

I think having these things locked up like this is silly. Copyright needs to be more limited in general. I thought the reason for copyright's was to foster innovation. Unfortunately, we are now so bogged down in them that it is stopping innovation. The whole process needs to be changed especially in regards to software and technology since a generation in this area can be as little as 6 months. Creators need to be protected, but for how long? I think 100 years is way too long! I also think only the person who creates the item should be able to hold the copyright, no one else should be able to buy from them. This would really foster innovation. I believe this sort of thing stops innovation and that is bad for society and not what a copyright was intended for.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is if a movie no longer is copyrighted but a book it is based off of is you should still be able to use the movie since obviously the movie had received permission for use of the book. I have read about a case of this and the courts found that since the book was still copyrighted then the person could not use the movie and since one person generally does not have the resources to challenge a big publishing company they really didn't have the resources to challenge this decision. I really don't think this was right. Money should not give you more rights. I have never seen that written in the constitution.

I also think there should be limits on the price for usage. I know of a project at my local university that involved using clips from many of the Shakespeare movie out there. They took clips from many movies to show how different actors portrayed different parts. First off this was for education and so I think just in that aspect it should be given a break. Unfortunately, they could not get permission for use of many of the tapes and would have had to provide a copy of each movie along with the product. This made the product too expensive to market. I think this is very sad. I don't think preventing ideas like this should be what copyright is there for.

Another big issue that hurts small companies and individuals is the war chests that companies are able to accrue. Big companies will get as many copyrights as they can and when another big company threatens to sue they simply threaten to sue back. How is an individual or small company going to compete? I sometimes worry that breathing will soon be copyrighted and if you can't pay, well.... I just think we should have a bit more freedom. We are supposed to be a free country aren't we?

More than anything I believe if you don't use it you should lose it. If you copyright something and don't make use of or produce the product within a certain period or if you lock it away and stop producing the videos or books for a certain period then you should lose the

copyright. I really don't think it was ever meant to have technology and innovation locked away. I think this is bad for our people! As a country we need to stay ahead of the game and if we don't have innovation we don't have anything. Often it is the little guy not the big company that will drive this and so we need to make copyright option as open and usable for the general public as it is to big companies. Let's keep this the land of the free.

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