Subject: Re: evil mp3s..sharing
Posted by lon on Wed, 16 Jun 2004 03:32:43 GMT
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I have read most of this thread. I am a P2P user...probably not the conventional kind that that's lookingfor the latest hits of Avril Levigne though. I am an archivist. The link below is to a speech given by Lawrence Lessigwho writes for Wired magazine. His current book is calledFree Culture. Most of it is about Open Source software. Buthe also discusses P2P file sharing and the 'terrorist war'that record companies are waging on the public in the form of malicious software. Lessig says that free culture is the only way that creativity of all kinds advances. His criticism of the copyright laws is extensive and shows that never before inhistory has intellectual property been controlled in theseways. It is the right of the copyright holder to withholdintellectual property... in this example, discontinued music,which is out of print and will not return to print becauseof royalty issues that are held by the heirs sometimes 3generations removed from the actual artist or performer. So as an archivist, the material I share on the net andreceive in return (on a _good_ day) is a way of keepingart in the culture to be shared by the current generationrather than hoarded away by a generation thrice removedfrom the original period of availabilty. The Lessig speech points out that the MCAA (whatevs)has gotten away with their terrorist behavior with the consent and in some instances from the courts because we have not stopped them. And that's that.
Lawrence Lessig on Free Culture