In the early 20th century, recorded music in movie theaters was feared for a few reasons. First, recorded music was seen as a potential threat to the livelihoods of live musicians. As the use of recorded music in movie theaters became more popular, it was feared that musicians would no longer be able to find work, as the recorded music was often cheaper and easier to use than having to hire musicians. This fear was especially acute in the United States, where the music industry was just beginning to take shape.

Second, there was a fear that recorded music in movie theaters would lead to a homogenization of music. As the use of recorded music became more widespread, it was feared that the same pieces of music would be played in every movie theater, leading to a loss of variety and creativity in the music being played. Additionally, it was feared that recorded music would lead to the death of traditional forms of music, such as those played by live musicians.

The fear of recorded music in movie theaters in the early 20th century can be seen as a parallel to the fear of the Internet today. Just as recorded music was seen as a potential threat to the livelihoods of musicians in the early 20th century, the Internet is seen as a potential threat to many different industries in the present day. Additionally, just as there was a fear that recorded music would lead to a homogenization of music, there is a similar fear that the Internet will lead to the homogenization of culture, as it allows for the spread of certain ideas and behaviors in a way that was previously not possible. Finally, just as it was feared that recorded music would lead to the death of traditional forms of music, it is feared today that the Internet will lead to the death of traditional forms of communication, such as face-to-face interaction.