<u>Gene Burdick</u> Tue 5/18/2004 9:47 AM

Thank you for trying to do something about the invasion of spyware/adware into my computer. Although everyone in America has rights and freedoms, including the makers of the adware/spyware, and their lawyers, I feel I should have the right to use the computer that I worked long hours to pay for. If I were driving along in my car that I had purchased, and someone jumps in and pushes me aside to start controlling the car, and then crashes it, causing me the responsibility for the repairs, that would certainly be a prosecutable crime of theft? And if he were to take my wallet with my credit cards, that would certainly be considered theft? At least that person would be noticeable and I would be aware that it was taking place. And what is the difference if someone, invisibily and without my knowledge even, taking control of my computer and crashing it, changing my settings, causing me untold hours of repair, lost work, and large repair bills, and taking my credit card numbers? Why would that company's "rights" be more protected than my rights to my own personal property that I paid for?

I am all for free enterprise in America, and innovation. But what makes America "free" is the right to live our own lives without someone else controlling our actoins, our assets, and our identities. If we take away all that, we may as well be living in a dictatorship, and quit pretending we have this silly notion of "freedom" that so many people have given their lives to defend..

Hope this all gets sorted out.

Lucy Burdick

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