

Barbara B. Benjamin  
Centre Harbor, NH 03226

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OCT 28 1984

October 28, 1984

Dear Sir,

As a concerned FCC MAIL BOOM I am urging the strengthening of guidelines for the enforcement of the Children's Television Act of 1990. The educational and informational programs for children must be improved and these must be more of them. It is constantly drummed into us that education in the USA is not reaching its potential and that all areas of conduct are suffering. Television is an area of great possibilities for improving the future of young people. As a member of the National Association for Family and Community Education all

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of us are working to see that the special needs  
of children are addressed. Our hour a day  
would be a minimum for educational programs  
to prepare children for job, as well  
as to address the functional literacy of  
our young people. Television is a solid  
medium - we must make sure that it is  
a good influence.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Davis

MM93-48

COSMOS BROADCASTING CORPORATION DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

JIM KEELOR  
PRESIDENT

October 27, 1994

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OCT 28 1994  
FCC MAIL ROOM

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I have watched and listened with anticipation and admiration as you've set about focusing the industry and the Commission on today's critical communication issues. However, I was stunned by your recent comment in BROADCASTING regarding spectrum use. You were quoted as saying, "I predict that Americans will want to know what broadcasters are giving back to the public that justifies their deal."

Mr. Chairman, let me assure you that in the seven markets of America, where Cosmos Broadcasting operates stations, our viewers already know. In Columbia, SC, they know that WIS-TV recently provided six hours of live, continuous, non-commercial coverage when a tornado devastated part of the community. Lake Charles, LA viewers know that KPLC-TV provided an opportunity in prime time for a Town Hall meeting for public debate of how best to develop the downtown/lakefront. Viewers in Evansville, IN know that WFIE-TV held a telethon to raise money to help rebuild a small farming community destroyed by a tornado.

In Louisville, KY, viewers know that WAVE-TV is the only station involving young people and teenagers in specific programming produced by them for them. In Toledo, OH viewers know that WTOL-TV leads the community in projects designed to improve the local environment through litter clean-ups

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
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and recycling. In Jonesboro, AR viewers know that KAIT-TV annually provides hundreds of winter coats to needy residents through its "Warm Neighbors" project. And, in Montgomery, AL viewers know that WSFA-TV is the driving force behind ANY project for which the community needs to be rallied.

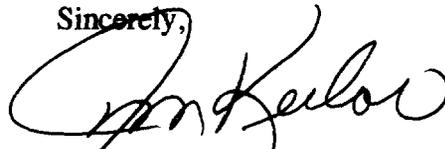
Mr. Chairman, this type of performance is the rule for Cosmos stations, not the exception. I cited one example per market. I could have cited hundreds. I am not saying that every broadcaster matches this performance, but the vast majority do.

In my opinion, the Commission itself may have pointed some station owners away from the public interest standard when it did away with mandatory ownership periods. Unfortunately, that rule change permitted entry into our industry by some who may be more interested in short term financial rewards than long term public service.

I realize that those professionals and public servants, whose careers are rooted in Washington, may not understand what Americans know "outside the beltway." I invite you, sir, to visit any of our markets and find out first hand that Cosmos viewers do know, and appreciate what our stations have done to earn the use of spectrum.

Thank you for your attention. I look forward to assisting your office in any way possible to advance those issues which make us more worthy trustees of the spectrum.

Sincerely,



James M. Keelor  
President

nls

**COSMOS BROADCASTING CORPORATION**  
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OCT 28 1970

FCC MAIL ROOM

Estill Springs FCE Club,  
Estill Springs, Tennessee.  
President: Peggy Traeger,  
61 Mt. Olivet Rd.,  
Estill Springs, TN. 37330

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman,  
Federal Communications Commission,  
1919 M Street N.W., Room 814,  
Washington D.C. 20554.

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Re: Improved Entertainment and Educational  
Programs for Children.

We are a group of women who, together with many other groups and organizations throughout the nation are deeply concerned about the lack of consideration for today's children. Children inherit the world and everything in it, which we pass on to them. We have a tremendous responsibility to ensure that their world will be a safe, nurturing constructive force, providing a favorable learning place, in every area of their formative years and beyond.

Television has, without a doubt, a very powerful impact on children, from the time they first view a T.V. screen, and thenceforth for the rest of their lives.

We know that schools everywhere are without proper funding, and are troubled with many problems, such as coping with children from environments of poverty, abuse, violence and neglect. Some children carry into the classroom a very negative "education" engendered by such a milieu. However, children from more affluent homes are not exempt from the negative influences thrust at them constantly - some from the home base, some from the entertainment media. (See enclosed essay by FCE member.)

