

Right now, most computer users use the Microsoft Windows operating system. The ability of users to use other operating systems, and reduced reliance on one company is extremely important. Most experts in the computer field agree that Mac operating system will never overtake Microsoft's share in the marketplace, but the no-cost nature of most Linux operating systems allows them a competitive advantage that means they could defeat Microsoft. Unfortunately, in order to legally play DVD or enhanced successor to DVD movies requires entering into financial and contractual agreements with protectors of DVD content (who restrict access in ways protected by the DMCA). This means that, if the DMCA is enforced on this class of works, there can NEVER be a legal player for a free operating system (especially using the definition of free favored by the Debian developers). The inability to legally play any DVD or successor to DVD content with a free Linux operating system is a big drawback in competing with Microsoft, and adds to Microsoft's monopoly power. Many computers, especially laptops, are desired to be used to play movies- almost all laptops with a DVD drive have a larger screen than portable DVD players. If an exception allowing the breaking of access protections to playback movies on free Linux operating systems is not allowed, the result will be the strengthening of Microsoft and their dangerous monopoly.

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