

I support jailbreaking exemptions for smartphones/tablets and video game consoles. I am a user and hobbyist of both types of technology. I'm most concerned about ensuring the right to jailbreak smartphones (iphone). Without the right to jailbreak this device I wouldn't be able to use it as easily as I do. Everyone has different needs and preferences on how these devices should work. The manufacturers do a fair job of finding the middle ground for their targeted demographics, but frequently neglect useful features for many reasons. These reasons may include but are not limited to: releasing new software features only with new hardware to boost sales of the hardware (and example would be siri on the iphone 4s), the feature is not considered useful for the majority of users regardless of how useful the feature is to the minority (an example of this is the ability to fully navigate the file system on the device). Forcing developers to go through the manufacturers to reach customers (this essentially allows manufacturers to skim profits off the hard work of developers).

As a final example:

I'm an amateur telescope maker. My current project includes reshaping the parabolic curve of an 8" mirror. It is very difficult to accurately measure the shape of this curve with the precision that is necessary to produce a quality mirror. However, the iphone 4 that I own has a hardware configuration that inadvertently makes it ideal for this task but requires specialized software to realize this ability that I cannot run without Apple's consent. The option to jailbreak these devices makes them more useful in constructive ways that the manufacturers simply can not be expected to consider, nor should they be allowed to eliminate. I purchased the device, I own it and if I see a potential use for it I should be able to legally explore it with out the consent of the manufacturer!