From: COLLINSF3@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/5/02 11:19pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would just like to say that Microsoft should not be broken up by any means. It's not the jurisdiction of our government do define competition as total equality. It would be punishing people who have worked hard to create a product that people like and buy. The government does not have the right to say who prospers or define one's earnings. Now that Explorer is free it forces Netscape to be original, provide the consumer with something new that Explorer does not allow. It forces other people to create, to strive. You do not punish Gates for being successful. Apple computer still has a wonderful product which they sell. The government suppressing individuals ability to create is everything the framers of our constitution would go against. Gates has the right to his property. This is the equivalent of if I owned large amounts of land so I could sell it at lower prices hurting real estate companies, so the government took my land. That says that my property is not mine, but rather everything I own is up to the discretion of the state to take. We do not live in a socialist government, and I fear that this decision would be another attempt for the government to define our lives as a collective regime to help one another. Look the government cannot violate ones property rights. If this decision goes through then that says that says the government can control ones property which is strait communist no doubt. There's no violation of the law unless Microsoft hurts the rights of another. The constitution says we as individuals have the right in the pursuit of happiness. That does not mean happiness is guaranteed to the individual. Neither does it mean the state has the right to define the level of happiness we're allowed. Please please please do not break up Microsoft.