Dear Copywrite Office,

As an hobby artist, I draw frequently. I draw in sketchbooks, and I draw digitally, in Photoshop, nearly every single day. I produce about 3 new images a week, to post online for others to see. This is often for the purpose of feedback in order to perfect whatever I may be putting together.

I hope to one day make a living off my works, as I can barely afford to pay the bills each week by living off of SSI. I have problems getting a job in town because I can't afford transportation, so all of my potential money comes from creating art to sell. I don't have the money or means to go to an office every day, or every week, fill out several hundreds of forms (I have 1, 327 pieces on one website alone), and potentially pay money (which I assume I'd have to) in order to keep people who don't care about the wellbeing of others from stealing and profitting from my hard work.

I have very few ways of expressing myself. At home, I'm not allowed to have a bad day, I'm not allowed to be angry, or have a hint of frustration around my mother. When I'm with my grandmother, I'm not allowed to speak my ideas, and to her my dreams are worthless. Art is the best (if not the only) way to express myself, some days it feels like it's all I have to call my own in life.

Your idea of making people register to copyright their work is not only cruel to those who can't (What about children?), but it also seems to only benefit people who have a lot of money, or as we say in my family, "A lot of good going for them".

And what about photographers? You're saying that if I'm getting paid to take 200 pictures for a wedding or birthday party, I have to register all 200 photos to prevent anyone from taking them under their own name?

And my sketches?

AND more than likely sit through a waiting period for all of these registrations to go into effect (which is always the case, don't even joke).

Overall, what you're doing is wrong and goes against the creative community, in particular the poor creative community. I need to know that what I create is mine because I CREATED it, not because I registered it.

If I have a baby, it's mine because I created it, I created that life. It's not mine because I signed a document confirming I gave birth to it. Art is my baby. Don't take my baby away from me just because I didn't sign a paper.

Sincerely, Kelsie Conley

P.S. Your submission page isn't accepting .rtf files like it states.