

From: talking leaves books [mailto:luc[REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 12:14 PM
To: Read, John
Subject: E-bk settlement

Dear Mr. Read,

I am writing in regard to the DOJ lawsuit regarding the sale of ebooks and the alleged collusion of some publishers. I nearly decided not to write this letter. Given the history of our "justice" system these last years, I thought it would be a futile, and not even gratifying, endeavor.

I then thought that maybe if I illustrated through historical example what actual collusion looks like you might be reminded of how our justice system should work. Justice has been elusive in our courts for many decades, but most egregiously in a few decisions over the last decade or so--I refer to the Supreme Court decision that gave George Bush the presidency and the Supreme Court decision--Citizens United that gave corporations the rights of a sentient being, aka human. It is pretty clear to all who are paying attention that the basis of these decisions were predicated on a collusive relationship with big business. We, the people, may not be able to fight big, monopolistic businesses--Amazon, but we do know what is taking place and we do know what is right.

I know you have received many letters from my colleagues, brilliant letters of explanation as to why you should resolve that collusion did not take place, most specifically from Peter Glassman , President/owner of the independent bookstore Books of Wonder in NYC. I know the American Bookseller Association has been advocating on behalf of independent bookstores and our survival and for equity in the field of commerce. I don't need to write another of those letters.

What I need to write is this letter, to remind you that while the U.S. is still nominally a Democracy, your decisions must be made on what is best for the greater good and not decide to the advantage of monopolistic entities, in this specific case Amazon, that uses its wealth, arrogance and perfected-bullying to intimidate the DOJ, the Nation and our culture.

Please govern according to what is best for the economic survival of the majority. Please remember we, the people. Please take the time to understand the business of publishing and bookselling. Please take the time to listen.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Lucy Kogler, Manager
Talking Leaves...Books
Buffalo, New York
Independent and Idiosyncratic since 1971