

CS 97-55

Margate 4/2/97

MAIL ROOM

APR 08 1997

Mr. William F. Canten RECEIVED
Oeking See F.C.C.

Sir:

I'm a owner of a house in The
Colonies of Margate
I will like to have the freedom to have
and put my own antenna on satellite dish.

Right now I paid a lot and
have nothing for my money.

I hope you take my letter in
consideration

Sincerely
Francis Clautier
6325 N.W. 28 Lane
Margate Fl. 33063

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6

WJZY46
CHARLOTTE

A TEN Affiliate

April 3, 1997

RECEIVED
APR 10 1997
FCC MAIL ROOM

Mark A. Conrad
Vice President and
General Manager
W J Z Y - T V

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CS Docket No. 97-55

Dear Commissioners:

As General Manager of WJZY-TV and broker for WFVT-TV, I am writing to express my strong approval of the voluntary rating system developed by the television industry. This system builds on the 28 years of familiarity and success that the movie rating system has had and continues to have.

In the three short months the system has been in existence, my stations have experienced no complaints . . . not one phone call, letter, or E-mail to date.

The legislative history and the law makes clear that the Commission should act only if the industry failed to do so. The industry has acted; it developed and implemented a voluntary ratings system that parents in my community find useful and easy to use. It easily satisfies the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and unquestionably meets the standard of "acceptability" in the Act.

I urge the Commission to recognize the importance of what the industry has done and approve the TV Parental Guidelines.

Sincerely,



Mark Conrad
Vice President/General Manager, WJZY-TV
& Broker for WFVT-TV

cbw

RECEIVED
APR 10 10 27 AM '97
CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

Broker for
W F V T - T V

3 5 0 1
Performance Road
Charlotte, NC
2 8 2 1 4

P.O. Box 668400
Charlotte, NC
2 8 2 6 6 - 8 4 0 0

704 / 398 - 0046
Fax 704 / 393 - 8407

MANTUA PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION, INC.
Mantua Elementary School
9107 Horner Court
Fairfax, Virginia 22031

FCC MAIL ROOM

APR 8 1997

RECEIVED

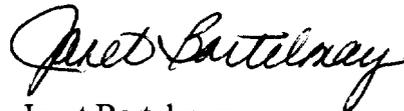
April 3, 1997

Commissioners
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Executive Board of the Mantua Elementary PTA, I am urging you to oppose the v-chip rating system presented by Mr. Jack Valenti, Chairman of the TV Rating Implementation Group on January 17, 1997. We fully endorse the position of the National PTA and agree that the proposed rating system does not provide sufficient content to enable parents to make informed and responsible decisions about whether a program is suitable for children. We urge the FCC to institute a content-based rating system, such as that endorsed by the National PTA (utilizing a system that indicates whether particular shows contain violence, sexual depiction or nudity, and adult language.)

Sincerely,



Janet Bartelmay
President

RECEIVED

APR 9 2 54 PM '97

CABLE SERVICES BUREAU



RECEIVED

ADD 8/1997

FCC MAIL ROOM

208 DE BUYS ROAD ■ P.O. BOX 4596 ■ BILOXI, MS 39535-4596 ■ (601) 896-1313

April 3, 1997

Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55

Dear Commissioners:

Much is being written about the new TV rating system and a lot of discussion is underway, but one very important bit of information is being overlooked. Viewers have embraced the new system. They understand it and have used it for its designed purpose. We at WLOX-TV have not had any complaints from viewers, in fact, the only negative noise heard is from special interest groups and those trying to use this subject to promote their own agenda.

We wish to express our strong support for the new voluntary rating system that is now in place. This system deserves a chance to work and evolve.

We urge the Commission to support what the industry has done and approve the TV Parental Guidelines.

Sincerely,

Leon Long
Vice President and General Manager

RECEIVED

APR 10 10 27 AM '97

CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

April 1, 1997

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

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FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: CS DOCKET NO. 97-55
COMMENT ON INDUSTRY PROPOSAL FOR RATING VIDEO
PROGRAMMING

Dear Secretary:

I am writing to say that I believe the "V-Chip" rating system put forward by the motion picture, television and cable businesses gives parents only the vaguest idea of the content of a given television episode.

