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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

99-25

Proceeding for Low Power Radio
 8/ 2/ 1999

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 La Jolla,
 CA

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Confidential No

Phone # [REDACTED]

Description: Communications Professor Supports Low Power Non
 Commercial Local Service

Notify: dhalleck@weber.ucsd.edu

Dear Commissioners,

I am a professor in the Department of Communication at the University of California, San Diego. For the past thirty five years I have taught the history and production of media to those who might not otherwise have access to commercial venues for expression.

Experience

Since my first film, made in 1961 (Children Make Movies, at the Lillian Wald Settlement on the Lower East Side, NYC) I have been involved in the theoretical, practical and artistic work of media democracy. In a world that is mediated electronically, persons must have access to the tools for gathering and organizing information and for making and disseminating visual, as well as printed, media. My first films were about community art projects: celebration of creative expression by children, senior citizens and community groups. My film, The Mural on Our Street (1964) is the record of a community mural at the Henry Street Settlement. This film was nominated for an Academy Award in the documentary category.

I have taught at New York University, Long Island University, C.W. Post College, The School of Visual Arts and have been a professor since 1986 at U.C.S.D., teaching production and the theory and history of alternative media in this country. My films have won top prizes at the Cannes Film Festival, the Toronto Film Festival, the Vermont Film Festival. I have also screened out of competition at the London Film Festival, the Whitney Biennial, the Venice Film Festival.

I have served on the Board of Directors of Videazimut, an international organization of community media producers. I have

broadcasting, Koreans use the low power radio to communicate with their communities, which often feel persucuted and alienated.

Community Development It is noteworthy that many of the extra legal micro stations which have grown up exist in communities that are at the bottom of the social stratum. By having community communications, these areas can help develop community spirit and identity. It is a welll know trusim in development circles that a community identity is expremely important in improving the general outlook and material situation of a region. Community radio can help to create this sense of place.

It is clear that this is a service whose time has come. I urge the Commission to allow this service to continue to evolve from the lively creative centers of radio energy which have already sprung up. These groups should get complete amnesty and be allowed to continue their broadcasting. The service needs to be protected by keeping out commercial interests. This is indeed a service which has the potential for true grass roots expression. In the best tradition of this country, from the Tea Party in Boston Harbor to the broadcast-ins of Lower Manhattan, the micro radio community is in the tradition of liberty and justice, of which this country should be proud, not vlnictive.

Let freedom ring and transmit!
We have nothing to loose and much to gain.

Sincerely, 

DeeDee Halleck
Professor
Department of Communication
University of California, San Diego