

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY



5661 - 5 1996

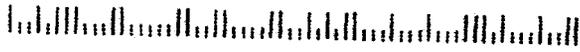
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Reed E. HUNT

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Comm Comm

1996 M G 111



1000-1000

MM87-268
LIVE TV Along ^{MMP}

Got NO MONEY

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FOR ~~NEW TV~~ ^{HDTV} ~~TYPE~~

POOR got nothin but
TV AND Rich WANT TO TAKE
FROM SLIM BAKER that AWAY 2.

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MM 87-268

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ERIC REED HUNT,

FEB - 5 1996

12/27/95

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After reading the article in the "AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMEN" re: High-Definition TV could carry High Price, I am excited about this new revolution in T.V. however due to the high cost of every T.V. owner in America having to buy a costly T.V. to keep up with the high-tech ~~societies~~ societies we live in for US (me) the T.V. owner(s) to decide.

Even the converter box is not pocket change at \$200⁰⁰-TOP! I ~~could~~ ^{now just} a new T.V.

this year as did my family and at a price tag of \$1200⁰⁰ I don't want to pay an additional \$500⁰⁰ for the new T.V.'s! (Unless you can guarantee it won't be ~~on~~ ^{on the} market until the life of my new T.V. is over!)

In my eyes and probably many others the picture is fine on the current T.V.'s and I haven't been blinded yet so please pass this to the right & mighty who can afford this high tech piece of equipment and think twice before making this decision. Thank-you. Name withheld.

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MM 87-268

FEB - 5 1996

12-29-95

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

MM

Dear Mr. Hundt

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In our local newspaper on Dec 27 I read a very disturbing article regarding TV stations and a new plan for transmitting TV signals via a more efficient computer-style digital system. The article states that the new system will make every television now operating in America obsolete and replacing the 220 million sets to receive the new signal will cost viewers \$187 Billion. Now that is a very scary thought.

The article also states that whatever happens viewers ~~to~~ will need new TV sets to see the improved broadcasts and will require a big digital set 35 inches or larger and costing about \$1500 more than current analog models to see the difference in picture quality.

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Why should we consumers have to pay out \$1000 to \$2500 per set to watch TV just

because the TV stations want to make a change? Every time they decide to give us something better we pay through the nose for it even if we don't want it. Also I see they want to use the second channel free for at least 15 years. If the channels were sold thus making money (approximately \$100 Billion) for the U.S. Treasury you can bet the cost will be passed on to the consumer. That will cost us even more. Being retired and on a fixed income along with many others I think it would be difficult to afford this new system.

I realize they are coming up with new things all the time and changes are a necessity. I think there is also a limit of what the public should have to endure.

I also know very little about communications over the airways and I'm sure there will be a lot of soul searching and debate pro and con about this

new system and we as the viewing
public can only hope the people in
your position will make the best
decision for us - the viewing public
Thank you for you time

Joe Powell
4980 Dwight Dr
Fort Wayne Ind.
46835

MM8-248

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132 1/2 E, 24 St., 1111

FEB - 5 1996

Wilton Moore,
Florida
33305

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Mr. Chairman

Please consider this new problem
which I think it is called Digital T.V.
it would be too difficult to we old people
or poor ones to have to change T.V. for
a new one which is out of the generation.
Believe me we would have more trouble
than worth if it ever came about. -

People as a rule have no place to go now,
the cost is too much and have only T.V.
to look at. If this goes so does the notion
My wife is 77 and I will be 78 in Jan.
and all we have is T.V. to look at.
there are many like us also, please do
vote against it at all times. -

Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,
Joseph L. Collette

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MM 87-268 December 27

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hundt, EX PARTE OR LATE FILING

Broadcasters on TV should
have to pay for the spectrum they
use. They should also be told to do
their public duties.

We should not be forced to
buy new TV sites or converters. Wait
til technology solves that problem!

