

I harbor great concern about (a) how copyright protection will be implemented, and (b) the extent to which copyright protection will affect the freedoms consumers have enjoyed for years. In particular, the widespread use of VHS home recording has allowed home users to benefit from "time-shifting" of programs, in addition to the creation of private libraries of beloved programs for their own personal use.

While I understand that the media companies are justifiably concerned about the ease of piracy nowadays, we should not forget that people are more than mere consumers, and that television should be more than a mere vehicle for the delivery of carefully controlled, highly marketed, commercial programs whose primary goal is corporate profit. I would suggest that any attempt to legislate copyright protection in digital television (a result, I fear, is inevitable) closely study Apple Computer's implementation of copyright protection in the iTunes Music Store. I believe (and this is a sentiment which many others share) that Apple does an admirable job of balancing concerns about copyright protection with concerns about maintaining the individual freedoms of end-users.

Thank you for your attention.

Jason

p.s. As you will, no doubt, gather from the address listed below, I am not currently residing in the USA. However, as an American citizen, I have been closely following developments related to copyright protection in the USA.

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