

From: don wallace [mailto:donwallace2[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 4:43 PM
To: Read, John [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: Please consider how the Apple/Publishing lawsuit ends up favoring an Amazon monopoly

Dear Mr Read,

As a writer these past 35 years, but no Luddite, with a small ePublishing venture of my own underway, I make this brief appeal:

Do not restrict your suit's ambit to the effects of possible collusion among publishers and Apple. Consider the predatory tactics of Amazon. These include:

- *forcing authors of eBooks to accept free giveaway days of their books in conjunction with sales of non-book merchandise--essentially "throw-ins" that can wipe out an entire year of sales.
- *Amazon's history of locking in authors and publishers and then offering draconian terms on renewal of agreements--essentially "publish with us or perish".
- *Amazon's evasion of sales tax and encouragement via apps of instant price comparisons with brick-and-mortar bookstores--essentially turning bookstores into Amazon's own storefront, until they are all gone, of course. Which is Amazon's ultimate intent.

There is much more, all of which I assume you are aware. That's what makes the DOJ's avoidance of the giant predator in this case all the more disappointing. Does this reflect the DOJ's preference for monopoly over an open and individualized marketplace, without unreasonable barriers to entry?

Can we expect to see one retailer, one oil company, one airline? If not, what's the difference between Amazon and these other industries?

With concern,

Don Wallace

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