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DMCA

I am writing to express my concern and opinions about the DMCA and its negative effect on individual rights and freedoms concerning personal property. The DMCA, interpreted strictly, makes it very difficult for the purchaser of a DVD to not only make a personal copy (as can historically be done with all other media) but even view it under certain circumstances. The CSS, Content Scrambling System, implemented by DVD manufacturers makes it so that only certain DVD players can unscramble the data and play the movie. These in order to obtain the CSS technology to play DVDs, DVD player manufacturers must build their players so that they won't allow *any* copies to be made. Several lawsuits were brought against certain websites by major movie corporations in reaction to the posting of a program that allowed for people who bought DVDs to view them on any DVD player. This interpretation of the law violates individual rights on two counts. 1: By purchasing the DVD the customer purchases the right to view the movie. 2: The owner is entitled to make a personal copy. I think it is absurd that corporations should be allowed to make a customer buy a DVD player to watch his legally purchased DVD that won't allow him to make a copy which he is legally entitled to make. The DCMA interpreted in this manner goes to great lengths to protect the monopolistic interests of the movie industry. The government should be trying to protect the public from exploitation by greedy, monopolistic businesses and I think it is plain to see that the DCMA does the exact opposite.