

**From:** L. Rice-Sosne [mailto:lrso[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 19, 2012 2:51 PM  
**To:** Read, John [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]  
**Subject:** antitrust suit against publishers

06/19/12

Dear John Read,

Right now, the department of justice is proceeding with an antitrust lawsuit against several publishers and Apple over e-books. The lawsuit (encouraged in large part by Amazon) says that publishers shouldn't be able to set the prices on the e-books they publish. They say this is "price fixing." Amazon wants to be able to continue their war against independent booksellers (and lots of other indie businesses) by selling ebooks at a fraction of their cost as a loss leader so they can sell you other products.

The publishers, hundreds of bookstores, and many, many authors and readers want the opportunity to offer these books too – something that becomes impossible when a massive giant sabotages the rest of the industry, creating its own largely tax-free monopoly.

This lawsuit is wrong and has the potential of putting significant amounts of smaller business people and their employees out of work in favor of one or two large corporations. The unemployment rate will sky rocket. And the loss of independent bookstores will destroy the USA. There is nothing fair or right about this legal suit.

Anne E Rice-Sosne