

Dear U.S. Department of Commerce,

I teach at the University of Virginia, so I am a stakeholder as a user of digital materials. I am also an author of two books, and so am a stakeholder in the sales and resales of digital materials.

I strongly advocate extending the doctrine of first sale to digital materials, not only for academic purposes, but also for non-academic purposes. It may seem counter-intuitive, but sales are not hurt by a person's ability to turn around and regift or regive or donate a digital book to someone else. In fact, evidence shows that the more the digital material is spread around, the more people may be interested and willing to pay for it.

It is not in my interest as an author, or as an academic, or as a citizen of a society that likes to consider itself free, for there to be a proscription on the doctrine of first sale for digital materials.

Thank you for your consideration.
Tanya Denckla Cobb

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