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Class of Works: 3, 4, 5

I am writing in support of the exemption of the jailbreaking smartphones, tablets, videogame consoles, and personal computing devices. I am a hobbyist and developer and currently have an iPhone 4 and PS3. I am also looking to get an android tablet.

3. Smartphones & Tablets:

The iPhone is a wonderful device that is able to do amazing things in such a small form factor. While I greatly enjoy the design that Apple has worked so hard on, I find there are many things that take a lot of effort. For example, changing wifi settings requires going to the settings app, finding the network setting, and then being able to change it's settings. While this may seem minor, on such a small and mobile device, it can be very annoying to have to do these types of small things repeatedly. Therefore, I jailbreak my phone to tweak in many small and subtle ways that vastly improve my experience. Without the ability to jailbreak my phone, I would be much less satisfied with my device, even though the core functionality it provides would not have changed.

4. Personal Computing Devices:

I find this to incorporate smartphone and tablets, as well as many other types of devices, and so the same reasoning behind them applies here as well. However, in this more general category, if I have purchased a device, I should have the right to do what I want with it, so long as it doesn't impeded on anyone else or break any laws. If I wish to change the way my personal device looks or acts based on my preferences, that is solely my prerogative. Just because a manufacturer wants to provide a certain experience doesn't mean I shouldn't have the option to make customizations. I can fully accept the idea that I will void the manufacturers warranty, but beyond that, they shouldn't have any say in what I do my own personal hardware, just as car manufacturers can't tell you which roads to drive on or which auto parts you can buy.

5. Videogame Systems:

I have a PS3 and think it is an incredibly powerful machine. I was initially very happy to know that Sony allowed installing Linux on it to allow for homebrew development. However, they implemented a very restrictive hypervisor that greatly diminished the usefulness and capabilities of the hardware. Mainly, they cut off access to the graphics card, which meant that Linux couldn't run any reasonably intense graphics, including games and video. I was originally planning to use Linux on my PS3 to access and play my media library on my television, which is possible to do in the XMB, however the interface and protocol used are buggy and often don't work. Further more, Sony only supports a limited number of formats, so I either have to transcode media on the fly or create a different file with a loss in quality. If it were possible to jailbreak and install linux with full access to the hardware, accessing the media files and playing them back would be much easier and more pleasant.