Television can provide a vast array of positive influences if the programmers will address this need in much greater depth than has been achieved to date. To capture a child's attention sufficiently, to negate the fascination of programs containing the violence, fighting and death which cartoons and shows present, and offer instead good quality shows, with a positive emphasis, is a challenge that must be accepted. It is vital to our nation, and to everyone, that something be done, and done now, to achieve a vast improvement in television education for children.

We are asking the FCC to address this subject very closely, to strengthen the guidelines for enforcement of The Children's TV Act of 1990, (H.R.1677), and to convince TV stations they must comply with established rules in advertising and programming for children. Further, to appreciate how all programming deeply affects the lives of all children who are watching the screen.

J.G.H.

Continued.....2

c.c.: Elna Spears, C.H.E.  
Extension Leader.

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Signed by:

Lennie Pearl Kelley

Eudora Feller

Clara Dwyer

Beverly Simms

Virginia Haight

Trivian Mason

Mary Land

Evon May

Aue B. Kalbe

Peggy Traeger

Patricia Pearson

Millic Murphy

Bette McClure

Helen Devine

Jana Young

Jocelyn Haynes

Laura Hodgins

Mary J. Dean

### T.V. Violence and Children.

Children absorb what is there for them to absorb. Trying to reverse the process (any process), once absorbed, is a task of giant proportions. Any negative process will leave a sometimes, indelible influence on the human psyche. This is particularly true of children, since they are forever curious, interested, and attracted by any activity that is daring, flouting the rules, even gory and deadly. Why not? As we know, violence has always appeared, throughout civilization - in folklore, in literature, in nursery rhymes; and of course in real life, where violence and horror, devastation and chaos are made real, simply by warring factions in all societies.

However, there is not a living soul - other than the psychopathic persons who seek to launch wars - who does not abhor and dread the very concept of war. We recognize it as a scourge upon the earth, solely destructive and without a single mitigating aspect. It destroys everything in it's path, all that makes life bearable. Why then, if we hate and dread it so, are we drawn into the vortex? Why is there some sort of fascination for us, in things that, while they repel, still hold a fearful attraction? Because like a child playing with matches, a moth flying into a candle flame, a man daring the most dangerous of adventures, it is part of the human condition. It is inexplicably a side of each of us we may deny exists, but are forced to acknowledge, at some time in our lives.

How then, can we hope to deal effectively with the very real threat that TV violence is causing a profound problem among the youth of today? There have been many forums set up to argue and debate these issues - one view presented, that there is no problem; that children should see the "reality of life." Incredibly, advocates of this approach seem to feel that the presentation of TV violence should be regarded as the norm in everyday life, and incorporated into it, as acceptable behavior. Just as incredibly, it is suggested that it can all be solved by "turning off the set", "changing the channel", "tuning it out."\*

Responses to such statements are so obvious, it is hardly necessary to point out, that (1) kids will find a set to see what they want to see - somewhere; (2) parents are very often not home when their children are; and (3) movies are violent too, whether on TV or in a theater.\*\*

The proliferation of guns in home, as well as on the streets, is a direct cause of enabling kids to live out all the lessons they have only too successfully learned from behavior depicted on the video screen. Fighting this inescapable truth, is the very powerful N.R.A. Why this organization chooses to ignore the direct result to our youth, of the freedom with which guns can be obtained and used, is one of the most incredible and

frightening facts we have to face today. Every caring and concerned parent feels totally frustrated and helpless, in the face of such organizations as the N.R.A. overriding the problem, even though they must be fully aware of it's lethal implications.

Hand in hand with the laws that permit everyone to so easily acquire weapons, are the producers of every piece of film released, depicting and presenting a format to "exploit, stimulate and nurture a taste for blood."\*\*\* There has been much discussion about exactly what type of program would fit this description, some debaters insisting that such 'labeling' is violating freedom of expression. The next step, inevitably, is declaring that any form of censorship is unconstitutional!!

Where, in all this rhetoric, is any suggestion that the health and safety of our children are the issues? That a monster is on the loose, and that it must be stopped?? The evidence is overwhelming.\*\*\*\* The decision is clear. There is a rising tide everywhere, of people who are convinced, and determined to fight for significant changes.

No matter what it takes!!!!

Jocelyn G. Haynes.

- \* "TV Should Show Kids Real Life." Peter Goddard.
- \*\* "In Brief - Leave It To Beavis." Ken Schroeder.
- >\*\*\* "The Independent" Brian Appleyard.
- \*\*\*\* "Violence Still An Issue In Kids' TV." Jeff Jensen.

*Jocelyn G. Haynes  
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