

Re: Reboot says "Not genuine", but WGA tool says "Genuine"

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windowsupdate/2006-06/msg00292.html>

- *From:* Ghost rider <-00-@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 06 Jun 2006 13:18:40 -0700
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Michael Jennings wrote:

"Stewart" <noemail@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:bdpa8251r5opqq2t80susfuv9uiak5fa6m@xxxxxxxxxxx>

Ah, that word "privilege" again – the favorite word of censors, repressors, and control freaks everywhere. Some say free speech is a privilege, not a right. Others say driving on the highways is a privilege. Some in America today say a fair trial is a privilege reserved only for Americans, not a right for all (and certainly not for those locked away in American military prisons for years now, perhaps to never see their homes or families again). Indeed, it seems just about anything can be pushed aside with the "privilege" word. An American president has even said citizenship for those born in America is a privilege, not a right.

Allow me to set aside (mutual?) concern for immanent world ruin due to fascist delusion, and pretend that who owns what is an important matter.

Consider the question of ownership of the newsgroup. Who controls it? It is maintained by (fill in the blank). Does the owner not filter out spam? Could the owner not filter out anyone it wished? The answers I get lead me to conclude that there is a privilege to post granted by the owner.

Examining the other side of the coin, I don't think that Microsoft has a right to do as it pleases with my property, even if it should claim it does, and obtain a law that gives it that right. I may grant it a privilege to do limited things with the software I license from it on the computer I own.

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In regards to this particular newsgroup with the word "public" in its title, there are certain guarantees that censorship other than for propriety should exist although the owner does have the right to terminate the entire newsgroup. The last time a major company did it was Intel, to its public forums, resulting from the rather disastrous Pentium-3 PSN debacle and the ensuing debate, often acrimonious involving both the public and Intel employees. One can see what has happened to the fortunes of Intel subsequent to the demise of its newsgroups. The loss of these channels for communication only pointed the way to AMD's doorsteps. Microsoft's embracing of Product Activation and WGA borderlines the same dogma of Intel and PSN, and the posts are starting to get quite testy.

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