

[Ebook free] Against Intellectual Property

Against Intellectual Property

Stephan N Kinsella

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Stephan N Kinsella : Against Intellectual Property before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Against Intellectual Property:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good exposition of the reasons for viewing so-called "intellectual property" ...By INFOTECHADVISER - ALANGood exposition of the reasons for viewing so-called "intellectual property" so-called "rights", as violations of the non-aggression principle. Most freedom-minded people, and even many that are not so much freedom-minded, understand that today's copyright and patent laws are terribly abused. Even the biggest patent-holders have to understand that something's wrong, they're not brain-dead, because a huge fraction of the ones they get are "preventive", meaning they don't want the other guy to get one and sue them for a common idea. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lucid and thought provokingBy Sage GerardThis book carries the personality of Oxford's "Very Short Introduction" series by being small, yet focused. Kinsella wastes no words in describing undesirable implications in IP law, and goes to a surprising amount of depth without leaving you aimlessly wandering in a fog of jargon. Although the title clearly illustrates Kinsella's position, he takes care to leave you with more questions than answers in analyzing the arguments of IP advocates. I recommend this text if you are looking for inconsistencies in how ownership of ideas follow from the legal definition of "property", or if you are looking for some background behind the prevailing attitudes for what makes ideas worth claiming (or not). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. worth the time and moneyBy Timothy ClancyVery insightful. Helps to get you to look at both sides of the argument.

This monograph is justifiably considered a modern classic. It is by Stephan Kinsella who caused a worldwide rethinking among libertarians of the very basis of intellectual property. Mises had warned against patents, and Rothbard did too. But Kinsella goes much further to argue that the very existence of patents are contrary to a free market, and adds in here copyrights and trademarks too. They all use the state to create artificial scarcities of non-scarce goods and employ coercion in a way that is contrary to property rights and the freedom of contract. Many people who read this essay for the first time were unprepared for the rigor of his argument, which takes time to settle in simply because it seems so shocking at first. But Kinsella makes his case with powerful logic and examples that are overwhelming in their persuasive power. The relevance in a digital age can't be overstated. The state works with monopolistic private producers to inhibit innovation and stop the progress of technology, while using coercion against possible competitors and against consumers. Even U.S. foreign policy is profoundly affected by widespread confusions over what is legitimate and merely asserted as property. What Kinsella is calling for instead of this cartelizing system is nothing more or less than a pure free market, which he argues would not generate anything resembling what we call intellectual property today. IP, he argues, is really a state-enforce legal convention, not an extension of real ownership. Few essays written in the last decades have caused so much fundamental rethinking. It is essential that libertarians get this issue right, and understand the arguments on all sides. Kinsella's piece here is masterful in making a case against IP that turns out to be more rigorous and thorough than any written on the left, right, or anything in between. Read it and prepare to change your mind. 71 page, paperback, 2008