Name: John Jackson

Class of works: I am writing in support of Class #2 (DVD Region Coding): Audiovisual works stored on Digital Versatile Disks ("DVDs") that are not available in Region 1 DVD format and access to which is prevented by technological measures.

Summary:

The European version of this movie shows different scenes -- with sexual content -- than the US version. The US version was apparently censored. Because of the region coding it is not possible to view the movie as originally intended.

I had heard that Blockbuster was the force behind censoring the DVD release of "Eyes Wide Shut" in the US -- that they had insisted on making changes to the film before they would carry it. I was curious to find out what they had done, and if it was noticeable. A friend of a friend brought me the DVD from Germany as a gift so that I could see the European release -- but of course it wouldn't play initially, not without it permanently changing the region setting on my DVD player.

Since my unaltered DVD player would not play this title I was forced to go to great and inconvenient lengths to view the movie. There are indeed differences between the two releases, and I had always wondered why the US version looked weird in a few spots -- that was because of the censorship. The main focus of the camera gets blocked in a few places so that you can't see what is going on.

I think that the European version makes more sense as a movie, and I think it's good to be able to see what companies are doing as censorship. Disc name: Eyes Wide Shut