

Edinburgh Research Explorer

There is more than one world....

Citation for published version:		
Brown, A 2010,	'There is more than one world'	

Link:

Link to publication record in Edinburgh Research Explorer

Document Version:

Publisher final version (usually the publisher pdf)

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script

There is more than one world.....

For

Gikii V, The Voyage Home

29 June 2010, Edinburgh Dr Abbe E. L. Brown abbe.brown@ed.ac.uk

Lecturer in IT Law, University of Edinburgh Associate AHRC/SCRIPT





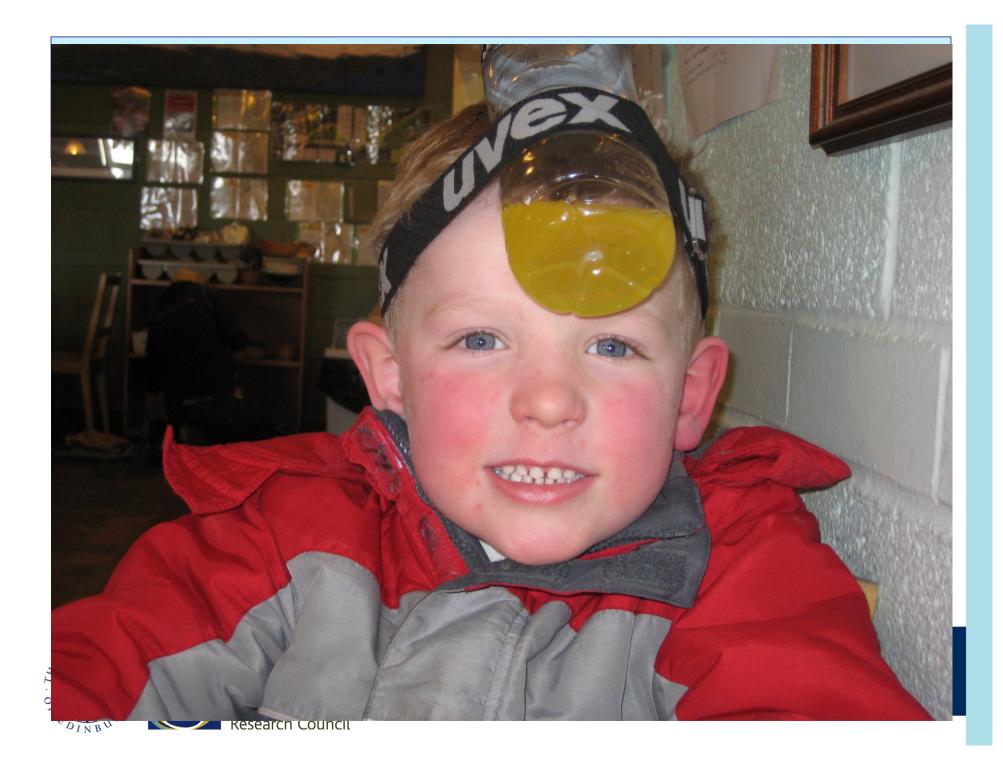
The Gikii Tale

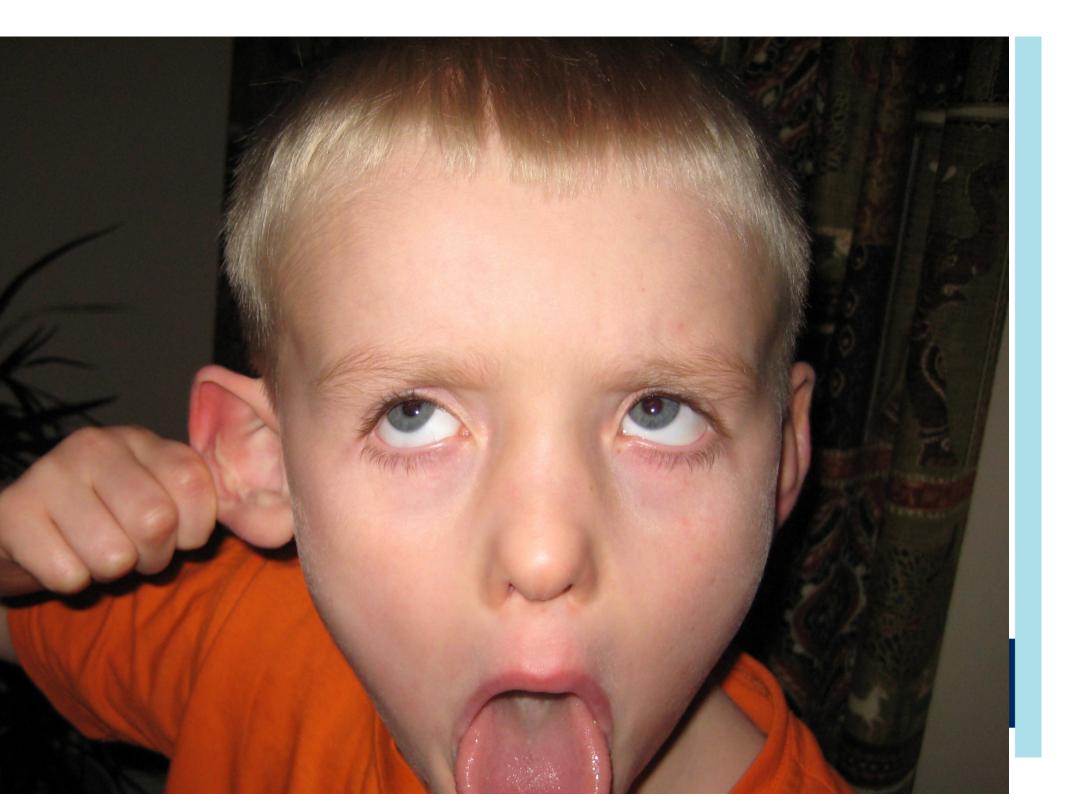
- There are several worlds....
- Who is in charge?
- The wrong question?











The reality

- "Bottle Head" and "Ben 10 Uglier than Humungusor" are really in charge
- Their world is fun if odd









Technology, control and revolution

Who writes the rules?

Need it lead to Pandemonium?







Here

- Treaty (TRIPS, UNFCC focus on technology and its transfer, UN human rights treaties)
- Regional legislation (ECHR, article 101 and 102 TFEU, new R and D Collaboration Guidelines
- National instruments (CDPA, PA, HRA)
- Background threat
 - courts
 - IP injunction (eBay)
 - Other legal fields
 - compulsory licence (rare, even with Commission Microsoft)
 - Ashdown
 - monitoring and international respect







Did William Golding have it right?

- Lord of the Flies
- "Power corrupts and....."
- For large ICT/IP owning companies
 - ACTA
 - DEA
- Closed standards and non disclosure
