

Oct. 12, 1995

FCC Office of the Secretary

1919 M St. NW

Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FCC MAIL ROOM

" MM Docket 93-48 DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

I strongly feel that a lot, mostly the bulk of most TV programs aimed for viewing by children are harmful to children.

There is entirely too much violence. Even some of the comics contain violence.

The saying that "A picture is worth a thousand words" is so true. Many children believe what they see on the screen and in some instances imitate it.

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

I am in favor of more educational programs for children -  
(end)

---

and programs that help them to  
interact with others in ways that  
are beneficial to all of them.

It's time the FCC endorses  
good, clean programs to be  
shown for children.

Sincerely,

Mary Speckelmeier

WBBJ-TV

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY



October 12, 1995

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St., NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter is in response to a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 93-48. As a local broadcaster trying to be as good as free, local tv should be, I am asking the commission to please consider the long term ramifications of setting numerical quotas for educational and informational children's programming.

We believe that the original Children's Television Act has already had a significant impact in increasing children's educational and informational programming. Both locally, and as an ABC affiliate, we have seen such an increase. Therefore, we believe that the ACT and current FCC rules are working to increase this type of programming and new or more rules are not needed.

Thank you in advance for the courtesy of considering this request.

Sincerely,

JACKSON TELECASTER'S, INC.

Thomas J. Spain  
General Manager

CC: Chairman Reed Hundt ✓  
Commissioner James Quello  
Commissioner Andrew Barrett  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Rachelle Chong

346 MUSE STREET  
JACKSON, TENNESSEE 38301  
(901) 424-4515

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

0



MM93-48

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

REMOVED

OCT 17 1995

Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. N. W.  
Washington D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Federal Communications Commission:

We the undersigned strongly support Peggy Charren and moral TV programming for our children and adults as well. We urge you to vote yes to the 3 hours a week prime time programming that meets childrens educational needs.

Please consider this when reviewing the Children's Television Act. Thank you.

Cindy Clement  
Name

656 Pleasant View Ct.  
Address

Richland Center, WI 53581  
City, State, Zip

No. of Copies rec'd 1  
List ABCDE

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

1632 Yorktown Dr.  
Charlottesville, Va.  
22901-3033  
Oct. 11, 1995

Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. N.W.  
Attention: Mass Media Bureau  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Referring to Docket # MM-93-48 =

We support the idea that each T.V. network be required to air at least three hours of educational T.V. for children each week.

Please support quality and help get rid of the trash and violence on T.V.

Families are having a hard enough time now. They need all the quality and moral support you can give them.

Encourage networks to drop "the fighting shows" and the "comic-book television".

Yours sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Matson

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

0

MM93-48

From: <lcooper1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/8/95 7:22pm  
Subject: Re: your mail

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

On Sun, 8 Oct 1995 lcooper1@ic3.ithaca.edu wrote:

> Dear FCC Commissioners,

> There are so many arguments against television stations being > irresponsible and unreliable for their procedures and for what their > viewers obtain from their programming. I feel this view is wrong. It's > not the sole responsibility of a television station to make sure morals > and lessons are properly distributed amongst their shows. They take what > the general public wants and requests and fulfill their needs. These > "offensive" television programs wouldn't even be on the air if a general > consensus didn't want them there in the first place.

> I feel television stations should put more movies for children on > their channels. There are so many quality movies such as, "Little > Giants", "The Little Rascals", and "The Sandlot", that children could > enjoy that wouldn't even have to be edited for language. This way > children wouldn't feel left out when movies are put on TV supposedly for > all audiences.

> A lot of educators and parents say many cartoons are > inappropriate for children to view, when children are in fact their > target audience. But I disagree. Not all "violent" cartoons are negative > for children to watch. Many of these shows teach the lessons that are > important for kids to learn, when kids tune their parent's words and > rules out.

