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The Digital Millennium Copyright act of 1998:
The good versus the bad

After reviewing some of the material concerning the New Digital Millennium Copyright act of 1998 and researching some of the comments and criticisms it appears that the courts may be siding with the wrong party. The DMCA in effect serves as a legal way in which large companies and conglomerates can monopolize and cement their positions in rapidly expanding fields of technology and commerce. By forcing the populace to follow the DMCA's criteria, the courts have limited any if not all the protection individuals have in the fair use and creation of reverse engineering techniques and other rights previously ruled just and lawful by these same governing bodies.

By allowing these industries practices of "infotainment" and anti-freedom positions, the courts are not ruling in favor of the individual consumer, but rather in the interests of the industry's monetary interests. This if followed to fruition would be done so at the expense of all others. Practices such as reverse engineering, research, security, fair use, and other rights appear to be trampled by the so-called "update" to the US copyright laws. By simply following previously legal guidelines and rights, the intelligent consumer, the use of technological measures to control access to copyrighted works will severely restrict the ability of these interested persons to engage in criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research.

In conclusion, backing the DMCA appears to be a contradiction to numerous rulings made by the courts in the past. To uphold the rights of everyday citizens is an important task usually spearheaded by the countries jurisdictional system. By backing industry in this case though, it appears that the courts have erred on behalf the wrong group. Please allow the continued advancement of today's technological advancement without hampering a continually growing segment.