

**THE
Book Bin**

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JUN - 5 REC'D 2012

LITIGATION III, ANTITRUST DIV
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

John Read
Chief, Litigation III Section
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
450 5th Street, NW, Suite 4000
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Read,

We are writing you in regards to the Department of Justice's civil suit against Apple and five major publishers who have used an agency model to price e-books. It is our belief that the agency model is an appropriate business model, as well as a legal one. As the owners of a bricks and mortar book store that has just celebrated it's 40th anniversary, we can assure you that prior to publisher's use of an agency model to price e-books, we were at a severe disadvantage in the market place. One online retailer was creating a monopoly through uncompetitive pricing, aimed primarily at putting stores such as our own out of business. While we understand the need for the Justice Department to monitor cases of antitrust, we do not feel prosecuting this case will be in best interests of the public and the market place. We need to level the playing field, not give the advantage back to the e-tailers. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janis and Lex Irvine

Janis and Lex Irvine
Owners, The Book Bin
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