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There is a tremendous difference between protecting the creativity and ideas of the american public and those the corporations. When companies gain near monopoly shares of markets, intellectual property rights often make it harder, not easier for small businesses to start or thrive. While protecting such intellectual property rights may protect one type of job, it limits the potential of numerous others, and facilitates a less creative, and less competitive market place. Monsanto is just one of example of huge companies that abuse intellectual property rights.

In considering a system that would facilitate both collaboration and competition, look at copyrights used in open source software, for instance.

Consider creative ways to allow companies to benefit from creative development that don't stymie creativity of the small business or individual. think about models that allow for reuse, or limit the degree to which restrictions of use can apply. for every case of knock off, there's also a small business that's been put out of business by large companies aggressively interpreting intellectual property rights, and filing suits that small businesses can't afford to defend.