That problem is compounded by the fact that each network's producers rate their own programs, so similar programs get very different tags. For example, the episode of the Fox sitcom *Martin* that ran January 27 had implied group sex, crotch grabbing, pelvic thrusts, and at least eight uses of foul language. It was rated TV-PG.

Instead of accepting their responsibility to produce family-friendly programming, the networks now expect parents to make TV viewing choices - without even giving the information parents need to make the choices. The networks and advertisers can now use this system as an excuse if complaints come in, saying that the public was forewarned by the ratings symbol that appears at the beginning of each show.

Please do everything you can to help return this country to its high moral values that we were founded upon.

Sincerely,

Mr + Mrs R. L. Lewand (Name)
3 Pontiac Dr (Address)
Wayne NJ 07470

RECEIVED

APR 10 10 26 AM '97

CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

RECEIVED

1997

FCC
1919 M St.NW
Washington, DC 20554

April 2, 1997

FCC RECEIVED

CS Docket No. 97-55 Comment on Industry Proposal for Rating Video Programming.

To whom it may concern:

As a parent of two young children, I find the V-chip rating system for television to be ineffective. There are many shows rated TV-PG that I would not allow my 10 year old daughter to watch due to the sexual content of the "humor". I as an adult do not find such programs entertaining. A more practical system needs to be adopted.

I would also like to comment that the FCC should enforce the ban on indecent material on TV programs. Even with a ratings system, the FCC needs to enforce this law.

Sincerely,



Pamela Irwin
3674 Bentley Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90034

RECEIVED

Apr 10 10 25 AM '97

CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

April 4, 1997



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

Re: CS Docket No. 97-55

Dear Commissioners:

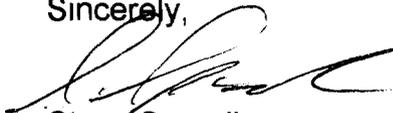
As General Manager of WFTC FOX 29, I am writing to express my strong approval of the voluntary rating system developed by the television industry. This system builds on the 28 years of familiarity and success that the movie rating system has had and continues to have.

In the three short months the system has been in existence, my station has experienced only a handful of calls referencing the rating system from concerned viewers.

The legislative history and the law makes clear that the Commission should act only if the industry failed to do so. The industry has acted; it developed and implemented a voluntary ratings system that parents in my community find useful and easy to use. It easily satisfies the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and unquestionably meets the standard of "acceptability" in the Act.

I urge the Commission to recognize the importance of what the industry has done and approve the TV Parental Guidelines.

Sincerely,



Steve Spendlove
VP/General Manager

RECEIVED
APR 10 10 26 AM '97
CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

RECEIVED
APR 03 1997
FCC MAIL ROOM



April 3, 1997

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

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55

Dear Commissioners:

As President and General Manager of KTXL, I am writing to express my strong approval of the voluntary rating system developed by the television industry. This system builds on the 28 years of familiarity and success that the movie rating system has had and continues to have. Here at KTXL reaction to the rating system from our viewers has been non-existent.

The legislative history and the law makes clear that the Commission should act only if the industry failed to do so. The industry acted, it developed and implemented a voluntary ratings system that parents in my community find useful and easy to use. It easily satisfies the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and unquestionably meets the standard of "acceptability" in the Act.

I urge the Commission to recognize the importance of what the industry has done and approve the TV Parental Guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael A. Fisher".

Michael A. Fisher,
President/General Manager

44-38861-1000

APR 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

March 20, 1997

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

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

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

We are writing on behalf of the National PTA and Caryn Elementary PTA to voice our opposition to the newly implemented Age-Based TV Rating System. Caryn Elementary PTA represents a diverse and involved community that works hard to improve all of our children's lives. We feel that others with the abilities to do so, should also try and improve children's lives directly and/or indirectly. We feel that the FCC can improve children's lives indirectly by providing parents with a more Content-Based TV Rating System.

A Content-Based TV Rating System would provide immediate information to the parents regarding Violence, Sexual Content & Nudity, and Inappropriate Adult Language. This type of rating system would instantly allow the parent the opportunity to make appropriate choices of the television programs that our children intend to watch. This system would be much more beneficial than the Age-Based Rating System which is vague and confusing.

