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Class of Works: (4) General Purpose Computing Devices, (5) Smartphones and Tablets

As personal computing hardware, whether it be a phone, a tablet, a laptop or a traditional PC has become many peoples primary access to consuming information or producing creative works, more than ever it is important for every person to have full control over their own devices. Allowing manufacturers to exercise technical veto of someones use of their own legally purchased computing devices create a very real risk of creating an unaccountable regime of censorship in the private sector.

I speak as a user of these devices, as well as a software developer who wants to be able to make my living providing users with new and better ways of using their devices, without having to worry about arbitrary restrictions imposed by manufacturers.

The right of users to "root", "jailbreak", or in general install the operating system software of their choice on the devices they own provides an essential safety valve against a manufacturers attempt to take the user's data and connection to the world of information hostage.