "a metal tool with movable jaws that are used to hold an object firmly in place while work is done on it, typically attached to a workbench."

Vise allows seven operations in one pass Canadian Metalworking

Opinion: Mueller tightens the vise myAJC

R450PAL Reed Carry Light[™] Tripod Vise comes with aluminum legs. ThomasNet News

Having discussed the distinction between the words vice and vise, you should now be able to use

them more accurately in your sentences. Remember that vice is about corruption and wrongdoings while vise refers to a tool for holding an object in place.