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David O. Carson
General Counsel
Copyright GC/I&R
P.O. Box 70400
Southwest Station
Washington, DC 20024
RE: DMCA Request for Comments.

To whom it may concern:

I am a citizen of the United States of America that lives in the State of Minnesota commenting on the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). The DMCA should not be allowed to create a genre of illegal software and knowledge. This letter is broken down into sections where I am going to talk about the different specific questions raised in the request.

Question 1

I do not believe that there are effective copyright protection methods that can effectively control access to copyrighted works. There has been some unsuccessful attempts, but many times the legal users of the materials discover a way to obtain the data without restrictions and continue to use it in a legal fashion in that way.

Question 2

SDMI is an example you are looking for. SDMI is setup so only one copy can be used at one time. If you wanted to make a fair use non-computer copy, perhaps on CD as non-SDMI data, perhaps as mp3, it would not work right

because the software can't keep track of it anymore. DVD also applies to this question. The DVD CSS Encryption and Region Code features disallow people from legally viewing copyrighted data. Because of this, many people, including myself, have not been able to view legally obtained data because the encryption scheme, until recent, has been secret.

Question 3

Because of the DVD format being unavailable, I have been unable to view the DVD format with my computer that runs Linux. I am fully willing to buy every DVD that I would like to view. Some might think it good because of increased DVD sales, but Industry wants me not to have the chance to do it.

Question 5

In the DVD and SDMI formats there has been releases of identical CD's and VCR tapes that don't have encryption technology on them. Some CD's have been released as MP3 format, They Might Be Giants did this last year.

Question 13

Users of Linux have been out of luck on how to view DVD's on their own capable machines because of the encryption.

Question 20

It is rumoured that DVD-Audio has been delayed because of the, what I call it, "Quest for the holy encryption scheme." As in, something that could never be unlocked.

Question 28

This bill should be reworked sometime soon. I do not like the laws against reverse engineering and independant creation of technology. The idea of outlawing a piece of clever code so that someones fair-use rights could be realised kind of scares me. If I have to start worrying how I code applications, isn't that a hinderance of my speech? Or is telling a computer to do something that alters only data of my own in my own "domain" not legal anymore?

Thanks for checking this letter out. Email can be directed to me at die-

man@ringword.org

Best Regards,

Scott Dier

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