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F 5 - 5 1996

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Sincerely yours,
Dorothy Lutz
5861 S. Pike Lake Rd.
Duluth, MN 55811

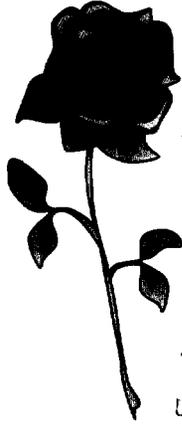
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Janet Payne
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

- 5 1996



To: Rod E. Hundert
Chairman FCC

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In regard to the
digital transmission television
the answer is NO!

My picture and sound are just fine
thank you

I am sure the bottom line here is
money and greed. Coming out of Wash-
ington D.C. it has to be.

I have 4 television sets in my
home, but I promise you I will not
purchase even one of these sets, as
programming is at its lowest point
ever, and I am finding other ways
to amuse myself.

Yours Truly

Robert H. Payne
R.R. Box 338
Benton Ill
62812

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P.S.

I can miss sex and violence
on the street for free



TV

MM 87-268

MMF

Red Hundt

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL PART OR LATE FILED

I am opposed to the \$200 billion plan to revamp the TV industry. I read that every TV will become obsolete. I'm satisfied with my TV and my reception, I cannot afford a new TV. I'm sure there are many who feel this way.

Thanks

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Steve Roditsky

54 Ridge TR

Fairfield, Pa

17320

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Frederic, Wis.

Dec 29, 1995

Reed Hundt

FEB -5 1996

MM 87-268

Washington, D.C.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Dear Sir:-

I see in the St Paul Pioneer Press your address to write to you about broadcast T.V. future.

I am a 75 year old widow and watching T.V. is a big part of my life. I do not have Cable or a satellite dish as I can not afford them. I never could afford a new T.V. if digital comes in.

I live on my Social Security check. I have a hard time now getting by paying insurance, taxes, medicine, etc. I live modestly and do not get any help from the government!

Please do all you can to stop this Digital T.V. Corporations make enough money now!

Thank you,

Mafine Callaway

601 W Birch St

Frederic, Wis 54837

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MM 87-260

NMF

Dec. 28, 1995

Attonia, Texas

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Reed Henelt
1919 M. St. NW
Washington, DC 20554 0001

please do not let HDTV
take over. Do you realize how
many people could not afford
one of the new TVs?

we could not afford a new
HDTV and neither could our friends
or relatives.

So please leave TV as it is
we're all happy with what we
have.

Thank you
Mr. & Mrs. V. J. Masek
3630 E. O. Hallettville Rd
Attonia, Texas 78941

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MM 01-440

FEB - 5 1996

MME

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Jan 2 1996

Dear Mr. Hundt -

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Please do all you can to stop
 this crazy digital system. There is
 plenty to see on TV now. Cable
 has been a blessing - But as for
 as I cant see this will cost us a
 fortune.

I need a new TV but dont dare
 by until I see what happens

With this

Sincerely

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Alice Steno

5 Center St

Thomaston, CT 06787

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IMPERIAL LIGHTING C O M P A N Y

P. O. BOX 441 JENKINTOWN PENNSYLVANIA 19046
(215) 576-8266 OR FAX (215) 576-7929

MM
MM 87-268

December 29,, 1995

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FEB - 5 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

R. Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

IN RE: DIGITAL TV

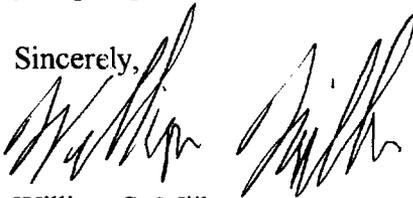
Dear Mr. Hundt,

I am writing in response to the article in the Philadelphia Inquirer regarding the above captioned.

I am quite concerned by what the article indicated. If in fact, the networks are asking for additional air waves at no charge - I believe you would be doing the citizens of the US a great disservice by allowing it. If you auctioned off additional air wave routes, the money could be used to reduce the national debt, or to support health care for the poor. In the truest sense of capitalism, we should not subsidize these giants that have pre tax profits in the hundreds of millions.