The argument that cartoons bring out the violent nature in children is unjustified. When kids fight in mimicking their favorite cartoon characters, they are fighting against the "bad guys". They don't go up to teachers, parents, and other adults and punch or kick them. Maybe their ideas of saying no, and fighting against the "evil people" can help protect them when it comes to being abducted or molested by strangers. The commercials that teach adolescents about staying in school, saying no to drugs, and safe sex are produced for their belief. Are advocated saying these are also inappropriate for kids? These commercials also come on during children's broadcasting. If no one is allowed to watch, what good they do.

There's an unspoken law between children that when they "fight" like their favorite television characters, it's only play. Siblings fight all the time, and in many instances even more viciously than on television. No one says every brother and sister are going to grow up being abnormally violent.

There are many programs on television that aren't quality, that kids shouldn't be watching. Impressionable children should be watched when they choose the programming they watch. But that's the responsibility of the parents, not the television industry. Impressionable children who can't always be watched, should be raised by parents with good and moral values, to know the difference between right and wrong, despite what television says.

Maybe children should be exposed to more real aspects of life, and limiting their freedom to make their own choices isn't the way to teach them. Parents always have the opportunity to decide how much freedom their children should have, but the television stations should give children as much opportunity, with better programming, that suits everyone's needs.

I also think parents, teachers, and other adults are underestimating adolescents. They're actually a lot more intelligent and have much more common sense than they are credited for. Impressionable children who can't always be watched, should be raised by parents with good and moral values, to know the difference between right and wrong, despite what television says. Kids get so much information from the outside world, without even realizing it. Even without television kids would learn violent behavior from things they just see on the street.

I hope I have shown that not all opinions of television programming is bad. It's always important to remember that pouring as much sex and violence into television just so more people will watch is wrong, but not all television is insensitive to their viewers.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope I have made my views clear. I wanted you to have the opinions of a college age student as well as children and parents.

Sincerely,

Lesley Cooper

311 Tallcott Hall  
Ithaca College  
953 Danby Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850-7216

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("massmedia@liber.thaca.edu")

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

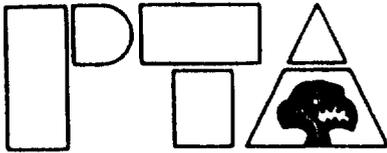
To Whom It May Concern;

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know my feelings. I feel that there is too much violence on our TV's today. We need to regulate this more. I am concerned very much.

Thank-you  
Elaine Huntsman  
10/12/95

M M Docket No. 93-48

No. of Copies rec'd 1  
List ABCDE



ILLINOIS CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS  
901 South Spring Street • Springfield, Illinois 62704  
(217) 528-9617

MMB

RECEIVED

SEP 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

September 30, 1995

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chair  
The Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Sir:

I am writing to exert my rights over the airwaves and express my displeasure with the lack of educational and informational needs of children in overall programming. It is disappointing that the Children's Television Act of 1991 has not brought about a significant improvement in children's programming. It has long been recognized that television is a very effective and powerful medium for education.

It appears that market control has not produced better programming when left to voluntary efforts. Therefore, as a PTA parent I urge the FCC to do the following:

- Set a standard of at least one hour per day of specifically-designed educational and information programming on all TV stations;
- Redefine its definition of "educational and informational" programming in order to close the regulatory loophole which permit stations to cite programs such as "The Jetsons" and the "Flintstones" on their license renewal applications;
- Count only standard length, regularly-scheduled educational programs as meeting a station's "core" programming obligations under the Act;
- Exclude programs aired before 6:00 a.m. or after 10:00 p.m. from counting toward the core requirement of children's programming.

Most parents are willing to share the responsibility for what their children watch, but they cannot do the job themselves. Parents need the active help of the FCC to improve TV quality.

Very truly yours,

Arlene Zielke  
3724 West 107th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60655

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

0

MM 93-48

**From:** Bonita Kale <bf455@cleveland.freenet.edu>  
**To:** A16.A16(kidstv)  
**Date:** 10/14/95 9:27am  
**Subject:** Re: Kids' TV

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In reference to MM Docket No. 93-48:

I work in the children's room of a public library, and have three children of my own. As a parent, a library worker, and a citizen, I am horribly ashamed of what this country calls television for children.

