

I believe that TV and Radio broadcasts should not have any flag or method inserted to restrict it's right to be viewed or listened to in any way. If I record a TV show on my Tivo that I really want to watch, and don't get the chance to watch it for a few weeks, I don't want it to delete itself simply because I decided being with my family was more important. If I choose to use Tivo-to-go to transfer it from the TV to my PC, then transfer it to my laptop to watch the show while traveling with nothing else to do, I want to be able to do so. The same goes for any radio broadcasts. I personally don't record radio broadcasts, but if there were a particularly interesting discussion on a subject (we'll say alternative energy sources as an example), I would like to be able to record it and listen to it at any time later at my convenience. Furthermore, I watch plenty of TV commercials and find many interesting, funny, even enjoyable. If I don't want to watch that same commercial thousands of times, I don't want a broadcast flag inserted that will prevent me from skipping it. Most of my friends that have Tivo, Media Center PCs, or similar devices believe the same way.

Furthermore, I have an extensive collection of music in CD and cassette format, and DVDs (particularly children's DVDs such as the Baby Einstein learning series). I want the right to be able to listen to that music content from the CD, on computer, on an MP3 or portable audio player, or whatever method I choose, on as many devices as I choose. I can only listen to it on one device at a time so I don't want to be restricted on the number of devices I can put this on, or the length of time or number of times I can listen to it. The same is true for DVDs. Kids are particularly rough on DVDs so I make a copy of the original, and play the copy or allow them to play it as they desire. If the DVD becomes scratched, broken, etc I don't have to throw away my investment and buy a new one, I simply make a new copy of the untouched original. Being able to make an archival copy in this manner is very important to me. If I choose to copy the contents of that DVD or CD to a laptop to take on a trip so my kids can see a movie to entertain them while traveling, I want to know that I have the right to do so. It saves space and eliminates the number of devices I need to carry with me.

I understand the concern of the companies trying to prevent fair use of media, but I honestly think it's being approached incorrectly. Eliminating fair use goes against everything the United States was founded on, and restricts our freedoms severely.