

As a parent, I respectfully urge the FCC to maintain existing broadcast indecency standards; and I respectfully urge the FCC to cease its efforts to adopt a new standard that only applies to ?egregious? violations of the law.

The issue of ?egregious? violations of the law should not be factors in determining whether the law has been broken. Rather, if a law has been broken and the FCC determines the violation to be ?egregious?, then such egregious conduct should help to determine the consequence for breaking the law. This would be consistent with our entire system of jurisprudence in America.

The FCC?s constitutional authority to enforce longstanding law regarding broadcast indecency was upheld by the US Supreme Court in 2012. Chief Justice John Roberts went so far as to write that broadcasters are now on notice even regarding so-called ?fleeting? instances of indecent material.

Broadcasters are able to air indecent material after 10 pm, when children are unlikely to be in the audience. The broadcast industry?s desire to extend indecency?s ?safe harbor? to earlier times of the day serves no public interest, and to the contrary, only serves their corporate interests.

Every broadcast television network in the United States is related in some manner to cable television properties where the broadcast indecency regulations do not apply. If those networks want to air indecent material at times of the day when children are likely to be watching, they may freely do so via their cable properties.

More than a thousand scientific studies confirm what parents instinctively know to be true: children are influenced by the media they consume. During 2012, approximately \$76 billion was spent by television advertisers, the sole purpose of which was to change the behavior of the viewer. The ability to influence viewer behavior does not end when the TV commercial is over and the program resumes.

A consensus of studies conducted on the accuracy of the television content ratings system demonstrates that parents cannot rely on the industry-assigned ratings to protect their children from harmful material. The Parents Television Council noted recently that full-frontal nudity with genitals either pixilated or blurred has increased sharply on broadcast TV in 2013, and 100% of it was rated TV-14 or younger (and 70% was rated TV-PG).

At the time of this filing, over 100,000 Americans have invested the time and effort to file comments with the FCC regarding its proposed change to indecency enforcement. Media reports suggest that those who oppose changing the enforcement policy outnumber those who support changing the policy by a magnitude of 1,000:1.

Either the public comment period means something, or it means nothing. I urge the FCC to listen to American citizens, and to act in accordance with the overwhelming weight of public sentiment on this issue.