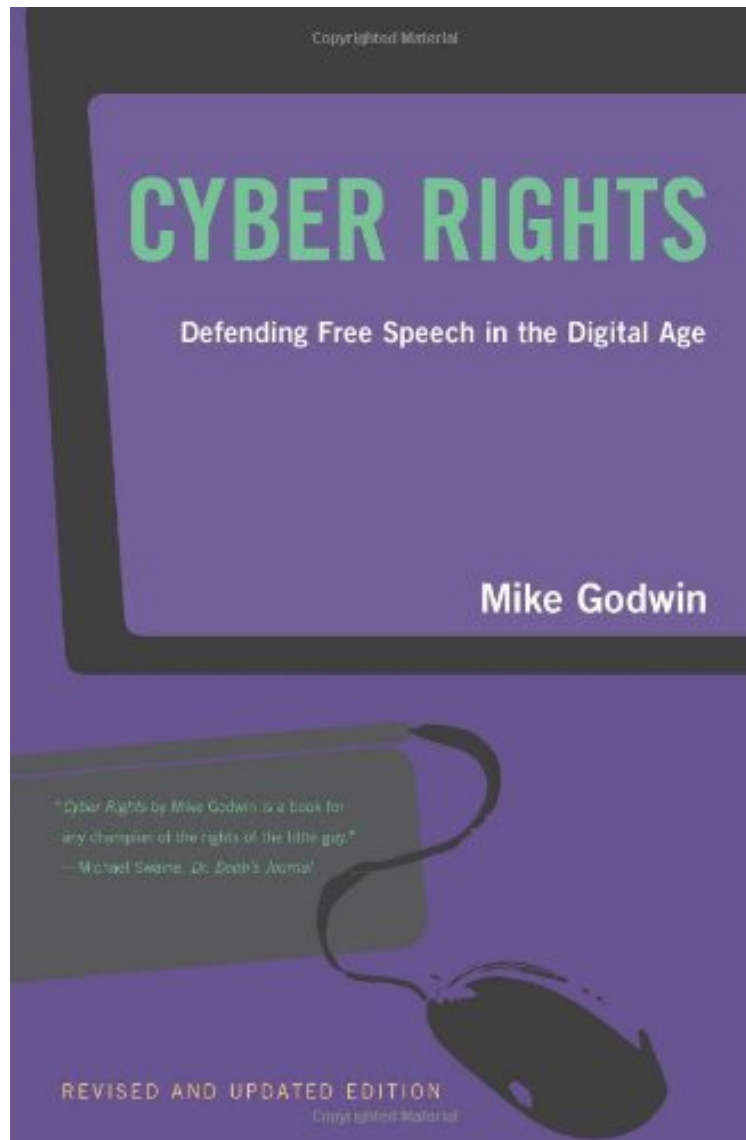


[Library ebook] Cyber Rights: Defending Free speech in the Digital Age (MIT Press)

## Cyber Rights: Defending Free speech in the Digital Age (MIT Press)

Von Mike Godwin

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**Von Mike Godwin : Cyber Rights: Defending Free speech in the Digital Age (MIT Press)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cyber Rights: Defending Free speech in the Digital Age (MIT Press):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A retread of old newsVon Ein KundeGodwin's book is basically a rehash of previously published work. Pages 171-176, for example, were originally published in an Internet World column, though he acknowledges that nowhere. In fact,

