

I have read your provision of the prohibition granting the elimination of the circumvention of access controls. What I have to ask is, "Why?" The scope of this law is already very vast, publisher of other forms of media don't have anywhere near as much control of their works, but some for reason, making those same works digital gives them all sorts of new rights. The lawmakers of this country have shown time and time again that they don't care what the computer literate people, and the users of computers think. They have also shown that they don't care about the facts, and rule in the favor of big business more than they have ruled in favor of informational access. A quote instantly pops to my mind when I think of this. The quote warns, "Beware of he who seeks to control information, for in his heart he think himself your master." Now I definitely don't want people like AOL/Time Warner, the RIAA, the MPAA, etc going around thinking themselves my master. They've got far more money than me and all friends put together could ever hope to amass. Why give them power to go with it? Circumvention of some of these asinine access controls give me the freedom to live my daily life without territorial boundaries, yea, it is the very embodiment of what Al Gore's idea of the Information Superhighway would be like. No country borders, new freedoms to countless sources of boundless information at our fingertips, but instead, what do I see?

I see that I cannot play games on my Sony Playstation or Sega Dreamcast because they are made foreign countries, and instead have to wait months for the games to come out in the US, or purchase another system altogether. Circumventing access control would allow me to ability to pay for game I have paid for on the machine I have paid for. I don't see why I should face the possibility for incarceration for wanting to use the products I've bought. While Sony and Sega would normally feed you the rhetoric that this circumvention is only to let pirates figure out how to illegally copy software, not all computers users are pirates. The same way not all fraternity brothers are raging drunkards, and the same way all of Congress isn't bought off by big money and lobbyists.

I see that I cannot view DVD movies from foreign countries until they are branded for use in the US. Why? Who profits from my inability to watch foreign movies in my home? Circumvention of this access control would once again, allow be the ability to use products I have purchased with my own money. I completely lose the ability to watch a lot of great foreign films that just don't have market appeal here in the US.

I see the big companies of America and abroad making further inroads upon the remaining few of my rights that I have left with the products I buy. What's next? Will I only be able to wear clothes manufactured in the country of which I am visiting? State, perhaps? City? This isn't right. Instead of opening up old borders, we're clamping down and erecting new ones, because big money doesn't like it. I guarantee that Joe Q. Public really hates what is going on. Pretty soon, all we will be able to access on the internet is going to be local to us, and that would just plain be insane. I'd be on the first colonization module to Mars once that happens. That isn't what this country was supposed to about. It's one person, one vote and not one dollar, one vote. If a few money hungry, greedy industry people are losing a few bucks, but the good of society at large is being helped, why mess with it, if only to show that you blatantly support big money. There are 70

posts up by people who are opposed to prohibition of the circumvention of access control, and I for it. Who does this rule benefit? Does Jackie Chan get any more out of me buying a copy of Rush Hour in the US, instead of me importing it from China? Do the guys at Square Japan make any more cash because I buy my copy of Final Fantasy 7 in the US instead of Japan? Who's going to benefit then? Big business is. Just think about how you're going to hate going through customs now. The guy will have to check anyone in front of you for any laptops, MP3 players, etc and make sure they don't have anything on them that is going to cross region boundaries...otherwise they'd be circumventing access controls, right?

Look, I'm just an ordinary guy. I've got an 8 hour a day, 5 days a week job. I've got a girlfriend and I've got friends. I purchase a good majority of my entertainment goods in a digital format. I don't make enough money to view all of this stuff without circumventing access controls. This would mean a significant decrease in the amount of entertainment purchases I can make. It's not fair, or even moral that big business can rip that much of a percentage of my buying power out just because they feel like it, and having the lawmakers support it. This is like getting beat up by the school bully, and having the teachers stand over you and tell you to stop running away because you have to get your beating. Just look at the numbers. Big business will claim that this is going to cost them hundreds of millions. Out of billions of dollars, that's not too much. If they have it their way, I'm going to have to buy an extra couple thousands of dollars of equipment to do what I'm accustomed to doing now. Subtract rent and taxes out of what I make and that doesn't leave me much for anything else after these fat cats have fleeced their pockets with my money. I move that the Register of Copyrights find that access controls would hurt all forms of media, and keep them exempt for the 3 years. If you can't find the ability to rule everything out, at least exempt movies, music, and entertainment software. Go home and look at your family. You should know what the right thing to do is.

-Clayton S. Chan