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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:

Disc name: Bad Girls

I am requesting an exemption for copy protected cd's because "Bad Girls" would  
not play on my home player.

First issue: While I was living in Britain I purchased DVDs of the first two  
seasons of "Bad Girls," a prime-time hour-length drama. I was unaware at the  
time of the region encoding restrictions on DVDs When I got back to the U.S.  
I was, of course, unable to watch them in my component DVD player due to  
region encoding restrictions. (The DVDs I had purchased are coded "region 2"  
while my home system is coded "region 1.")

Second issue: I could watch them on my Macintosh computer, because the Mac  
allows you to switch regions a few times before "locking" the region - it is  
now on the verge of locking, so I face a choice: never watch American DVDs on  
it, or never watch my British DVDs on it which I lawfully purchased and cannot  
get in any America-compatible format, or break the law by modifying a computer  
or DVD player that I own so that I can watch movies I have legitimately  
purchased.

Conclusion: It may be that the region-encoding technology makes some sense to  
Hollywood (although it seems to be liberally applied, in cases such as Bad  
Girls, where no conceivable benefit can be derived, you can only hurt fans),  
but given that there will be so many legitimate users who need to bypass the  
technology to lawfully, privately view media they have legitimately purchased,  
it is a ridiculous barrier to fair use that the employment of technology to  
defeat region encoding is illegal.