

The Digital Economy Act poses a serious risk to the propagation of affordable wifi access in the uk. I believe that it will have a negative impact on small businesses who rely on themselves and their customers being connected. It is clearly foolish to assume that an IP address equals a person when NAT is so prevalent on home and business internet. Punishing the bill payer for things that may or may not have travelled over their network is a huge oversimplification of the real issues. This act does nothing to help the public or content creators like myself who have no power or protection and everything to help large corporations with money for lobbyists and solicitors to fight their corner. I do not believe that any further powers need to be granted to ISPs, copyright holders or the police at this time. I believe that the internet should be provided like a utility and that the ISPs should not have to be responsible for what travels over their networks. Responsibility should lie with the individual who commits the crime when they can be proven to be guilty. Tapping and storage of internet traffic should only be possible with permission of a judge. This act will only affect the law abiding public and criminals will easily be able to hide their identities with little effort or technical knowledge.