

1. Philosophically, the rights of the public should trump the interests of copyright holders.
2. When the first copyright laws were enacted after the American Revolution, they were intended as a time limited monopoly. This was done at a time when information had a much greater permanence.
3. Over the past 10 years copyright law has been tilted sharply towards the interest of copyright holders, and against that of the public at large.
4. The anti-circumvention provisions prevent lawful and reasonable use of copyrighted material, such as making archival backups and derivative works.
5. Works that legally belong in the public domain can be kept in private hands by including a small amount of copyright material, and using copy prevention technology. (even a meaningless brief forward to a public domain work)
6. Copy prevention technologies can be dangerous to the public - witness the recent use of Sony's "rootkit" that damaged hundreds of thousands of PCs around the world, leaving them vulnerable to viruses and other malware.
7. Anti-circumvention technology may render lawfully purchased works unusable - for instance if the purchaser is forced to replace a broken computer and the locks were keyed to their old PC.
8. Works may be lost for all time if the copyright holder goes out of business or simply loses the decryption keys. This may also include any derivative works, such as photographs or text created using copy protected software that ceases to function.
9. Anti-circumvention laws allow the copyright holder to enforce onerous and even illegal terms of use, such as the EULA enforced by Sony when they installed their copy protection rootkits. Among other things, it required you to delete your music if your original CD was lost, or you are forced to declare bankruptcy.
9. Anti-circumvention technology often forces me to use a particular piece of software and operating system combination to view/play the copy protected works, instead of letting the individual or marketplace decide. This is anti-competitive, and encourages copyright cartels. These cartels (i.e. RIAA/MPAA) can then use their monopoly power to decide what music/movies the public has access to.

Note - I am not a US citizen, but I am an interested and concerned party, as there is already pressure being brought on other countries to repeat the same mistake the US has made. I urge you to restore some balance to copyright law.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Gary Cameron, P. Eng.