

Behlul Vardal

5/3/2022

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Artist Statement

The video mentions the right to repair. If you have never heard about the right to repair before, it is a bill that is being proposed to the government. It is supposed to allow consumers the ability to repair and modify their own consumer products. This can be anything like Cars, Phones, Laptops, smart watches, etc. I mention this bill because it affects people who are into consumer technology. The video also mentions **The American innovation and choice online act and the open up markets act**. These two bills are meant to stop Apple and Google's app stores monopolization over their own platforms. As of now you don't have a way to download apps except the Google play store or the App Store from Apple. Why I talk about this topic in the first place is because it has deep meaning to me. Repairability is an important component when it comes to expressing creativity with tech. Especially for a person like me. I love being able to modify... Once you are able to modify a piece of tech you are the limit. It is a passion, a hobby. If it existed in more tech there would be communities where people show what they have done. There are communities where modding is done but it gets very limited.

There is an article I read in my Annotated Bibliography called "Apple Reverses Course on Right to Repair iPhones: More Concessions to Follow?" by Jerri-Lynn Scofield. This article mentions the right to repair but specifically how Apple responded to it. The author states "The shareholder fight that forced Apple's hand on repair rights —The announcement follows months of growing pressure from repair activists and regulators environmental advocates filed with the company in September asking Apple to re-evaluate its stance on independent repair Apple Reverses Course on Right to Repair iPhones." This shows that there are board members that would fight Apple's decision to not make their products repairable. This shows that there are still people who see the importance of it. This shows the way Apple does business would be affected. However despite all the pressure Apple is getting they still don't want to change and it shows looking at their "solutions." Apple's programs are ineffective, their self repair program only provides simple parts like a battery and a screen. Apples don't actually repair products, they replace parts in the product. This might give a better performance or make it like new but it produces a lot of e-waste. Also if a repair costs too much it might make more sense to buy a new one which also creates a lot of waste. This also makes the process expensive. Not everyone has hundreds to thousands of dollars to throw around.

In my annotated bibliography there is another article called "Senate bill targeting Apple, Google monopolies passes committee vote." In this article the senate bill that targets Apple and googles app stores are The American innovation and choice online act and the open up markets act. Apple and Google own the only online app stores that people can download apps from on mobile devices. It also talks about the huge commission these stores get from purchases made. The real nonsense is the response these two companies have made to the bills. The main excuse that Apple and Google gave is that sideloading is a security risk. However what makes this claim so ridiculous is that we download software from the internet on desktop computers all the time. The desktop software isn't still considered to be insecure. Apple also makes desktop computers, MacOS is secure and you can still download software from a browser. They designed it to work that way, this means they can design the iphones IOS to allow sideloading. This to me

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clearly seems like the big companies don't want other stores because Apple and Google will lose a lot of money.