

**CONCURRING STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS**

Re: Viacom Inc.

I concur in the decision to adopt this settlement agreement. As I have stated about previous consent decrees, however, I am concerned about the effect of today's decision on the Commission's license renewal process. The totality of a broadcaster's record is pertinent and should be considered when licenses are renewed. Today's decision takes an entire part of the record off the table. It is bad enough that our re-licensing process has degenerated to the point where the Commission generally does not even look at a station's public file or inquire further into the station's service to its community unless a citizen of that particular community brings an issue to our attention. Today, the Commission tells those citizens that some information is no longer relevant in evaluating a broadcaster's overall performance in its community.

I would also sound a cautionary note that the Commission has gone down this road before with Infinity Broadcasting which is now part of Viacom. At that time, the Commission praised the steps Infinity took to ensure compliance with the indecency laws. Yet, today, we are once again settling numerous indecency complaints against Infinity and its parent company, Viacom. Going forward, I urge my colleagues to accord prompt and vigorous attention to any future listener or viewer complaints against this licensee.