The networks should be required, in exchange for their license to use our airwaves, to provide a reasonable amount (at least an hour or two a day) of NONCOMMERCIAL television for children. This would have NO ADVERTISEMENTS--not even ads for other TV shows.

In addition, the shows themselves should be noncommercial-- no shows based on toys.

Bonita Kale

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

--  
Bonita Kale bf455@cleveland.freenet.edu

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE

1

MM 93-48

From: allan <atomic.software@pobox.com>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/14/95 3:25pm  
Subject: Re: Kids' TV (fwd)

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

THIS DATE RECEIVED  
OCT 14 1995  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

MM Docket No. 93-48

From Allan and Wendy Marcus. 448 Bryce Street  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

We are concerned partents who feel that commercial television for children is way too violent, especially Saturday morning cartoons. As a result, we currently do not let our son watch commercial television AT ALL; we only let him watch PBS and other educational videos.

- The Processing Guideline should consist of one hour of "core" educational programming daily
- Quality "core" programs should be specifically designed to educate and inform children at least thirty minutes in length regularly scheduled aired between 7am and 11pm

Allan Marcus

-----  
 Home: 505-672-0370  
 Work: 505-665-1828  
 AppleLink: allan.marcus eWorld/Newton Mail: allan.m  
 CompuServe: 74774,1415  
 InterNet: atomic.software@pobox.com  
 U.S. Mail: 448 Bryce Street, Los Alamos, NM 87544  
 -----

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
 List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: KathyB-LanesboroPL <KATHYB@selco.lib.mn.us>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/14/95 4:52pm  
Subject: Children's Programming

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
DATE  
OCT 14 1995  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kathy Buzza and I am the director of the Lanesboro Public Library, 202 Parkway South, Lanesboro, MN 55949 (507)467-2649. I am interested in commenting on MM Docket No. 93-48, regarding the quality of children's programming on television. Television is a seductive medium, and to help educate AND entertain children who are already spending a significant portion of their day in front of a television set, I believe specific guidelines should be adopted for children's programming. Networks should provide one hour of

"core" educational programming daily, with quality core programming specifically designed to educate and inform children with programs at least 30 minutes in length. These programs should be regularly scheduled programs on daily, rather than "after school specials" that are on infrequently, and they should air between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.. I am concerned as a parent and a librarian that we need more tie-in programs with books, such as the popular Reading Rainbow programs and Magic Schoolbus programs, and I would like to see more literature-based family programming in the evening, such as the Wonderworks programs developed by PBS. I do feel with \$37 billion in free access to the airwaves that broadcasters should be required to provide quality children's programming. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to respond!

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

No. of Copies rec'd 1  
List ABCDE

MM93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: <emediuc1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(KIDSTV)  
Date: 10/16/95 1:48am

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL. 15, 1995

Honorable FCC Commissioners:

Study after study has shown the negative effects of poor quality children programming. It is my humble opinion that the new FCC proposals are very imparitive to solving the programming dilemma. Although the Children's Television Act of 1990 is already in effect, its requirements are obviously not posing enough restrictions if the controversy over childrens programming continues.

As it is the FCC's duty to oversee and regulate broadcasting as well as monitor customer service, opposition to the propsals should be minimal by the public. It would be difficult to find parents and teachers who disagree with more stringent requirements. The efforts imposed by the commission for better informed parents and children supervisors is what is necessary for a situation that is out of control. Better informed consumers also aids in the communication between the public and the programmers without government interventon. Programmers, possibly the only opposition, will eventually see the benefits of conforming to the new propsals by a large viewing growth. However, the FCC can not restrict everything, this is where parental supervision comes into play.

Morality is an issue that is very sensitive and should be discussed with care. What parents permit their child to watch is a freedom in which they have total control. However, it is when a child is viewing material which is inappropriate under their parents beliefs that a problem occurs. Parents need to monitor children viewing to assure proper subjects and educational input. It is astonishing that in the information age, television has not risen as a major source for education. The commission is taking steps in the right dircetion with the new propsals that clearly state requirements of educational shows and their airtimes.

