I believe that the DMCA has no merit in the case against the individuals distributing DeCSS. Past examples have proven this. Cassette tapes, VHS tapes, and compact discs can be be copied with ease. The companies dealing with these types of formats have been outraged because of the ease of copying them but it has not hurt their industry. In fact, they are doing better than ever. DVDs are just like any other type of media that can be copied. The copying of DVDs is extremely expensive though and is not even pratical by any means. The copying equipment and blank DVD disc is expensive and purchasing a DVD for 20 dollars is easier and more affordable than copying them.

The purpose of DeCSS was not to copy DVDs, but to be able to play them on the Linux operating system. The popularity of Linux is growing and it was not fair for only people using Windows to be able to view DVDs on their systems. All DeCSS does is decrypt CSS so people using Linux can watch the DVDs they rightfully paid for. What is wrong with that?

Ben Oppliger RR 1 Box 177 (806)925-6499 turtle@fivearea.com