

From: Sterkel [mailto:sterk[REDACTED]]
Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 3:00 PM
To: Read, John [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: my opinion regarding the amazon.com and several publishers case

I would just like to register my opinion -- my passionate opinion, by the way -- as a longtime member of the Authors Guild and a nonfiction author of nearly twenty books, including a number on ethics.

Amazon.com is the party guilty of price-fixing -- and of becoming a monopoly -- and of contributing to the demise of brick and mortar stores, such as Borders, which provide readers and writers alike (and others) a place to peruse through titles, compare one book to another and even to schmooze. Such brick and mortar stores, including and especially the local neighborhood ones that are at much risk because of amazon's price fixing policies, are essential to our very culture, to our society, our freedom, and our intellectual property.

Please -- please, please, support the publishers in this case, not amazon. By supporting the publishers, you will be supporting the public interest.

Thank you for considering my (informed) opinion.

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(Have published with HBJ, Penguin, Scholastic, and other major publishers, by the way.)