It is in the commission's best interest, based on conducted studies, comments, and the public's interest that these new regulations are enacted. The propsals clarify existing rules which are ambiguous, set new standards which could meet a need for educational material, and leave a better informed community where communication can be more effective.

Evan Mediuch  
East Tower 703  
953 Danby Rd.  
Ithaca College  
Ithaca, NY 14850

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("MASSMEDIA@LIBER.ITHACA.EDU")

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

From: <toan1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 2:34am  
Subject: rules for children television

Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
(MM Docket 93-48) kidstv@fcc.gov  
Re: Rules for Children's Television

Oct 15, 1995

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

To whom it may concern,

The concern over the quality, as well as, the quantity of children's television programs has shown a significant increase in recent years. The overall decline of broadcast television standards - especially in explicit and gratuitous violence - forces parents and guardians to monitor what their children watch. A responsibility that parents in the past neglected to perform. Many adults finally realize that television is not a suitable baby-sitter to their children. Especially in the age of dwindling support for the commercial free public television who air quality programs such as the Children's Television Workshop. It is the role of the parent to take an active interest in the habits of their children, especially television viewing habits. Unaware of their responsibility, many parents blame networks and cable companies for damaging the impressionable minds of their son or daughter. Parents now are looking to the government in their fight against television violence. Unfortunately the Children's Television Act of 1994 accomplished little in proving broadcast programming.

Previous governmental attempts at regulating the quality of children's television have come up short of truly improving it. The addition to and stronger implementation of the Children's Television Act of 1994 in theory possesses numerous advantages and improvements. Though the application of many of the ideas seems difficult if not impossible. The first of the three principles devised to aid in carrying out the proposed changes exposes one of the difficulties. How are the feelings and reactions of the audience to be recorded?, processed? and then judged? How many complaints warrant a change in the program or programming schedule? The majority of working parents do not sit and watch television with their children. How are they to express their reactions? The restrictions regarding what airs on television undoubtedly will meet head on with anti-censorship groups and the public in general.

The second of the provisions calls for the defining of programming "specifically designed" to serve the education and informational needs of children. Besides the apparent ambiguity - who will act as gatekeeper as what meets the decided criteria. Networks paying other stations to fulfill their FCC requirements opens the networks to continue to play violent shows during the day.

Further government television regulation arises in the question of the V-Chip. Anti-censorship groups view the chip as a possible step towards blanket censorship. Even Bob Dole who strongly criticizes television opposes the V-Chip, recognizes its potential for constitutional infringement. Many parents see it as the answer to the problem of television violence.

The regulation of any aspect of a major American institution creates conflict. Especially in the case of television, where virtually every American household is affected. To produce successful results with minimal opposition, the process must move slow and steady. The quality of children's television programs remains an important issue, but it only will improve if the standards of the entire broadcast community increase.

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("massmedia@liber.edu")

No. of Copies rec'd 1  
List ABCDE

MM93-48

From: <tc0an1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 3:36am  
Subject: violence in children's television

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Oct 15, 1995

To whom it may concern,

The concern over the quality, as well as, the quantity of children's television programs has shown a significant increase in recent years. The overall decline of broadcast television standards - especially in explicit and gratuitous violence - forces parents to monitor what their children watch. A responsibility that parents in the past neglected to perform. Many adults finally realize that television is not a suitable guardian or baby-sitter to their children. Especially in the age of dwindling support for the commercial free public television who air such quality shows through the Children's Television Workshop. It is the role of the parent to take an active interest in the habits of their children, especially their viewing habits. Ignorant to their responsibility, many parents blame networks and cable companies for damaging the impressionable minds of their son or daughter. Parents now are looking to the government in their fight against television violence. Unfortunately the Children's Television Act of 1994 accomplished little in improving broadcast programming.

