

I am in support of advanced parental control technology to filter offensive content in TV programming and movies; whether viewed on TV, over the Internet, cable, satellite, DVD Players, Blu-Ray Players, gaming consoles, or other video devices.

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 TAKES ACTION.

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 that want to use it can 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.

Please ensure that we, as parents, gain control over the language that is heard on the TV's in our own home! Regulate cable and satellite companies to give parents the option of using these parenting tools just because it's good business and helps protect our youth from harmful and delinquency type information going over the airways. 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 away from us.

Please prevent the free market from overrunning the industry and give parents the choice in their homes.

Take Action

In summary, as an involved parent I need the tools to raise my children appropriately and, toward that end, being able to filter foul language on TV, cable, satellite and other devices that show TV programs and movies, is essential.

Thank you for your concern and help in this very critical matter.

Steve Tutunjian