

Economic Cost:

Theft of my artwork makes it difficult for artists to support themselves.

Case for Large-scale Public Information Media Blitz to inform well-meaning people of the copyright laws and each person's responsibilities related publishing the images they produce.

Misuse of Images:

- Everyone should be strictly accountable for securing releases before publishing recognizable photos of people, especially pictures of children.
- In this day of cell-phone cameras, the public needs to understand their legal liability in publishing photos of people for whom they have no written consent.
- Misuse of plagiarized images of children should be especially severely punished.

Internet Theft:

- A number of honest people have told me that they believe anything on the Internet is there for the public to use, at no cost. People need to know that this is not the case.

Enforcement

- Establish a standardized scale set for infringement penalties that can be used by an artist against an infringer. The scale should include things such as:
 1. Number of violations
 2. Number of copies sold
 3. Number of viewings of stolen work
 4. Penalty for persisting after cease & desist notice
 4. Blanket penalty for the act of thievery
- Make it easy for artists to take unilateral action in gaining restitution from infringers.
 1. Specify informal resolution procedure and means of gaining compensation from infringer.
 2. Set up protocol to be followed in case resolution procedure is not effective.
- Establish a clearinghouse for verified complaints. Specify documentation requirements and prerequisite steps that must be taken to resolve conflict before filing complaint.

Air dirty laundry (Wrongdoers prefer anonymity)

Establish website for posting every verified instance of copyright infringement. (When everyone knows, public opinion can help enforce)

1. Name names.
2. Name countries. (Some countries don't get it. They would if dirty side of their face was made public.)

3. In each instance, cite details:
dates and nature of infringements
relief sought
resolution reached; note failure to resolve

Dirty Tricks

- Establish network of communication between stakeholder groups & Customs/Border Patrol to advise of and monitor a specific import problem.
- Harness the abilities of young hackers in developing Internet countermeasures. Hit back at sites involved in infringement - no holds barred.
- Turn the public loose on repeat offenders. Suggest legal forms of retribution, i.e. boycott of goods and materials from foreign governments who do not enforce infringement laws. Publicly name companies who do business with those countries.