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To: [ATR-Antitrust - Internet](#) [ANTITRUST.ATR@ATR.USDOJ.GOV]
Subject: United States v. Apple, et al.
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:50:47 AM

Dear Mr. Read,

I know you're receiving lots of emails and/or letters about the antitrust case against Apple and other big publishing companies that have colluded to price fix ebooks.

I'm writing to support DOJ's action and that the settlement to allow discount for TWO YEARS is far too short and lenient. The settlement should extend to at least FIVE YEARS, and force publishers from stop colluding and gouge consumers.

Large publishers have colluded far too long on every aspect of publishing business that they no longer feel that antitrust applies to them. (For example, they set the price all the same. They offer EXACTLY the same or very similar contract terms to authors, competing only on advances.)

Note that the agency pricing was done not to foster competition, but to protect the big publishing companies' iron-tight lock on print book distribution. Most authors are not rich enough to pay for print run on their books. In addition, bookstores reject self-published books and do not carry them in their stores. Therefore, the big publishing companies were able to pay their authors a few pennies per copy sold for a long time, and the authors had no choice but to accept their horrible terms in order to be published and read.

With digital self-publishing model, the big publishing companies are losing their monopoly on distribution, and the power that such monopoly confers.

Punishing the publishers SEVERELY for price fixing on ebooks is the only just and proper. I ask that you impose harsher penalties on them.

Stella Kyung