

Honorable Senators,

I write to you today regarding the Intellectual Property Clauses of the Free Trade Agreement as it stands. I fear that the FTA will severely limiting the rights and freedom of Australia citizens, and limit the amount of intellectual wealth in society. The most obvious is the extension to copyright law, which will extend the copyright to 70 years after the death of the author. By this simple act, a vast amount of literature is taken out of public domain, the same domain that plays such an important role in the development of literature writers.

Additionally the introduction of DMCA like legislation, which puts a ban on "*\*circumventing\** technological protection measures", takes away more of the freedom we enjoy. For example, under this law one could very well be charged for watching DVDs imported from another country on a DVD player purchased locally. Being the multicultural society Australia is, this could severely limit cultural diversity of our nation when it comes to entertainment and education, an important part of reaching a greater mutual understanding between diverse cultures.

The above are but the tip of the ice berg. I am a student at Sydney University, studying electrical engineering and physics, not law, so I leave the detailed interpretation of the FTA in your very capable hands, and hope that you too will see the detrimental effect it shall have on our freedom, and act accordingly to protect our freedom.

Friends and I used to laugh at the antics of RIAA and MPAA, suing the young (11) and the old (60+) for "breaching copyrights". Whilst I do not endorse the rampant copying of songs and software, nor do I endorse the business tactics and claims used by organizations as RIAA and MPAA who hide their motives for greater financial gain behind a veneer of "protecting the artists rights". I am dismayed that should we signed the FTA as it stands, those 2 organizations, and many besides, will extend their greedy hands into our society, and reduce the rights that we have, as fair use, to listen to music we have bought with our hard earned money, any where we want, using what we want. Not in the living room or bedroom, but while we are walking, playing, in plane, a bus, or a train. Not just on hardware that has been "approved", but on anything we choose. Because that is our right and freedom, as citizens of Australia.

Best regards,  
Shu Ning Bian