To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is intended to be a form of reply to the EFF comments made to the Copyright Office regarding implementation of the DMCA. I understand that the Copyright Office is keeping in accordance with regulations suggesting that copyright holders reserve the supreme right to do what they please with their material, however, in the cases involving DVD’s those rules are not as easily applicable. Owners of DVD’s under copyright laws do not have access to fair use privileges, meaning that every viewing of it requires authorization of some kind. Once one purchases a piece of DVD equipment it seems that the jurisdiction of viewing and copying should be left in the discretion of the consumer. It could be argued that as long as an individual is not selling off the product as his/her own, then copyright laws and standards are not being violated.

The reproduction point made be the EFF concerning the fact that libraries and museums would not have access to public information is a valid one. Public access should be awarded in instances such as these where copyright laws would otherwise be restricting Constitutional rights.

It seems that we come to a discussion of ethics, in that people should have a right to information, but where do the limits of this information stop? For example, is looking at or copying material that is not yours wrong, even if it is void of malicious intent? This ethical standpoint might not solve all of the problems, but it is something worth looking at in decisions like these.

In this instance I believe DVD’s to be an expression of a consumer’s use of media. In accordance with the EFF, I also believe that DVD’s should be exempt from the DMCA, in order to allow for free expressiveness and the use of old ideas to serve as the building blocks for new ideas regarding entertainment and digital technology.