From: To:

ATR-LitIII-Information

Subject:

Paramount Decree Comments

Date:

Thursday, August 2, 2018 5:54:37 PM

To whom this may concern,

The 1948

Paramount Decrees are a foundational ruling in the history of Hollywood that attempted to establish an equal playing field for non-vertically integrated exhibitors and the "little three" studios. Unfortunately, over the past thirty years or so, much of the groundwork established by the decrees has been reversed and now media ownership is concentrated amongst fewer companies than it was at the time of the ruling. In short, the Paramount Decrees no longer serve an important function - but they should in the interest of free market competition and anti-trust philosophy (ex. Disney acquiring Fox, LucasFilm, Marvel, and everything else in its path). This has resulted in Disney being able to blacklist journalists (ex. *LA Times* coverage of the Disney parks) and monopolistic practices like leveraging theaters for a larger stake of opening grosses (ex. *The Last Jedi* release). Moreover, the lax enforcement and undermining of the Paramount Decrees has led to stagnant artistic product and a media diet for consumers that consists largely of blockbusters.

In short, the Paramount Decrees have never been more necessary and ripe for reenforcement.

Thank you for your time,