The American consumer may also have to retrofit all of the T V.'s they have bought. Are you going to subsidize that also? Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



William S. Miller,
President

WSM/m

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December 27, 1995

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Reed E. Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 29554-0001

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Sir

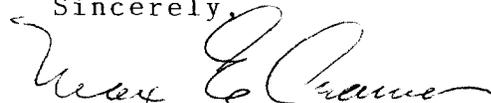
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I've just read an article in the Press Democrat, newspaper serving Santa Rosa, California and surrounding area, in which the threat by the major networks to go digital is discussed. I'm appalled by the token programs so-called "public interest" by the networks which are used to justify takeovers of the airwaves. I wish there was some way to halt these depredations against the public welfare in the interest of profit. The salaries of TV CEO's and TV personalities are gross insults to working America, and to think that we are subjected to having to reinvest in new equipment in order to continue not only this travesty but also the meager fare usually seen on commercial programs.

I stand for NO free airwaves to the major networks, ~~or to any for that matter.~~ Actually, the airwaves should be free to those non-commercial stations which provide free in-depth airing of political viewpoints and issues which effect the public interest. Any costs involved should, I feel, be assumed by the federal government *in the case of public TV.*

Again, I am more than satisfied with my analogue reception and would be angry indeed to have to buy new TV sets to satisfy the financial interests of CBS, ABC, NBC, and FOX!!

Sincerely,



Max E. Cramer
1871 Tonja Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

P.S. If I'm confused about the issues herein, I am most certainly open to receiving clarifications from you. Feel free to use the mails for this use!

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January 2, 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

REED E. HUNDT
Chairman Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington D.C. 20554-0001

Gentlemen:

I write this letter with great interest in the future of digital television. The approval of this change will be greatly appreciated, both from a personal viewpoint and as a sound business decision.

Other countries already have moved forward and the United States will fall behind both in technology and in manufacturing. To not stay with the pace of change, is to shove our country backwards in its ability to produce and create jobs.

My interest is in the domestic steel that goes into the new antennas to be erected. My interest is also in the creation of jobs and the expansion of domestic industries to stem the flow of tax dollars to unemployed Americans while other nations make every effort possible to stimulate their industrial base and create tax revenue.

Please approve the digital television signal.

Very truly yours,

BBL COMPANY

Donald C. Davidson
Vice President - Sales

DCD/nek



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

January 2, 1996

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Hundt,

This is to voice opposition to the proposed Television technology which I understand would make obsolete current TV receivers. I hope that your Commission will listen to common sense rather than the manufacturers and others who would benefit from this at the public's expense.

Sincerely,

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December 29, 1995

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

1919 M Street N W

Washington, DC 20554-0001

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Hundt:

We are concerned about the efforts of the TV stations to convert their analog signals with digital signals. Since we watch only a few TV programs out of the many offerings our set is not worn out very readily. We would be forced to purchase a new TV set if the digital transmissions come to pass.

Washington should also require that new TV channels be auctioned. Don't come into big business interests and profiteering.

Sincerely,

Ernest + Marion Kitcher

1909 Ferrystone Drive

Escondido, CA 92026

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MLP

FEB - 5 1996

December 27, 1995

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NILDA SANTOS
5300 WEST 21ST COURT
APARTMENT #111
HIALEAH, FL 33016

MR. REED E. HUNDT, CHAIRMAN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1919 M STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20554-0001

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: PROPOSAL FOR DIGITAL TELEVISION

Dear Mr. Reed:

After reading the newspaper article in reference to the proposal for digital television, I decided I had to write!!

How can a proposal like this be acceptable in the future??

Not everyone will be able to afford this new concept. The majority of the working class do not have space for a \$1,500.00, 35" T.V. set!! PLEASE think of this MAJORITY when considering such a PROPOSAL!!

Unlike what many people think, my children (now ages: 24, 22, 19, & 15) grew up having access to television programs monitored by me. They are hard working youngsters. When most of the neighborhood children were in the dangerous street, my four were at home. I knew where they were and what they were doing and learning.