 - FRAND
 - Rambus 2 for 0
- Terms of service (though they do change...)
 - Twitter
 - SecondLife
 - Even Club Penguin







There?

- It'll be fine, Mum
 - Enid Blyton
- School's Golden Rules
 - positive enforcement

- Background threat
 - teachers
 - me....
 - the playground hierarchy







A positive stance

Rawls

- persons would choose the fundamental terms on which they would associate with each other in a proposed society, at a time when they were ignorant of their proposed role in the society
- would lead to equal assignment of liberty, rights and duties
- with inequalities to be justified only if all, particularly the least advantaged, would still benefit from the arrangement as a whole
- tested by those involved, until a reflective equilibrium was reached







Will it work?

- US Senators pre Copenhagen IP letter
- Sex bed copyright case
- A Rape in Cyberspace
- The new gold mining
- "No one flies..."







Might it work

- Second Life Community Standards
- Rights of avatars
- The Facebook battle
- ITU leading communications and environmental progress through internationally mandated standards
- Eco-Patent Commons (2008, Nokia, Pitney)
- Open Standards (W3C, VW)
- Access to Knowledge movement





And so

- Why not??
- When (as?) the revolution beckons







EMBRACE IT

- We need new rules
 - (credit Carrie Bradshaw/Preston)
- And also lashings and lashings of ginger beer
 - The Grocer report 2010, "Lashings of ginger beer flying off the shelves as retro drinks make comeback"



