

From: Jason Bechtel
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 7:21am
Subject: Injustice for all

Dear my US Department of Justice,

I am a US Citizen (SSN: 187-64-0446) currently studying abroad and I find the current proposed settlement between my government and Microsoft Corporation to be a shameful shirking of responsibility. I believe Microsoft has been demonstrated to be (and has demonstrated itself to be) a monopolistic organization, which abuses its position to unfairly dominate other markets and to stifle competition and innovation. Their actions harm consumers (users) of computer software by limiting their choices and forcing them to pay unreasonably high prices. To allow Microsoft to reinforce its current monopoly position by flooding schools with more Microsoft products, simultaneously avoiding the goal of retribution for its user base, is blatantly avoiding the responsibilities of my Department of Justice. This settlement is cowardly and shows that Microsoft is not only dominating the software market, but also the political arena in my country. I expect my government to stand up for me against aggressive corporations like Microsoft. I expect that Microsoft should be made to set right what it unjustly forced on the citizens not only of my country, but on the entire world. This settlement does not satisfy these expectations in the least. It is a joke and everyone knows it. It only reinforces the impression that many people have been trying hard to avoid for a long time: industry is stronger than government in the United States of America.

Shame on you.

Jason Bechtel