



Political Communiqués from the Info-Liberal Worldview

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Info-Liberal?

- Advocating less government interference in the flow of information
- “Neutral” but radical
- End-users
- Developers
- Students

History and Advocacy, 1983-2005

- 1983-5: “Free Software” & GNU project
- 1984: *Sony v. Universal* (Betamax case)
- 1991: Linux project
- 1997: *The Cathedral and the Bazaar*
- 1998: “Open Source”; Digital Millennium Copyright Act
- 2001: *A&M v. Napster*; Creative Commons; Wikipedia
- 2001-2: *US v. ElcomSoft*
- 2005 *MGM v. Grokster*

“Legislating for Innovation”

- An open letter to specific members of congress, written in their terms
- Makes parallel appeals to politicians' various selfish and unselfish interests
- Makes actionable recommendations
- Reiterates central theses in three passes (in 1 ¶, 1 page, et al.)



Central Theses

- Strong intellectual property will *not* promote innovation in high-tech
- Administration risks wasting its R&D investments by pushing strong IP
- Shifting cultural norms will make strong-IP stance politically unsafe



Prioritized Recommendations

1. Protect user and developer rights and restore the Betamax standard
2. Tie ACI funds to open rather than proprietary development
3. Replace DMCA-style copyright protection with integrated and open rights standards and compulsory licensing



Status of Deliverable

- ~90%
- Missing:
 - Explicated voting suggestions
 - Concluding paragraph(s)
 - Source for cultural norms argument



Questions?

http://lostinthegroove.net/wordpress/?page_id=115



Sections

- Title & Abstract
- The Shifting Face of Innovation
- American Competitiveness Initiative
- Information Ethics: Openness
- Ethical Development is Productive Development
- Open and Closed Development
- Information Ethics: Sovereignty
- What to Do
- Sources