

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: Intellectual Property is Important for Artists
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010 5:06:13 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel,

The Copyright Alliance has informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

I am a songwriter and singer. I ran into a friend the other day who said, "my mother loved your CD so much, I had to burn her a copy." While this was intended as a compliment, it made me see that this is the attitude of many (most) people today - I have the technology and knowledge to reproduce a song (movie, article, art, etc.) and so I will. They don't see it for what it is, stealing.

This directly impacts me every day. Creating music is how I make a living. When my work is not paid for, when it is stolen, I have to look for alternate ways to earn an income, allowing for less time on creative endeavors. I have seen many talented people give up and resort to a life that isn't inspired or inspiring, but only allows them to pay their bills.

The US Government can help. Awareness is a priority. I think in this era, people have grown up with the concept that they can make copies and that is all they are doing. They aren't aware of the criminal behavior in doing so. Radio stations, even the small non-reporting stations and internet stations who profit from our work, should be required to report the play and have to pay for the use of our songs. What about developing technology that makes illegal copying impossible.

Thanks for allowing me to share my thoughts on this,

Dawnya Clarine

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