

CONTEXT: several groups worked together to pass a law, but the writer is noting that not long ago, they were attacking each other viciously. The paragraph is showing support for that claim.

What's unusual about this cohort is how savagely the two sides opposed each other in another legislative battle that only recently drew to close: The Stop Online Piracy Act. As CNET's Declan McCullagh noted last November, the Chamber was “**even more aggressive than the Motion Picture Association of America and the Recording Industry Association of America in defending SOPA and attacking the legislation's critics,**” chief among those being the core privacy groups mentioned above. During that battle, Steve Tepp, an IP attorney at the Chamber ripped apart privacy advocates saying they intentionally “**mislead and scare people to make their point**” and discharge “**hyperbole.**” In an irreverent blog post before Halloween, he said privacy advocates are “**unpacking all their favorite ghouls and hobgoblins**” and making “**extreme and absurd claims.**” Meanwhile, the Electronic Frontier Foundation accused the Chamber of “**egregious**” attempts to “**mislead the public about the bill's true reach.**”



Hudson, John. “The Unlikely Allies Who Blocked Obama’s Cyber Security Bill.” *The Atlantic*, Aug. 3, 2012, theatlantic.com/politics/2012/08/unlikely-allies-who-blocked-obamas-cyber-security-bill/325084/

Steve Tepp1

So, who are the people making such a fuss about it? Their website only says that it's a project of something called “fight for the future.” And who runs that? Their website doesn't say. So I guess the only thing we know about these folks, given that they call copyright law “extreme” and “obsolete,” is that whoever they are, they don't like the copyright law. That's fine for them, but if they need to **mislead and scare people to make their point**, I'm not impressed.

Steve Tepp2 “Hyperbole”

The word is not in the previously cited blog post, but Tepp was regularly talking on TV, with reporters, and writing in other formats. While Tepp was known for misleading people himself, the reporter is most certainly combining a claim from another source with this one here.

Steve Tepp 3

Well, it looks like Halloween came a few days early for the anti-IP crowd this year. With the introduction of rogue sites legislation in the House, the Stop Online Piracy Act, they have been **unpacking all their favorite ghouls and hobgoblins**. And just like cheap paper decorations, their claims are thin and don't stand up. But they just keep churning this stuff out. So, we here at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global IP Center have decided to call their bluff— and we'll do so by offering a series of **REALITY CHECKS**. We will be highlighting the **most extreme and absurd claims** made by the anti-IP crowd, and debunking them with <*gasp*>...the facts.

Trevor Timm (EFF)

During the past week, momentum against the House's draconian copyright bill has gained steam, as venture capitalists, Internet giants and major artists have denounced it for handing corporations unprecedented power to censor countless websites and stifle free speech. In response, the bill's big-pocketed supporters have gone on the offensive, attempting to **mislead the public about the bill's true reach**. In a particularly **egregious** example, the Chamber of Commerce posted an attack on its website insisting that the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) is not a “blacklist bill.”