ECONOMICALLY SPEAKING: Whith this new proposed digital system only a select fortunate few will be able to watch affordable T.V. in the comfort and privacy of their homes!!!

Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

Nilda Santos

Nilda Santos, A CONCERNED CONSUMER

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Mr. Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

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Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing in regards to the TV industry's plan to change over to a digital system. While a higher quality image is a good benefit, I am opposed to any system that makes existing equipment obsolete. When color TV's came into existence when I was kid, even though we didn't have a color TV, we still could get black & white transmission. To me, it is not only an issue of consumer rights but also access to information, freely and equally to all. I know a number of elderly and people on limited incomes who could not buy a new digital \$1500 TV. This isn't right. They still need access to information as well as regular programs.

I am also opposed to the television industry getting anything "free" (i.e. broadcast channels) that is also not free to other industries (i.e. radio and cellular phone companies). If they want to convert, the public shouldn't and mustn't be footing the bill not only for new equipment but public airwaves as well. I'd like to see a fair market return back to the public for private, industry use of a public resource (airwaves) we need to start looking out for the public's interest rather

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Than the corporate interest. With corporate profits soaring and wages being laid off I'm finding myself not too sympathetic to corporate and megacorporate bilkings of the public so a few or many shareholders can get rich.

If digital images are to be in the future (as I imagine they will) a system should be made available that can utilize both, so the consumer (the public) can opt for a better image if they want/can afford it, versus an all or nothing. Either that or the industry can subsidize the public's conversion to their new equipment! What's sad is that this proposed "improvement" if it goes through, will cost ^{alot to} regular folks, will limit access to information that's been free to the public in the past, and will be subsidized (if given away for "free") by the very public that is being charged for the changeover. All for better image quality. And still very poor programming. Sounds like we're getting duped to me. And someone (not the taxpayer!) is getting alot of money! For nothing. ugh.

Thanks for hearing my concerns!

Sincerely,

Joni Packard

P.O. Box 210925

Anchorage, AK 99521

P.S. We need to be looking at ways that are fair, provide info to the public, and generate a good return back to the taxpayer! And We shouldn't be

etc. This time for the taxpayer to be aware of the cost of the changeover to digital resources!

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MMP

P. EUGENE PENDER

MM 87-268

P. O. BOX 8835
HORSESHOE BAY, TX 78657

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Telephone 210/598-1230
Fax 210/598-1230

FEB - 5 1996

December 28, 1995

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Mr. Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D. C. 20554-0001

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Hundt:

Today I saw an article in the daily newspaper about high density television that both surprised and dismayed me. It appears that broadcasters are asking your Commission for the free use of certain channels for HDTV while continuing for a short period the use of the analog channels.

As if this were not enough, they are forcing a change, which may be very good, on television viewers that will require a very large expenditure of personal funds to replace analog sets.

The change doesn't bother me. What does bother me is that broadcasters are asking for the free use of channels that other channel users must buy. Further, broadcasters use their current channels for programming that is, in the main, insulting to the intelligence of a fourth grader. Violence, inane sitcoms, and interview shows of warped individuals consume most of their broadcast time.

For what is worth, I am totally opposed to any giveaway to broadcasters. And I feel strongly that they should be forced, if necessary, to "clean up their act."

This is the opinion of a retired 65 year old former business executive of a very large international retailer.

Sincerely,



P. Eugene Pender

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

MMVB

December 31, 1995

Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St NW
Washington, DC 20554-0001

Subject: High-Definition Television

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Mr. Hundt,

I was appalled to read the following in this morning's paper:

"New technology is about to change the way Americans watch television, but not before they shell out big bucks for new sets. Television networks looking to boost their audiences are advancing high-definition television, a computerized version of what they use today. The industry is seeking federal help to launch its plan."

The body of the article also states that you are the only one asking the question "Does the audience want to go on this journey?" Thank you for the question. The answer is a resounding "NO"!!!

