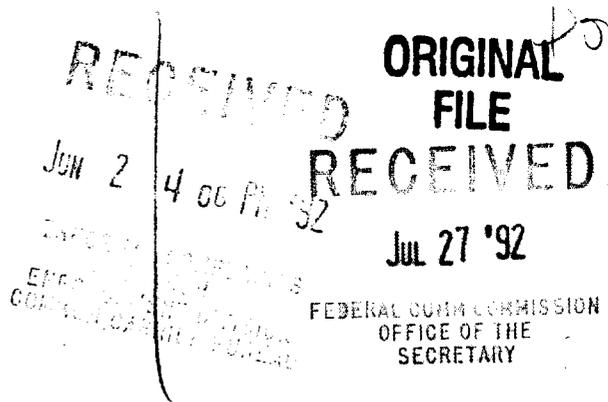


EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



Office of the Secretary  
Docket No. CC-92-90  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am very disturbed by the failure of the Federal Communications Commission to honor the intentions of the 1991 Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). The FCC's loose interpretation of the law and reluctance to regulate the telemarketing industry pose a real threat to citizen privacy.

Automated telemarketing calls are an intrusion into my home and privacy, besides being a great nuisance. They interrupt my time with my family, my meals, my reading, and my leisure activities. Even at my workplace, they interrupt meetings, projects, and everyday tasks.

I also condemn the FCC's broad definition of a "prior business relationship" as a pretext for a recorded telemarketing call. The fact that I once opened a charge account with a department store does not mean I sold my future rights to privacy. I only support such calls when an individual has given explicit, written permission to a business.

The FCC has suggested that telemarketing calls benefit consumers and should not be limited. I suggest that you let consumers decide individually on how beneficial such calls are. I urge the FCC to establish a database, as the TCPA supports, to allow consumers to escape telemarketers' calls. Otherwise, commercial industries may well claim in the future that salespeople have a right to walk in through our front doors in the name of "commercial freedom."

To uphold the purpose of the TCPA, I urge the FCC to revise its proposed regulations and impose stricter limits on telemarketers' ability to invade the private lives of citizens.

Sincerely,

Donna R. Zenhoff  
3612 Yuma St. NW  
Wash. DC 20008

# Center for the Study of Commercialism

1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 300

Washington, D.C. 20009-5728

Phone: 202-797-7080 Fax: 202-265-4954

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## Staff:

Michael Jacobson  
Karen Brown

Dear CSC member,

I am writing to ask for your help in our campaign to abolish junk phone calls. Those are the calls that take you away from conversation or dinner, and invade your privacy with computerized pitches for lawnmowers, insurance, or other products and services.

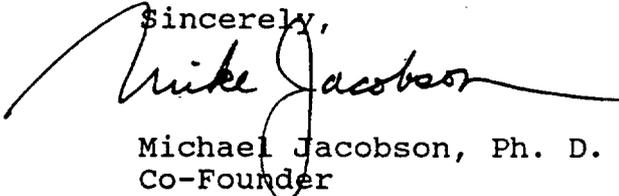
CSC believes that unsolicited telemarketing calls are, at best, a nuisance, and at worse, an intrusion on our private lives. That is why we worked so hard last year to help pass the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. The Act called on the FCC to help people avoid telephone solicitations made by both humans and computers. It imposed a flat ban on most recorded messages, usually computer-dialled, and it urged the FCC to set up a "don't call" database or other way of enabling people to escape "live" calls.

However, the FCC is threatening to gut the law through its regulatory process. The FCC is proposing to permit recorded calls to anyone with whom a business has had a prior relationship, including an old department-store charge account. Automated calls are also allowed if they are "informational" and do not specifically ask the receiver to buy something. What's more, the FCC has chosen to ignore the problem of "live" telemarketing calls altogether. According to the Wall Street Journal, the "telemarketing industry can hardly believe its good fortune."

Clearly, the FCC has interpreted the law in its broadest terms and chosen not to regulate whenever possible. CSC has already alerted the press to this sham. But citizen action is critical. The FCC is accepting public comments until June 25. If you believe that junk phone calls are an invasion of privacy, we urge you to write to: Docket No. CC-92-90, Office of the Secretary, FCC, 1919 M ST. NW, Washington, DC 20554. We are enclosing a sample letter which you can use as a guide, or, if you prefer, just sign and send.

I appreciate your concern about an over-commercialized America and your support of CSC.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Jacobson, Ph. D.  
Co-Founder

Please write!