

I'd like to give my enthusiastic support to the FCC's examination of parental control technologies that can filter language based on a parent's determination of what is appropriate for their family and children.

I have not had success in working with vague ratings of movies or other such methods of parental control. I have had the most success with a closed-captioned based language filter because: 1) it is most specific on which levels of language is filtered out, 2) it is easy to use, and 3) while not 100% accurate (probably due to time lapses or errors in the closed captioning), it is by far accurate enough (probably 95%+). We have taken movies with some objectionable language (but appropriate in all other ways) and turned it in to entertainment for the family. Having this device has allowed us to expand the range of entertainment that we deem appropriate for our family, and has reduced the times of: 1) uncomfortable feelings associated with language not appropriate for our home, and 2) having to coach the children when this happens that the language is not good and "we don't talk like that".

Putting more tools like this in to parent's hands is a very good thing as we try to raise our children in our society where much entertainment that children now see is laced with innuendo and unnecessary adult language. Limiting exposure to unhealthy language is a must, and we must do our best with the time we have.

In addition to the good it does for the kids, it helps us as well to enjoy movies without the discomfort or revulsion that comes with having to listen to inappropriate language.

I support any effort to make this technology available to families through options available in electronics or other means. I also support any improvement in closed captioning accuracy and timing that can assist these devices to be more accurate and effective. Encouraging the availability of these devices on the market is good as well. We have used TV Guardian in the past with good experience, but it's the functionality that we are enthusiastic about. It would be worth it to us to take advantage of a service that cost a little more, and we would look seriously at buying products that had this capability. The wider the options that could be filtered the better, because there are so many types of electronics and media.

I ask that the Committee and Commissioners approach this effort with vigor and enthusiasm because of the good that this can do, the available technology and price, the ability to help parents, and the practical legal fit within the nation's laws on censorship and citizen freedoms.

Thank you,

Mike Walker