the entire book consists of such reread material spliced together, sometimes seamlessly, sometimes not. Many readers who haven't followed the free speech wars won't recognize this; they may simply wonder why the book is occasionally disjointed for no apparent reason. The other significant flaw in the book is that it stops with the CDA decision, in June 1997. For a book published in late 1998, it could have covered later material, especially since most of the book was cut-and-paste rather than new writing. It's a reasonable introduction to the censorship wars on the internet for readers which are completely unfamiliar with the history; but as for me, I'm pleased that I checked this book out from the library rather than purchasing it. -- Michael Sims0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This book lacks clear, current and relevant content. Von Ein KundeAs Students from the University of Wisconsin -- Madison, we reviewed this book based upon electronic information rights. We found this book to be lacking clear, current and relevant content. The chapter on memes seemed lengthy and irrelevant to the overall point. Specifically the book, Cyber Rights was without a general theme. Godwin would begin a chapter with a clear point defending it well but would not tie it in to the whole book and other chapters. The organization of the book seemed to jump back and forth between defending free speech and proactively restricting it. Overall the book contains good legal precedence if the reader can understand the connection between the case and the issue at hand. In summary we felt the book was dry and did not clearly inform consumers of their electronic rights.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Reconciles online ethics and law Von Ein KundeOne of the things I liked about this book was the way in which it addressed the ethics of online publication (don't spread bad memes, try to counter bad memes with good ones) with the First Amendment (which basically keeps government out of the meme-regulation process). In other words, policing the Net should be a matter of individual ethics rather than of legislation or prosecutions. I didn't find the messages of this book inconsistent at all -- it seems to me to be one of the goals of First Amendment advocacy to explain how free speech leads to good results. I think that anyone who approaches the book as a simple guide to online rights is missing the larger message, which is that there is a philosophy of free speech and privacy that has to shape how we deal with the Internet.

Kurzbeschreibung Lawyer and writer Mike Godwin has been at the forefront of the struggle to preserve freedom of speech on the Internet. In *Cyber Rights* he recounts the major cases and issues in which he was involved and offers his views on free speech and other constitutional rights in the digital age. Godwin shows how the law and the Constitution apply, or should apply, in cyberspace and defends the Net against those who would damage it for their own purposes. Godwin details events and phenomena that have shaped our understanding of rights in cyberspace--including early antihacker fears that colored law enforcement activities in the early 1990s, the struggle between the Church of Scientology and its critics on the Net, disputes about protecting copyrighted works on the Net, and what he calls "the great cyberporn panic." That panic, he shows, laid bare the plans of those hoping to use our children in an effort to impose a new censorship regime on what otherwise could be the most liberating communications medium the world has seen. Most important, Godwin shows how anyone--not just lawyers, journalists, policy makers, and the rich and well connected--can use the Net to hold media and political institutions accountable and to ensure that the truth is known..deCyber Rights is an exceptionally rational and compelling account of the most explosive and controversial issues surrounding freedom in cyberspace. Author Mike Godwin is the well-known outspoken activist for online civil liberties and counsel to the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF). He's been directly involved in many of the news-making cases and offers cogent analysis of very thorny situations, such as: Time magazine's infamous "Cyberporn" issue, which featured a flawed study and which many believe was at least a partial cause for passage of the Communications Decency Act of 1996 (later overturned); the case of Jake Baker, a college kid who distributed his stories about rape and torture in newsgroups, which resulted in his computer being confiscated by police; the Church of Scientology's line in the sand regarding intellectual property and the backlash against Scientology in online debates; the libel conflicts experienced by Net journalists Matt Drudge and Brock Meeks; and Philip Zimmerman's (the programmer who developed the encryption tool Pretty Good Privacy [PGP]) fight with the Clinton administration to allow the use of encryption software. Godwin is a natural teacher, carefully describing each event and explaining the issues surrounding it. Unlike many writers, he shows that he thoroughly understands the arguments for restricting speech. He then methodically takes the arguments apart, covering what is normally boring legal theory and explaining it in a lively manner so that readers are drawn into the story. This book differs from other books on the topic in two ways: it's entertaining and it's a personal account. It's obvious that Godwin enjoys telling his stories, and he passes his enthusiasm on to readers. Readers also get a sense of Godwin's personal involvement as he describes his role in exposing the erroneous study that was the basis of Time magazine's "cyberporn" scare. In his chapter on the court decision that overturned the Communications Decency Act of 1996, it's clear that Godwin's work for the EFF is not just his job, but his passion. --Elizabeth LewisPressestimmen "Cyber Rights by Mike Godwin is a book for any champion of the rights of the little guy. Godwin, counsel to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, set out in this book to explain cyberspace and why it matters; to show how the law and the U.S. Constitution apply to cyberspace, or how

they should; to answer widespread fears about cyberspace; and to defend the Internet. I think he does a good job on all counts." - Michael Swaine, Dr. Dobb's Journal