

To whomever it may concern (and to everybody else, for that matter),

FREEDOM AND ECONOMICS

My opinion is that DMCA should not be passed because it simply restricts freedom. Freedom should come before economics. Way way before. If this world is continued to be run by economics instead of the fundamental environment that people need -- freedom -- then I assure you, this country is on its way down.

Freedom was what this country was founded upon, was it not? So why are there people wanting to take away these freedoms? I believe that when the US was first founded, those who made the constitution had the right ideas (freedom, in and out, basically). And then other politicians had to come and screw it all up. DMCA is but one example of this.

REVERSE ENGINEERING AND ECONOMICS

DMCA, if used as law, would prevent reverse engineering. Suppose I had a car. I bought the car. I can do what I want with it. As long as I know how, I can tinker and tweak its internals all I want. I OWN the parts in my car. In contrast, with DMCA, if I bought a piece of software, no matter how much I wanted to or knew how to, I could not legally alter the piece of software, according to Sec 1201 in the final DMCA version. Why can't I? What is so different about a piece of software? They are both works from other people that I paid good money to get. I get a hardcopy in both cases. Where is the line drawn?

Business. Business and economics is where the line is drawn. Large software companies want all the advantages they can get to enforce the rules that THEY want. That means that if there is a law they can use in their favor, no matter how cheap or ruthless it is, they WILL implement it. The US Government today is so caught up in economics and spurring growth that it has forgotten about the things that make living actually living. Today, nobody thinks that being a slave is a fine way to live a life. However, with business and economics, and especially with the US Government backing it up so much, we are quite literally becoming slaves to money and economics. This sort of lifestyle does not lead a healthy life, to say the least.

THE SOLUTION -- FREEDOM, NOT ECONOMICS

What we need to do is spur the growth of freedom, and in trail, innovation, in order to make this country a genuinely fine country. Who does not agree that freedom is more valuable than money? He who says that money should be the base of our existence is seriously misled. Money may sustain for a small while, but it cannot even begin to compete with the power that freedom unleashes. Freedom allows people to innovate, to invent, to live, to think. Without freedom, you have a mass of drone slaves, believing whatever you tell them. That is quite a frightening scenario, isn't it? However, this country is currently going in that direction, and in some cases, already there.

What the government needs to do is not regulate business arrangements and agreements. That is the responsibility of the individual companies. What the government needs to do is ensure that the ability to do things (aka freedom) is

not violated. If it does not directly protect freedom, the US Government should not endorse it. Linking back to the DMCA subject, if I bought the CD, the CD is mine because I bought it. If you don't like what I do with it to fool around with it, well surprise, too bad. As long as I do not violate ther people's freedoms, I am going to do what I want to the things that I own.

Thanks for your time, please do what you can to prevent DMCA from turning into active law.

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