system: Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information such as violence, sex or language;

- That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and <u>include parents</u>; and
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent researchers to determine if it meets the needs of parents and children.

Sincerely,
Holly Remer
Bend, Oregon

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:
Re: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the North Carolina State PTA to voice my opposition to the V-Chip rating System as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The Rating Symbol on the TV Screen does not provide sufficient Content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their Children. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their Children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information that is accurate about the program. The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating System has met Statutory

requirements of the telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. I request that the FCC should not approve the current industry's rating system, require a V-Chip band broad enough for more than one rating system, rating icons on TV screens be larger and appear more frequently, and that any rating system be evaluated by independent research and regulated by an independent board.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families

Sincerely,

Derrick W. Byrd Mgt
Cary, North Carolina

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt + FCC Commissioners
C/o FCC
1919 "M" St. NW - Rm 222
Washington DC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:
RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 9734

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Minnesota PTA to say that I strongly disagree with the current proposal to the v-chip rating system as proposed by Jack Valenti, Chr of the TV Rating Implementation group on Jan 17. 1997.

I believe that a "content" system would be a superior system compared to the age based system. As long as the v chip system is going to be implemented, it is crucial that we implement the right rating system to compliment the v chip.

As a parent of 3 (17, 15, 12) I want to know specifically whether there is language, violence + nudity contents in the programming schedule. An age rating really is not specific enough to satisfy my needs as a parent

I would also appreciate the rating symbol be shown as a larger symbol and shown frequently so that if I tune in midway through a program, I have an idea of the program content and not be totally in the dark.

In a nutshell, age-based ratings are too vague. We need to do this right the first time, We cannot afford to lose another generation of children to T.V. when you can give parents the tool they need to try and curb some of the undesirable programs from being seen when a parent cannot always be monitoring their child's viewing times.

Thank you for accepting public comment on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Wendy Graves (612) 421-9333
7960- 150th LN NW
Ramsey MN 55303

March 10, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt + FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt + Commissioners,
Re: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-31
I am writing to you on behalf of the National PTA and the Pennsylvania PTA to state my opposition to the V-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti. While Mr. Valenti is very articulate, his views and ideas are not in the best interest of the children of our nation. Parents want a rating system, but they want one that is effective and, most importantly gives parent & responsible adults better information about T.V. content. This rating system should be independent of the TV industry and the FCC. Parents should be part of the rating process. Also, the icon that appears on the screen should appear larger + for a longer period of time.

I do not believe that the current rating system meets the statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and needs the revisions mentioned in this letter.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,
Laurel Mikovits

Laurel Mikovits
Bath, Pennsylvania

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt & FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Re: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

Dear Chairman Hundt & Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Wisconsin PTA to voice my opposition to the current V-chip rating system. I need, as a parent, more specific information than what is currently provided. It is extremely concerning & disturbing to watch a TV-PG show, as rated by current standards with my children & are still faced with sexually explicit language & violence.

I implore you not to approve the current industry rating system as it is ineffective!! We need more descriptors such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depictions & nudity) and L (for language).

Please listen to what parents are telling you & not Hollywood. It is the children of this nation who need our guidance. It is time to put their needs first and not the advertising dollars of Hollywood.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on such a vital issue.

Sincerely,

Jane Shibilski
809 N. 6th Ave.
Wausau WI 54401

March 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Massachusetts PTA to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Parents do not want TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to be able to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in magazines that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system

instead. I request the following:

- That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs V (for violence) S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language)
- That the FCC require a V-Chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system
- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger and placed in a more prominent spot on the screen, and appear more frequently
- That the rating board should include parents and be independent of the industry and the FCC.
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to see if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue which is so important to children and families

Sincerely,
Barbara Bailey
Lexington, Massachusetts

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC. 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Baldwin-Whitehall Council of PTAs to voice opposition to the V-Chip rating system as currently presented by Jack Valenti on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information to allow parents to make educated decisions regarding TV programs appropriate for their children. Parents have overwhelmingly stated the need for rating systems that give parents information about the content of programs. Parents want to make these choices themselves based on content information about the program. A rating system without content descriptors on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC is required by law to determine whether the rating system has met the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe the system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, I request the following: that the FCC not not accept a rating system that does not include

content information; that the FCC ban a system that does not include content; that the V-Chip band be broad enough for more than one rating system; that the rating icon be made larger and be on during the entire program if parents desire; that the rating board be independent and include parents and that any rating system be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for taking time to read comments on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Lois Erdman
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners
RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 9734

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and Whitehall Elementary PTA to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating system as it currently appears on the TV screen is on for too brief a period of time. Should I wish to switch channels, I miss the rating system message. Members of Whitehall have requested, as the major surveys released this past fall, that as parents we are asking for a content-based rating system. This kind of system gives parents an opportunity to make choices based on content.

