















Patents and Copyrights

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KENT STATE

The Economics of Monopoly

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- Many monopolies exist because of patents or trademarks or copyrights.
- Elimination of those monopolies could eliminate incentives for writing or research.
- Would the makers of a hit movie proceed in the absence of a legal monopoly on the showing of their film?



The Economics of Monopoly

To Summarize

- The evils of monopolies are well known.
 - However, there are cases where bigness comes from a competitive process that maximizes consumer surplus.
 - Elimination of these "monopolies" would be Hicks-Kaldor inefficient.



The Economics of Monopoly

To Summarize

- Firms may be tempted to use anti-monopoly legislation to eliminating and hobble competitors.
 - An anti-trust suit would benefit the competitors.
 - It would be Hicks-Kaldor inefficient.



The Economics of Monopoly