Personally, the change would mean a cash outlay of over \$3000 for a "new" television, or \$200 for a converter. This amount would be a definite hardship on our household budget. Now think of the people who could **never** afford a new TV, or the \$200 price tag of a converter to be allowed to watch their existing tv's. It could mean the choice between TV, food or medicines. Think of the senior citizens, or the physically handicapped whose only source of entertainment is television. Can they afford this change? I think not. At least the seniors that I know personally cannot. Nor can the "working" poor.

As a taxpayer, I feel that the exploitation of public property (the airwaves in this instance) must stop. Giving away new TV channels without the auction will result in losses of \$13 billion to \$100 billion that could be used for budget-balancing, Medicare, or other government purposes.

I know I am but one small voice of the public, but feel that I speak for thousands, or possibly hundreds of thousands of people who don't have the resources to write. Please, please do not allow these industries to exploit public property at our expense --or-- the public for their own gain.

Thank you for listening.



Sue Iverson
451 W. Southfield Lane
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383-0645

cc: Richard G. Lugar
Dannel R. Coats
Peter J. Visclosky

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Mr. Reed E. Hundt

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

920 Bay Drive
Summerland Key, Fl 33042
January 1, 1996

Mr. Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

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Dear Mr. Hundt:

This is to advise you that my husband and I are totally opposed to going to the HDTV transmission system for television. The analog transmission provides excellent viewing.

We feel that it would be a needless and undesirable cost for those that could afford making the new change. And, it would be a cost that many could not afford or should not have to pay for educational TV, news and public service information and entertainment.

We will not support any commercial sponsors, politicians or political party that promotes the change to the HDTV transmission system. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH FOR UNCALLED FOR COSTS !!!

Your help in keeping the present analog system is a must. Thank you for your cooperation in helping the American public keep what they want.

Sincerely yours,

Yvonne Story

Yvonne Story

Lon Story

Lon Story

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Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington DC 20554-0001

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FEB - 5 1996

January 5, 1996

Dear Mr. Hundt,

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

As the FCC considers proposals to expand broadcast TV from analog to digital transmissions, I hope you will think of the average American in your deliberations. American broadcasters have already been granted designated channels with the promise of airing local news, political debates and community service programs. Maybe I was spoiled by SESAME ST, but what passes as community programming these days is only entertainment if you are Beavis or Butthead. I think it is definitely the time to reclaim our national airwaves for programming that stimulates the intellect of Americans, not programming that includes gratuitous violence, kinky sex and immoral values. Or is the intent of the FCC to create a culture of TV addicts that subsist on horrifying images and become so afraid of reality that they never venture outside their lounge chair to vote or pursue other worthwhile activities?

Contemporary programming by the networks should be the strongest argument against granting any broadcaster additional airwave space to expand into digital broadcasts. Although our national deficit has increased steadily in the last 15 years, where is the thoughtful debate and examination of why we even have a deficit being broadcast? Not until it was news associated with Contract on America has there been much attempt to draw attention to the issue outside the MacNeil-Lehrer News. How can you possibly believe these broadcasters have American national interests at heart? Now instead of paying their fair share for broadcast privileges, they want the American taxpayer to subsidize their business expansion by granting free airspace to existing broadcasters. As long as there is a deficit in the national budget, no American whether a broadcaster or a farmer should be expecting bailouts, handouts or economic advantage through legislative chicanery.

I thoroughly endorse the move to digital programming, but it should be done in a manner that allows consumer choices. Most average Americans have been through the economic rollercoaster of downsizing and obsoleted technology job skills. Can you imagine the impact of obsoleting one of their few entertainments and causing a national shift to digital when most Americans are more worried about keeping a roof over their heads than purchasing a new TV? TV has grown into a powerful communications medium. Do we want to further stratify our society by creating artificial barriers between those that can afford to go digital and those that get left in the dark? Let the marketplace demand bring about the change. Don't let a few endowed nerds have an unfair competitive advantage by subsidizing their vision of the future.

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