Previous governmental attempts at regulating the quality of children's television have come up short in true improvement. The addition to and stronger implementation of Children's Television Act of 1994 in theory possesses numerous advantages and improvements. Thought application of many of the ideas seems difficult if not impossible. The first of the three principles devised to aid in carrying out the proposed changes exposes one of the difficulties. How are the feelings to be recorded?, processed? and then judged? How many complaints warrant a change in the program or the programming schedule? The majority of working parents do not sit and watch television with their children. How are these parents to express their satisfaction or disdain for the programming? The restriction of what can and cannot air on television undoubtedly will meet head on with anti-censorship groups and the public in general.

The second of the provisions calls for the defining of programming "specifically designed" to serve the educational and informational needs of children. Besides the apparent ambiguity - who will act as gatekeeper as to what constitutes educational and informational programming? Principle three proposes a sponsorship method through which to meet the program requirements. Networks paying other stations to fulfill their FCC requirements opens the networks to continue to air violent shows during the day.

Further government television regulation arises in the question of the V-chip. Anti-censorship groups view the V-chip as a possible step in the direction of blanketing censorship. Senator Bob Dole, who strongly criticizes the present television quality, opposes the chip. Recognizing its potential for constitutional infringement.

The regulation of any aspect of a major American institution creates conflict. Especially in the case of television, where virtually every American household is affected. To produce successful results with minimal opposition the process must be slow. The quality of children's television programs remains an important issue, but it will only happen if the standards of the entire broadcast community improves.

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("massmedia@liber.ithaca.edu")

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM93-48

**From:** <Steve\_Blewett@sil.org>  
**To:** A7.A7(RBCHONG),A16.A16(kidstv)  
**Date:** 10/16/95 11:18am  
**Subject:** Children's Television Act Guidelines

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

**TO:** Commissioner Rachelle Chong  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

**FROM:** Steve & Kim Blewett  
12209 Pawnee Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Phone: 301-990-8442

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Chong:

As parents of two children, and concerned about the future of all America's children, we are writing to ask you to please vote for new rules to require television to provide more definite guidelines for educational programming for children, including a minimum of 3-5 hours a week of educational shows for kids.

We are very glad the Commission is considering these new rules to help enforce the Children's Television Act. We realize that broadcasters are not currently complying with this act as it currently stands, and that more regulation is needed.

We would like to see broadcasters use more responsibly their great potential for positive influence on kids.

We are extremely concerned about the excessive amounts of violence and sex on both airwave and cable television; and we will support all efforts to provide more family-oriented programming, from which both children and adults will benefit. Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

Steve and Kim Blewett

**CC:** FCCMAIL.SMTP("children@dnai.com")

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

**From:** <Steve\_Blewett@sil.org>  
**To:** A16.A16(kidstv)  
**Date:** 10/16/95 11:19am  
**Subject:** Children's Television Act Guidelines

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

**TO:** FCC Chairman Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

**FROM:** Steve & Kim Blewett  
12209 Pawnee Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Phone: 301-990-8442

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As parents of two children, and concerned about the future of all America's children, we are writing to ask you to please vote for new rules to require television to provide more definite guidelines for educational programming for children, including a minimum of 3-5 hours a week of educational shows for kids.

We are very glad the Commission is considering these new rules to help enforce the Children's Television Act. We realize that broadcasters are not currently complying with this act as it currently stands, and that more regulation is needed.

We would like to see broadcasters use more responsibly their great potential for positive influence on kids.

We are extremely concerned about the excessive amounts of violence and sex on both airwave and cable television; and we will support all efforts to provide more family-oriented programming, from which both children and adults will benefit. Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

Steve and Kim Blewett

**CC:** FCCMAIL.SMTP("children@dnai.com")

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

From: <smoore1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 12:30pm  
Subject: children's television

OCT 17 1995

10/15/95

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Honorable Commissioners:

The proposed rules to improve children's programming should be carried out to the greatest extent. Every possible measure that can be taken in order to influence children's programming in a positive direction is one step closer to a brighter future for the next generation of television viewers. Many people are concerned about the amount of violence that children have access to on the television with a mere flip of a switch. The efforts to reduce the availability of violent programming to children will not completely stop children from seeing such programming. However, the implications of the negative effects of violence will hopefully help children to understand that violence is not acceptable behavior.

