



Statement by Senator Feinstein on Supreme Court 'File Sharing' Ruling  
June 27, 2005

*Washington, DC – The Supreme Court ruled today that Internet file-sharing services can be held responsible if they intend for their customers to use software primarily to swap songs and movies illegally. The following is a statement by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), a member of the Judiciary Committee's Intellectual Property Subcommittee, on the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios v. Grokster case:*

**“I am pleased with today’s opinion by the U.S. Supreme Court in the so-called ‘Grokster’ case. America has consistently been a leader in intellectual property industries and today’s Supreme Court decision clearly ensures that those industries are to be respected and protected.**

**Theft of intellectual property is a huge problem, not only for the artist, but also because of its wide impact on our nation’s economy.**

**Each month, billions of copyright-protected works are duplicated across file-sharing networks. The distributors of this software know that it is primarily used for copyright infringement and yet they have done nothing to prevent it. It is time that they be held responsible.**

**Innovation of new technologies is essential; however, I do not believe this decision diminishes that development. Instead, this decision clarifies that facilitating illegal activity will not be allowed. With today’s decision, the Court put technology in its proper place by clarifying that as our technology advances, it must respect copyright laws.”**

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