

From: [Jack Hungelmann](#) [J.Hungelma[REDACTED]]
To: [Read, John](#) [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
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Subject: United States v. Apple, Inc., et al., 12-cv-2826 (DLC) (SDNY). Comments on Proposed Final Judgment as to Defendants Hachette, HarperCollins and Simon & Schuster.
Date: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 1:42:58 PM

Dear Mr. Read,

I am an author. But I am writing as a grandfather. My 8 year old granddaughter Sofia who loves to read recently received from my wife a gift certificate from Barnes and Noble. She was so excited to go and browse all the great children's books and to buy one or two for her very own.

It ended up to be a very sad day for her. Her mother took her to the local Barnes & Noble bookstore in Seattle. It was closed! They went to the next closest Barnes & Noble across town and it too was closed! Finally, they drove to the downtown store which was open still. Sofia was able to browse and pick out books so the day was salvaged. But it seems that bookstores which are such a joy to browse for readers of all ages are becoming a dying breed. Someday kids like Sofia won't have a bookstore option which would be a real loss to our culture.

It's one thing if something dies a natural death because their competition fairly closed them down. But it's a whole different story if large competitors sell books below cost in order to drive the bookstores out of business like they have been doing. I don't know very much about this particular case. I'm writing as a grandfather – on behalf of Sofia. Please do what it takes to keep a level playing field so that bookstores have a chance. So children everywhere – large ones and small ones – will be able to enjoy the book store experience themselves.

Thank you.

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