

From: csachs@skuld.innoved.org@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern: The anti-trust settlement for Microsoft's monopolistic practices is a travesty. Not only does it promote the products of this company but it undermines the hard earned place in the Educational arena that other companies have long invested in. Microsoft gets a free backdoor entry into this market where children will grow up using their products to continue to do so long into their adult lives much as drug pushers seek to give freebies to children to get them hooked. The settlement does NOTHING to stop or mediate the unscrupulous and monopolistic practices of Microsoft. Rather it REWARDS the company by allowing it to flood the poorest schools with their products (generating future revenues when these children grow up) and turns what should be a PR disaster into a PR dream (Microsoft helping out education the poor etc.) If Microsoft were at all concerned about these children they would GIVE the products to the schools with NO STRING attached. This is not altruism - this is self-serving investment into the future growth of Microsoft Inc. I urge the settlement be scrapped or the ante upped substantially by requiring Microsoft to invest in the schools by putting COMPETITOR products into the classrooms and NO MICROSOFT PRODUCTS.