Such precautions as the V-chip, allowing the audience to judge the quality of licensee's programming and meeting educational and informational needs of children are great ideas. They are possible remedies to eliminate some of the inappropriate elements of television that children have access to view. Although it cannot be 100% effective, it is helpful and will make conservative parents and concerned parties more comfortable knowing that children are not viewing what they don't think is appropriate. However, if a parent is that concerned, they would probably have enough sense to talk to their kids about what is acceptable behavior and what is just television fiction. "Sadly, those most inclined to violence often have parents least inclined to control what they see. But parents cannot be banned, nor, unfortunately, can all violent instincts. But information and chips could help," stated one journalist from "The Economist," (Volume 332, August 13, 1994.)

Children, by nature, will find a way to view what they want since they are not being supervised by their parents all the time. Statistics by Stewart Cohen of the scholarly journal, "Childhood Education" Winter 1993, show that the more television that is available to a child, the less active that child will be in athletics and social activity. Television "occupies such a large portion of children's time [that it] will have some discernible outcome upon behavior." A good way to increase physical activity in children would be to increase programming supporting athletics and socially accepted activities. This could possibly spark interest in positive physical activity and distract children from violent tendencies.

Children today are just plain absent minded watching too much television not knowing about or caring about the psychological effects it has on them. A child is very impressionable and when they watch up to 5,000 hours by the first grade, they will most likely mimic some of what they see. Warnings of indecent content in programming will not phase a child's desire to watch the show unless a parent is there to explain to the child why they shouldn't see that particular show.

The more positive activity that is portrayed on television, the more children will imitate socially acceptable behavior. Indirectly, programmers do have an affect on children who watch significant amounts of television. The violence in children's programming is disturbing because it is a direct ploy to get the children to watch a program. The more children they get to watch their shows the more advertisers will pay to have their commercials aired and the broadcast stations get wealthier because of it. Parents need to explain what television is about so that children know not to mimic it until suitable children's programming is aired.

Yours truly,  
Seth Moore smoore1@ic3.ithaca.edu

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("massmedia@liber.ithaca.edu")

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

**From:** <rdecker@nos.noaa.gov>  
**To:** A16.A16(kidstv)  
**Date:** 10/16/95 12:42pm  
**Subject:** MM DOCKET 93-48

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
1919 M Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

I wish to comment about MM Docket 93-48.

I work for NOAA, visiting ships which have foreign flags and crews. I am often asked why we (Americans) are so violent. I can only reply that we are trained to be violent.

I am not educated in social problems, but I suspect that most violence is perpetrated by individuals that are immature. These individuals can only consider violence as acceptable since it is so frequent on television at prime time. Why instead of supporting violence can we not be exemplary supporting goodness?

Thank you for your time

Robert H. Decker  
NOAA/NOS/OES  
7600 Sandpoint Way N.E.  
Seattle WA 98115  
(206) 526-4280

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

From: Pat Miller <Pat\_Miller@knpb.pbs.org>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 2:31pm  
Subject: defining educational tv

OCT 17 1995

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I read with interest an article in our local newspaper this morning regarding the need for a definition of educational television for networks to use in their efforts to comply with current regulations for children's television. One needs only to review the children's programming found on any PBS affiliate to understand that television which is designed to educate begins with a sound understanding of learning theory and curriculum guidelines. Using these frameworks, the "instructional designer" then interprets the educational objectives through techniques and applications of television production. The result is a Reading Rainbow, which for some 14 years has been motivating children to read, or a Ghostwriter, motivating them to write, or a Bill Nye, the Science Guy, exciting learners of all ages to the magical fun found in science discovery. The difference between "educational" television and other television programming is that its first objective is to educate, not to sell product or to entertain. However, the best of the educational television programming will certainly do all three. The frightening aspect of this discussion is that ALL television educates -- our mission must be to ensure that at least some children's programming teaches what we would like children to learn.