By law the FCC is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunication Act of 1966. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating. Instead, I request the following:

1. That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such V (for violence), S (sexual depiction & nudity) and L (language);

2. That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough to allow parents to receive more than one rating system;

3. That the rating icon on the screen be larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;

4. That the rating board be independent of the industry and it include parents;

5. That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on an issue so critical to children and families.

Sincerely,

Joanne Stefanac
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15227-4032

Wyoming Congress
A BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED
APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt
and
FCC Commissioners.
c/o Federal Communications Commissioners
1919 M Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

RE: SC Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

As a spokesperson for the Wyoming State PTA and a member of the National PTA, I am writing to voice opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group. The rating system is vague and does not provide enough information for parents and grandparents to make an appropriate decision in relation to TV programming for children.

I believe parents want to make a

conscious decision on appropriate viewing for their children. What Mr. Valenti wants is for the industry to make that decision. Responsible programming is what is important to parents, with a rating system that provides content information, parents can make that decision.

A V chip is important, a rating system (V, S + L) and icon on the screen is needed. A rating and an icon on the preview channel is also need.

Children are taking in so much information visually that the FCC must do something to ensure that what a child is learning must be free of violence, sexual content and inappropriate language.

Thank you and the children and families of Wyoming thank you for this opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. [illegible] Hunting)

Helen Cerny Gerstein
1st V.P. Wyo State PTA
[illegible]

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington DC 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners

Re: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the California State PTA to voice our opposition to the V-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group on Jan 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so the parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children.

I believe the statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 have not been met and ask the FCC to not approve the industry rating system. I do request the following:

- accept a rating system to include content information about programs, such as V (violence) S (sexual depiction and nudity) and L (language);
- the rating icon on the TV screen remain on for the entire program
- and the system approved be evaluated to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

I appreciate an opportunity to comment on this issue so important to all children and families, especially for my grandchildren —

Sincerely,

Rosaline Turnbull
Hawthorne, California

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CS Docket No 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the 125,000 members of the Pennsylvania PTA to voice our opposition to the V-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret and tell them what is best for their children. Parent want to make clear, concise decisions & choices themselves based on <u>content</u> information about the program. A rating system that does not have content descriptions on the screen and is not publicized in guides that carry TV scheduling is utterly useless.

We request the following:

That under <u>no</u> circumstances should the FCC approve the industry rating system.

That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system.

That the Icon be <u>larger</u> and displayed throughout the

That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it most assuredly include parents

That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

I thank you on behalf of the many thousands of parent members in Pennsylvania for this opportunity to comment

Sincerely,

Linda Burns

Linda Burns, President
Pennsylvania, PTA

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW Rm 222
Washington DC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Valentine PTA, (as well as the Nebraska state PTA) to voice opposition to the V-Chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on 1-17-97. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make their own decisions about what is appropriate for their children. Major surveys this fall demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of the programs. Rating systems that do not ~~content~~ contain content information are relatively useless.

On behalf of the organizations that I represent I request that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead the following is requested:

- Accept no rating system that does not include content [illegible]

content and nudity and inappropriate language

- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominent and appear on screen longer.

- That the rating board be independant of the TV industry and the FCC and include parents and that the rating system be independantly evaluated to see that it meets parents' needs

Thank you for listening to this commentary

Sincerely

Rachel D. Lindvall

Rachel D Lindvall
512 N. Cherry St.
Valentine NE
69201

March 9, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Vermont PTA to voice my opposition to the V-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide parents with sufficient content information to make appropriate decisions on TV programming for their children. Major surveys have demonstrated overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives us information on content. We do not want the industry which brings this violence, profanity and sex filled material into our homes to interpret for us what is appropriate for our children.

I don't believe this system meets the statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Please do not approve the industry's rating system. Please except no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language).

Please require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system.

Please assure that the rating icon on the TV screen is larger, more frequently shown or is on the screen for the full length of the program as the network symbols currently are.
Please, please, please make the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and assure that it includes parents. And finally, ensure that any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for listening to parents and helping them to be better at their job.

Sincerely,

Carol H. Jank-Day
President, Vermont PTA
16 Meadow Rd.
Fairfax, Vermont 05454