

From: Colin Murchie
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would just like to state my wholehearted disgust for the proposed Microsoft antitrust settlement, which is such a cynical and arrogant gesture on the part of the Microsoft corporation that it leaves me nearly speechless.

Of particular note are;

- Microsoft's proposed "donation" of software which it is allowed to value at market prices, despite being able to provide it at much less actual expense.

- The fact that this donation is targeted at the educational market, a craven ploy for Microsoft to make a forced entry into one of the last remaining markets in which it is not already dominant, and

- The fact that none of the settlement terms are targeted to Microsoft's nonprofit competitors (including the massively-used programs Apache, Sendmail and Perl,) which represent its most salient competitors.

I cannot believe that the DOJ is seriously considering such an insanely biased proposal. This "remedy" amounts to a massive competitive subsidy to Microsoft Corporation.

Regards,
Colin Murchie