Patricia Miller, Vice-President  
Programming, Production, Education  
KNPB/Channel 5, Reno, Nevada

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: <lromano1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
Date: 10/16/95 3:55pm  
Subject: Re: your mail

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I know that Messere's Friday 10:00a.m.-10:50a.m. discussion group had to write to the FCC. There are a little more than 25 of us in that discussion group. Someone else asked me if she had to write to the FCC. The advice I gave her was, "If Messere didn't assign it to you, don't worry about it." Anyway the assignment was due by the 16th. You could always check with Messere though. Hope this helps.

On Sun, 15 Oct 1995 dglasgo1@ic3.ithaca.edu wrote:

> I am just as confused.. if anyone knows.. please lemme know what's going on!

> Thanks!

> > On Sun, 15 Oct 1995 sborkow1@ic3.ithaca.edu wrote:

> > > did i miss something here?

> > why is everyone writing letters to the fcc and should i be > > >

writing one too?

> > > i'm so confused

> > > > > >

i just want to cry

> > >

CC: A16.A16(kidstv),FCCMAIL.SMTP("massmedia@liber.itha...

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: <SHIPLEY@uwplatt.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 5:38pm  
Subject: mmdocket No. 93-48

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I am a librarian in children's programs. We need to have at least one hour of educational children's programming daily, shown a time from early morning to late evening. This should be provided in a regular schedule so schools, children, parents can count upon children's getting to view it at a specified time during the day. The docket number is MM Docket No. 93-48

L. Phyllis Shipley  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville  
Karmann Library/Wisconsin Room  
Platteville, WI 53818  
Telephone: 608-342-1719 e-mail: shipley@uwplatt.edu

What would we do without books to read?

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: <mholcom1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 6:41pm  
Subject: children and tv

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear members of the FCC,

According to Newton Minnow and Craig Lamay, authors of *Abandoned in the Wasteland*, by the time most people reach the age of eighteen, they have spent more time in front of a television than in the classroom. The difference is far greater in contrast to time spent talking to their parents, teachers and friends. It is evident that providing a better television environment for our children should be a great priority to the Federal Communications Committee.

The deterioration of the family that has occurred in the United States has contributed to the need for quality programming for children. At one time in America watching television was a family event in which the entire family watched together. David Westin, ABC network president, agrees stating that in the past most families owned one television and so majority ruled what was seen. He continues saying today households own two or three television sets and children are going in one room and adults into another to watch television. Parents are failing to monitor what their children view and so, children are being exposed to numerous acts of violence and sex. With this breakdown of the family, the government should take some initiative and do something to improve the situation.

Daniel Anderson, a professor of psychology at the University of Massachusetts, claims the "For children, television is a window to the world. Parents should control, limit, regulate television as much as they control, limit and regulate other things the child does." Parental control of what a child watches on television is ideal, yet overly optimistic. Not only do parents no longer sit and watch television with their kids, but often times there is only one parent present. The makeup of families has changed over the years. Divorce is more prominent in today's society and more and more children are being born out of wedlock. Even if a single parents wanted to monitor what his or her child watched, it would be very unlikely that the parent would have the time; therefore, it is vital that networks increase the amount of quality television for children aired. Programmers must begin to realize that we can't change the structure of families, but we can change the structure of television.

"It just has to do with conventional wisdom that unless somebody makes us, it isn't in our economic interest to do educational programming for kids," notes David Britt, president of the Children's Television Workshop. Networks need to be forced into producing more child oriented programming. The FCC should place regulations on networks that they must air a certain amount of educational and informational television for children. There have been efforts to alter the Children's Television Act of 1990 that would provide this increase in children's programming. One proposal would have made it necessary for networks to air at least three hours of children's television a week. Three hours a week, however, is a pathetic attempt to transform the structure of television for kids. It should be three hours of programming a day. The only way kids are going to start watching better programming is if they are bombarded with numerous options.

A study conducted by Aletha Huston and John Wright, co-directors of the University of Kansas Research on the Influences of Television, found that in low income areas of Kansas City, children who watched *Sesame Street* regularly performed significantly better on standard math and verbal tests than children who watched adult television and cartoons. There have been numerous other studies with similar results. It is so obvious that increasing the amount of children's television would only be beneficial, so why isn't someone doing something about it?

