

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Copyright and Protection of Intellectual Property.
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Apart from bartering, money is the most acceptable form of acquiring goods and services for perceived value. If I create something that someone else wants, they can acquire it with money. But if they turn around and use it for their own personal gain by reproducing it and selling it to others, they're making money without having created the product, and for which the original creator of the material gets nothing.

This alone would discourage me from selling anything that I created, instead using it for bartering purposes within my local community, in exchange for my needs. Without enforced copyright protection of such creative product, the use of money and stimulation of the economy suffers, not only at the local level but on the global level, too.

Not only does copyright protection need to be enforced, but those who abuse it need to be enlightened. Copyright protection is beneficial to everyone, to the economy and to the common good of society. It encourages creativity in art, music, entertainment, even science. It puts people to work, thus increasing the tax base.

Without the enforced protection of copyrights, billions of dollars worth of contributions to pensions and health care plans in the motion picture industry alone have been stolen by those who had nothing to do with the creation of the material in the first place.

If nobody ever pays for anything, those who work and create will be on the same level as those who do not work and do not create.

We need to find a way to stop piracy and illegal reproduction of movies, music, published works and creator-owned images. We need to ferret out homespun operations that mass produce and sell CDs and DVDs then illegally reap huge profits from other people's work without collecting sales tax or paying income tax.

- Bob Foster