We request that you approve a more descriptive Content-Based TV Rating System that provides parents with the most information. We also request that the rating symbol be shown more frequently throughout a program.

Thank you for this opportunity to allow comment on an issue that is so important to all children and their families.

Sincerely,

Caryn Elementary PTA
Rancho Cucamonga CA

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Dorlene Burton
Caryn Elementary PTA President

<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>Bryna Cadman</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>Charlotte Tate</i>	<i>Joseph A. McMillin</i>	<i>Deann Gesso</i>
<i>Scott Horn</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

APR 8 1997

March 20, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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

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Sincerely,

Caryn Elementary PTA
Rancho Cucamonga CA

Dorlene Buerton
Caryn Elementary PTA President

<i>Jenna Yip</i>	<i>Sheri Goodman</i>	<i>Th Buerton</i>
<i>Brian C. Lane</i>	<i>Calvin D. Smith</i>	<i>Jonathan Beck</i>
<i>Jessica Jordan</i>	<i>Ted B. P.</i>	<i>Janey S. H.</i>
<i>Kari Lucifora</i>	<i>Michelle Inbaron</i>	<i>Katherine Wylie</i>
<i>Lick Lucifora</i>	<i>Maria Sherman</i>	<i>Ann Mous</i>

APR 8 1997

March 20, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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

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Sincerely,

Caryn Elementary PTA
Rancho Cucamonga CA

Dorlene Buerton
Caryn Elementary PTA President

<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

March 20, 1997

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

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Sincerely,

Caryn Elementary PTA
Rancho Cucamonga CA

Dorlene Burton
Caryn Elementary PTA President

<i>Kathleen Valenzuela</i>	<i>Vanessa Smith</i>
<i>Donna Drey</i>	<i>Janelle vonKleist</i>
<i>Pamela Paube</i>	<i>Heidi Socher</i>
<i>Denese Landtger</i>	<i>Amber Claffin</i>
<i>Mary Collet</i>	<i>Janie G...</i>

March 20, 1997

APR 8 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

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Thank you for this opportunity to allow comment on an issue that is so important to all children and their families.

Sincerely,

Caryn Elementary PTA
Rancho Cucamonga CA

Dorlene Burton
Caryn Elementary PTA President

<i>Stella Solin</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	_____	_____
<i>[Signature]</i>		_____	_____
<i>[Signature]</i>		_____	_____
<i>[Signature]</i>		_____	_____
_____		_____	_____



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

FREE SPEECH TV--DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
POST OFFICE BOX 6060; BOULDER, COLORADO 80306
PHONE: 303.442.5693; FAX: 303.442.6472; E-MAIL: development@fstv.org

RECEIVED
APR - 8 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Date: April 1, 1997

To: The Honorable Reed Hundt
Organization: FCC
Phone:
Fax: 202.418.2801

From: Carolyn Berthelette
Organization: FREE SPEECH TV
Phone: 303.442.5693
Fax: 303.442.6472

Pages including cover sheet: 2

message

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ATTENTION	CORRESPONDENCE	FREE SPEECH TV		☎ 303:442:8445
				↑ PROGRAMMING & OPERATIONS
				WEB PROJECIS → 303:442:8660
				DEVELOPMENT → 303:442:5693
				FACSIMILE → 303:442:6472
				EMAIL → fstv@fstv.org
PO BOX 6060, BOULDER CO 80306				URL → http://www.freespeech.org

April 1, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt
 Chairman
 Federal Communications Commission
 1919 M Street, NW
 Room 814
 Washington, DC 20554-0001

transmitted via facsimile 202-418-2801

Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of FREE SPEECH TV, formerly The 90's Channel, I respectfully request that you establish an independent commission to hold public hearings and to conduct research on various ways to construct a viable digital TV system.

The airwaves are a public resource and, rather than giving away airwaves to corporate media giants, I urge you to consider possibilities for leasing the spectrum for five or ten year terms (and using the projected \$2-5 billion annual revenue to support nonprofit and noncommercial radio and television stations across the nation).

