

Millions of homes have already benefited from automatic foul language filtering technology through TV Guardian, which uses the existing hidden closed-captioning signal to detect and mute offensive language. Unfortunately, foul language filtering technology will no longer be available after the switch to digital television this summer unless the FCC changes the rules.

The software for this technology must be built into the cable/satellite boxes and TVs to work with HD televisions. **It is being offered to cable and satellite companies for free** -- those customers that want to use it could pay a small fee for it -- and these companies have the ability to download the software into most existing cable/satellite boxes... **still, the industry refuses to give families this individual control.**

Besides the small fee referred to just above, this technology will even increase profits for them since filtering out language makes more TV shows and movies OK for family viewing. Yet, a handful of powerful media companies are fighting to keep this technology from the viewing public. It seems inconceivable that they would turn down such an opportunity for profit with little up-front investment required. The only conclusion I can come to is that they want to be able to pump indecent material into our homes – they want complete control over what we watch and hear.