Sincerely,  
Kate Holcomb

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("mailserv@liber.thaca.edu")

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM 93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

From: <kharvey1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 10:21pm

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

To the Board of the Federal Communications Commission,  
I am a student at Ithaca College. In my course entitled Intro to Mass Media, we have been discussing, at length, violence on today's Television programming. Concerning ourselves mainly with the impact on the youth of today. It seems to be the trend that much of the violence is beginning to have a negative impact on children. That is a broad statement. Not all youths are negatively affected by what is seen on television. Many can discern the truth from the world of television very well. Yet it is undeniable that some children are indeed affected. In an issue of U.S. News and World Report a survey was conducted to see how much time children spend watching television. The results were astounding. By first grade a total of five thousand hours were watched by children. By high school a total of fifteen thousand hours were watched. How many acts of violence did these children watch?  
The problem at hand is this; children will watch T.V., that is inevitable. What they watch has to be monitored. Violence, to children who have little parental intervention, will not be able to depict right from wrong as easily as those with parents who monitor their children's viewing. I am a firm believer in parents knowing exactly what their children are watching, how often they watch television and how it affects them. My parents were this way and I know others who are this way. It helps children keep an idea of what is really the truth.  
You at the F.C.C. have the power to help the parents a great deal by extensively screening the programs that are to be aired during the hours many kids may be watching. This has already been in effect for many years, yet as of late the standards have become a little lax. Further innovations on channel lockouts and special codes need to be updated and implemented.  
In conclusion, violence watched by children has become a problem. Yet it is not yet out of our hands to correct. With your help along with that of cable companies and broadcasting companies we can still get hold of the problem. Thank you for both your time and consideration.

Respectfully,  
Kiel Harvey  
Kharvey1@ithaca.edu

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

MM93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: <mabrams1@ic3.ithaca.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 10:43pm  
Subject: I care

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear honorable Federal Communications Commission

The question of censorship is a question of where to draw the line. It is a very delicate topic because no matter where you draw the line, people are not going to be happy. There are always going to be people at home, such as parents, who are going to want to regulate the shows on television, movies or radio. Of course there are also going to be the producers and executives who are going to want to keep the liberal, free willed shows to air.

A big dilemma comes about when dealing with censorship. That is "is American willing to sacrifice its entertainment when it comes to violence to gain better morals for the children of tomorrow?" Although this may be the question, the answer is not as black and white. As I said earlier there are always going to be people who are not happy. The objective of the FCC is to try to please the maximum amount of people while keeping entertainment in "good taste."

I am not going to judge whether the further limitation of the programming on television by the FCC is a good thing, but try to justify it. In a day and society where violence and sex are probably the two biggest sellers in entertainment, it is tough to try to take that away from the people of America. As much as society wants to see these things, it has been proven by numerous examples that especially the younger generations are very influential towards what is seen on T.V.

I personally would be willing to sacrifice these two aspects of television to gain a better tomorrow. I also understand that I might not be the majority and I can completely understand why that might be. I believe that this fact is probably due to the ignorance of American society. If society could truly understand how much violence affects the youth I believe they would change their point of views as well. At a day in age when sex is not just a worry of pregnancy but many STD's and of course AIDS it is very important to at least limit if not educate the children of today to the dangers of sex. Although it is a necessity in entertainment programming. Therefore the actions of the FCC, although possibly not popular are productive.

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE

MM93-48

RECEIVED

OCT 17 1995

From: Andrew R. Mark <andrewm@interport.net>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 10/16/95 11:41pm  
Subject: YES!!!

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I agree with those who feel that THIS is the time that the FCC can apply pressure on broadcasters to increase the amount of QUALITY kids' shows.

PLEASE!! Don't blow the chance. We're counting on you!

Andrew Mark  
SMART TONE, INC.  
205 West End Avenue  
New York, NY 10023-4804

Voice: 212.721.0332  
Facs: 212.595.5835  
Email: andrewm@interport.net

No. of Copies rec'd 1  
List ABCDE