

From: [Cathy Hardin](#) [Cat[REDACTED]]
To: [Read, John](#) [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: Antitrust Settlement
Date: Thursday, June 07, 2012 4:21:40 PM

With regards to the recent decisions concerning settlement with Amazon, allowing it to continue predatory practices that affect our most creative authors, I would like to voice my concern as a consumer. I enjoy ebooks and I enjoy hard copy literature; however, I would never purchase a ebook that deliberately takes profits from the author. By consideration of the decision you are backing, you are discouraging creativity. Some of the best minds in the world are your neighbors here in the United States. If an author cannot make a living at his craft, because his books are being high jacked, he will stop writing. And wouldn't we all be the poorer without the entertainment they provide? There is a place for both types of books but also the brick-and-mortar bookstore as well as Amazon.

The Justice Department is brick-by-brick destroying our country with decisions that dumb-down the population and discourage business and creativity. Competition is healthy and the Justice Department should really stay out of it. Let business run itself.

Sincerely,

Catherine Hardin