From: Deborah Alexander
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 1:21am
Subject: comments on emasculating anti-trust suits

When Microsoft Word shut down my entire computer in the spring of 2000, and corrupted - almost beyond retrievability - my Master's thesis - I rejoiced that the far-superior WordPerfect might NOT be put out of business by the Microsoft monopoly, if only the DOJ might prevail

Now, the *new* DOJ is suggesting a "punishment" of placing this software with huge numbers of K-12 kids?

That is like giving (bad) drugs away for free.

I note that *during* settlement negotiations, Microsoft shipped out a Windows XP product that will shut down users' *entire* machines - and all other applications -- if the Microsoft goes without activation beyond a set date

I also note that *since* the DOJ "settlement", Microsoft has (1) had the audacity to refuse FBI requests to Email notice of security problems in its software *found* not by Microsoft but by an independent watchdog; and

(2) now admits that it suppressed information on a legal brief by failing to disclose lobbying of Congress in connection with your anti-trust suit.

Why are these wealthy monoipolists continually hiding information and thumbing their collective noses at our administration-- without any apparent consequences?

As a law student at Rutgers, I am looking forward to seeing an ultimate anti-trust victory by the states which bravely refused to be co-opted into DOJ's settlement.

I hope you will make the right decisions for a *true* capitalist democracy and prove those pundits wrong who point to the proposed DOJ settlement as proof that Microsoft campaign money bought the same level of power in this administration as had Enron...

This is your opportunity prove us wrong, and avoid making a desperately bad settlement even more embarrassing.

Sinceley,
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