

\*Read this whole comment for full context\*

20£ to appeal? What the hell! Do you really want to set the precedent that you are guilty until you pay to prove yourself innocent? One thing that I find with most of these legislations which come out to try and help the media industry combat piracy, is the fact that quite a lot of the financial burden ends up being placed on the technology industry and the general public. Piracy is the media industries problem, and just because they're too lazy to come up with a solution themselves which makes the consumer happy, And don't want to let go of old business practices that no longer work in the digital age such as staggered release schedules across countries, and still charging £30 for a game, Even though they no longer have to cover packing, distribution, and manufacturing costs of physical media, does not mean that they can go whining to the government to have laws passed to try and keep their prehistoric practices rolling.

Now I do agree that content creators do have a right to be paid for their works. But one thing that you have to understand is that things like file shearing give people a Gateway to rebel against practices that they see as an ethical or immoral. Quite a lot of us feel that we are stuck in a dammed if you do dammed if you don't situation. For example it is legal for people to make a copy of DVDs that we own for personal use, yet owning the tools to decrypt and copy a DVD is illegal. It is legal to acquire digital copys of content that we have purchased. Yet the services that allow individuals to do so are being blocked in this country such as the Pirate Bay. (The UK is a place that I thought was a fair democracy beyond such practices usually associated with places such as North Korea, that are not exactly the pinnacle of morality).

Another thing that concerns me, is quite a few of these media organisations consider second-hand or pre-owned sales of their content is just as bad as piracy. They can't have it all. Either we class piracy just as moral as selling a CD second-hand. or we consider second-hand sales just as immoral as piracy, and people will start to question why.

It is not difficult for a content creator to create a service which is fair and excepted. All you need to do is look at the PC game sales service known as steam. They have managed to pull off a great service that is friendly to the consumer and does not treat others as if we are some lowlife sitting in a basement just waiting to copy everything in sight. Your game is registered to your account rather than your machine. You can download it as many times as you like as long as you're logged in. And you can install it on as many computers as you like as long as you login to prove that you are the owner of a licence to play the game. it gives you the feeling that you own the game. Not just merely having permission that can be revoked at any time.

The more the government tries to pander to the organisations and companies that are doing it wrong, and pass laws to try and protect them even through waves of public outcry. I fear that eventually things are not going to be tolerated any more, and these laws to protect are going to turn into tools of oppression. (which unfortunately is starting to show itself now).

I'll end this by saying, as we grow up we are taught to share with one another. To not be greedy. To be nice to one another and teach and protect each other. But then as we get older we then see a completely different picture. We are thrown into a world which is being ran by corporate entities that if you class as a person, would be considered on the side of sociopathic, narcissistic, unsympathetic and selfish. We are in a world where we are told that

if someone has an idea before you you cannot use it. we are in a world where If you buy something, you cannot share it. And we are in a world where if you do share with other individuals things that you enjoy, as a hope that they will enjoy it too. You're threatened with jail sentence and ludicrous fines that no average individual could ever pay. intellectual property laws even go as far as making it illegal to grow seed from crop that is perfectly healthy just because somebody genetically modified it, and it also goes as far as making it somehow immoral for copying and distributing technology which could potentially save lives or help others. these ideological laws are becoming dangerous tools of censorship, oppression and control, because of the Draconian measures taken by industries to try and protect what they call intellectual property.

I feel that we are on the verge of a historic event. A thought cannot be property, and sooner or later this bubble has to pop.