

John Read /Chief Litigation III section Antitrust Division

U.S. Department of Justice
450 5th St NW Ste 4000
Washington DC 20530

Dear John Read

We are writing you to comment on and state our opposition the civil suit against Apple and the five book publishers (Macmillan, Penguin, and three others) with the agency model pricing for e-books.

We do not favor this litigation because in our opinion it allows a vendor like Amazon to sell book at below cost, and compete with an unfair advantage. The appearance of lower prices will be compromised, when there are less book vendors, and ultimately the price will increase to the consumer. The agency model has lowered prices to the customer and allowed more titles to be published and better selection of books from a variety of book vendors.

Please reconsider this litigation that will repeal the agency model that ultimately will give more book market share to Amazon while especially compromising independent retail bookstores that sell via a physical location and on the internet, to compete for their fair share of e-book potential sales.

Sincerely,

John Edwards
General Manager
Explore Booksellers & Bistro
Aspen, Colorado

Cc Dan Cullen