dmca.txt 2/24/2003

Reply to Comment 7

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All classes of copyrighted works should be exempted under certain conditions.

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My Name: Michael A. Peters

My comment:

Summary:

Non Criminal Intent Access of Encrypted Data

If there is not criminal intent in breaking an encryption scheme, the DMCA law should not apply.

Comment:

My little brothers were adopted from the foster care system. They are crack/meth babies and are severe adhd and have issues with impulsive behavior and anger management, frequently destroying things that they value out of frustration. This has happened with several DVD movies.

By breaking the encryption of DVD movies so that their content can be stored on a hard disk, the media itself can be kept in a safe location and they can choose what movies they wish to watch without needing to handle the media itself.

This is also important because there are some advertisements before movies that are not appropriate for these children to view due to emotional issues. For example, the recent "country bears" movie about the bear that was adopted and goes in search of his real family. Very often it is impossible to fast forward through these commercials as the MPAA has decided that we must watch the advertisements in order to watch the movie that we paid hard earned money for.

Copying DVD's or Copy Protected video tapes to hard disk would allow us to remove the potentially emotionally damaging commercials so that the kids will not be subject to them, and allow the original media to be stored in a safe location so that it does not need to be handled and avoids destruction.

We would not have criminal intent in breaking the CSS encryption, the intent is for the protection of the children.

The DMCA should only be applicable in cases where the encryption is broken with criminal intent, such as violation of existing copyright laws with the redistribution of copywritten material.

Just for the record - we currently do not copy DVD movies to hard disk. But it sure would be nice if it was legal to do so.

Michael A. Peters