

From: Shannon Appelcline

Comment:

Copyright does not just protect the right of a person to make profit off of his creative works, it also protects his right to *not* have his works widely distributed during the length of its copyright.

Creating a special "Orphan Works" exception to copyright law dramatically undercuts a creator's work to actually control the distribution of his work, and forces him to stay in the public eye, so that he can be contacted, lest his work be distributed without his consent.

This is not only contrary to the entire copyright system, but also a considerable strike against personal privacy, and thus should be outright rejected.

The core problem is actually that copyright length is too long. If it were considerably shorter, in the range of 25-50 years, as our founding fathers actually intended, the problem of Orphan Works would not be as large.

Please solve this problem of Orphan Works by attacking the actual cause--an overly long copyright period--not by sacrificing the rights and privacy of individual artists.