I am opposed to the notion that enormous media corporations are entitled to expand channel capacity in every market where they already have a channel. I strongly support diversifying control over the new frequencies.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Berthelette
 Development Manager

P.O. Box 377
Milton, MA 03851
March 3, 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 New Hampshire 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. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, U.S. News and World Report, and Media Studies Center, Koper. Parents with whom I have spoken and

television industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want and should make these choices themselves based on content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals 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 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 such as 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, more prominently

frequently during the course of a program;

- That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Your attention to this matter would be appreciated as this issue is so important to the children and families of our nation.

Sincerely,

Caroline Battle
Immediate Past President
New Hampshire PTA

11 Lord Fox Run
Lincoln, RI 02865

March 10, 1997

RECEIVED
APR 8 1997

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

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 Rhode Island PTA to express my opposition to the V-Chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on Jan. 17, 1997. This system simply doesn't provide parents with adequate content information that would enable them to make decisions about what is appropriate television programming for their children. Major surveys of parents released this fall demonstrate that parents overwhelmingly prefer a rating system that gives them information about CONTENT. These surveys were conducted by The National PTA,

USA News & World Report and the Media Studies Center / Paper. The television industry should not interpret what is best for children.

Parents, provided with adequate information can do that. Any system that rates TV programs that doesn't provide context descriptions and is publicized in those periodicals that contain program guides will prove useless.

I am requesting that the FCC refuse to approve the system proposed by Mr. Valente, and instead request the following:

1. That the FCC refuse to approve any system which does not include context information
2. That the rating icons used be larger, displayed more prominently and more frequently during the program.
3. That the rating board be independent of the industry and include those for whom it is devised, namely, parents and
4. That the system approved be subject to independent evaluation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on an issue that I believe is very important to children and their families.

Sincerely,
Mary Anne Boll
P.O. Box 10100 PTA

March 9, 1997

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

RECEIVED

APR 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt & Commissioners

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

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Virginia PTA to voice my opposition to the V-Chip rating system as presented by Jack Talenti, Chair of TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. A rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide any content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, US News & World Report, and Media & Center / Paper. 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 about the program. Any rating system, content descriptions on the screen, and publicity in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the 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 it. I the following

March 21, 1997

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

RECEIVED
APR - 8 1997
FCC MAIL ROOM

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

Dear Sirs:

We are writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Valentine, Nebraska District #1 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 which currently appears on the television screen does not provide sufficient content information for parents to make knowledgeable decisions about what is appropriate programming for their children.

Major surveys released in the Fall of 1996, which were conducted by the National PTA, U. S. News and World Report, and Media Studies Center/Roper, demonstrate overwhelming preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs. Parents do not want the television industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based upon content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions displayed on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

Your Commission is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met the statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. **We do not believe the current rating system does so and ask that you not approve the industry rating system.** Instead, we request the following:

- That the FCC not approve/accept any 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);
- That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough to allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- That the rating icon on the television screen be made larger, be more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- That the rating board be independent of the television industry and that the Board include parents; and

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APR 8 1997

FCC MAIL ROOM

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

Your attention to these concerns in developing an appropriate rating system for television programming is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lana Huber

Lana Huber, President

Valentine Parent-Teachers Assn.

Boyer R. Huber

Beigit Harris
Namara K. Goss
Norma Forath
Carolyn A. Jamin
Jami Hausholter
John M. Uddell
Sandra Saum
Sharon Jacobs
Jamie [unclear]
Shannon Mulligan
Lana Higgins
Julie Dewing
Jim [unclear]
May A. Jeffers
Patti Vanderbeek
Delonah A. Jeffers

Chair: Fred Hundt

c/o FCC, 1919 M. Street, N.W. Room 222

March 10, 1997 Washington, D.C.

RECEIVED

APR 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Re: CS Docket No 97-350

Dear Mr. Hundt, and Commissioners

As a member of the PTA I oppose the proposed system because it does not provide parents and families with information about content of the program as part of the rating on the TV screen. We want the FCC to put the decision-making power about television viewing back into the hands of parents.

We request many changes:

- FCC should not approve the industry's rating system.

- The V-chip band should be broad enough to allow parents to receive more than one rating system.

- The rating icon should be made larger and remain on the screen throughout the show time.

- Any rating system ~~should be~~ approved be evaluated by an independent research agent.