

John Read

Chief, Litigation III Section

Antitrust Division

U.S. Department of Justice

450 5th Street, NW, Suite 4000

Washington, DC 20530

I wish to express my concern regarding the DOJ's civil suit against Apple and five major publishers with agency model pricing for e-books.

I am a bookseller at The Hickory Stick Bookshop, an independent bookstore, in Washington Depot, CT and I have seen first-hand what the agency model pricing for e-books has accomplished in the marketplace: increased competition among publishers as well as among bookstores. The agency model has lowered prices for our customers and given us a chance to compete with the larger retailers.

It is important to maintain diversity and competition in the marketplace and not in the public's interest to eliminate competition among publishers and retailers with below-cost pricing as Amazon had done before the Agency model was adopted.

Sincerely,

Patricia Moody