What is DRM?

Digital Restrictions Management – it restricts what you and your family can do with the electronic devices and media purchased. It is an attempt by technology and media companies to take away your rights.
DRM software and hardware monitors and controls your family's behavior.

iTunes users are restricted from transferring their videos to other non-Apple devices because the videos downloaded from iTunes are encrypted – locked with DRM. There are programs for removing DRM from iTunes videos, but many of them merely record the screen – resulting in low-quality video. Even with a proper tool, there may be some quality loss and the DRM-removal must be done on MacOS or Windows. To make matters worse, Sony Music has secretly planted DRM "rootkits" on computers when users purchased music CDs from them.

DRM is more than a nuisance. The film and music industry are setting the agenda to increase their control. They have demanded that technology companies impose DRM to deliver for them what their political lobbying to change copyright law never has: they aim to turn every interaction with a published work into a transaction, abolishing fair use, and making copyright last forever. By accepting DRM, users unwittingly surrender their rights and invite deeper surveillance. This will put your family's viewing, listening, reading, and browsing records on file with them.
What gives them that right?

DRM Means: No fair use. No purchase and resell. No private copies. No borrowing. No backup (generally). No swapping. No mix tapes. Less privacy. Less control over our computers. Less control over our electronic devices. The conversion of our homes into apparatuses to monitor our interactions with published works and Web sites.

What you can do

Stay away from DRM-dependent products like Blu-ray and HD-DVD, iTunes, Windows Media Player, Zune, Amazon Unbox... Stay away from retailers who insist on making DRM part of the package. Stop financing the people who want to restrict you.
Find out more at **www.DefectiveByDesign.org**.