

May 3, 2012

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

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

Dear Mr. Read

As a small independent bookseller (the only independent new book retailer in a city of over 2,000,000) I want to express my feelings and concerns about the Department of Justice's recent proposed settlement with Simon & Schuster, HarperCollins, and Hachette.

I believe strongly that the agency model has been good for America, good for small businesses, good for brick-and-mortar bookstores, good for publishing, and, most importantly, good for readers and book buyers.

I encourage you and your associates to consider very strongly the benefits to our society and industry since the introduction of the agency model (which include increased diversity and competition) and to take steps to make sure it is retained!

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter

Pam Washington



Owner,
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