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David O. Carson, General Counsel  
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Mr. Carson,

I am writing this letter in order to share my opinion on an issue that, I believe, threatens many peoples' first amendment rights; however, more importantly, this issue has added to my faithlessness in America's government to make the just and correct decisions.

First of all, I believe that the DMCA is a good idea. Any laws that safeguards peoples' property from thievery (especially in the technology field) is a step in the right direction; however, the DMCA in the case of DECSS is a poor excuse for the MPAA to attempt to protect their coveted DVD technology that is already making them billions of dollars.

As consumers, we have the right to have full control over the items and technology we purchase. For instance, if one buys a gun, that citizen has the right to take it apart and see how it works. If somebody took apart a 9mm pistol and fashioned it so it could fire .44 caliber rounds, would gun corporations across the world throw that person in jail? I highly doubt it.

So why is the MPAA getting away with influencing a foreign country to throw a 16 year-old in jail and placing injunctions against web-site for code that allows LINUX users to access DVD technology? As a business major at a respectable liberal-arts college, I would be extremely happy that a new market is open to sell my product; however, the MPAA, rather than rejoice in its new market they neglected, is attempting to straight-jacket people and accuse them of pirating DVD's (by the way, you do not need an encryption code to copy a DVD) before the thought had even crossed their mind.

Since the MPAA is getting away with assuming the worst of people, I will assume the worst of the MPAA. Please, do not let them get away with influencing the government and throw alleged "digital heretics" in prison for being creative and resourceful with the technology they purchased.

Regards,

Mark F. DeCapua

"Free Thinkers are dangerous" – System Of A Down