



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

March 3, 2010

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Joe Baca
U.S. House of Representatives
2245 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Baca:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's *Notice of Inquiry* to examine the role that electronic media play in the lives of American children. In your letter, you express particular concern that certain video game content may be harmful to children, and may be linked to obesity, decreased social skills, and aggressive behavior.

The evolving media landscape has the potential to produce innovation and new business models to increase the amount of educational programming and content available to all children. However, as discussed in your correspondence, digital media also may pose risks to children, including exposing them to exploitative advertising and inappropriate content, as well as potentially contributing to negative health effects, such as childhood obesity. The vital role of government in this media environment is to work to help ensure that parents have access to the full range of information concerning digital media content that will educate and entertain their children while also providing the tools necessary to protect children from inappropriate content.

The Commission's *Notice of Inquiry* seeks information concerning how and to what extent children are using electronic media today, the benefits and risks this presents, and the ways in which parents, teachers, and children can help realize the benefits while minimizing the risks of using these technologies. The period for the submission of public comments in response to the *Notice of Inquiry* is scheduled to close on March 26, 2010. At that time, the Commission's Media Bureau will commence its evaluation of the record compiled in the proceeding and develop recommendations for the Commission's consideration.

I appreciate learning your views on this important matter. As you requested, a copy of your correspondence has been included in the record of the *Notice of Inquiry* proceeding. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski", written over a horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski