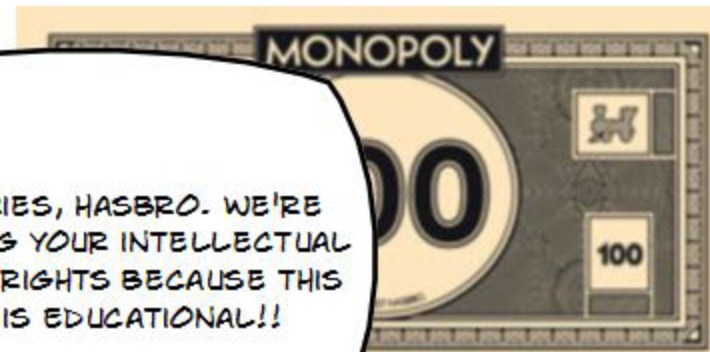
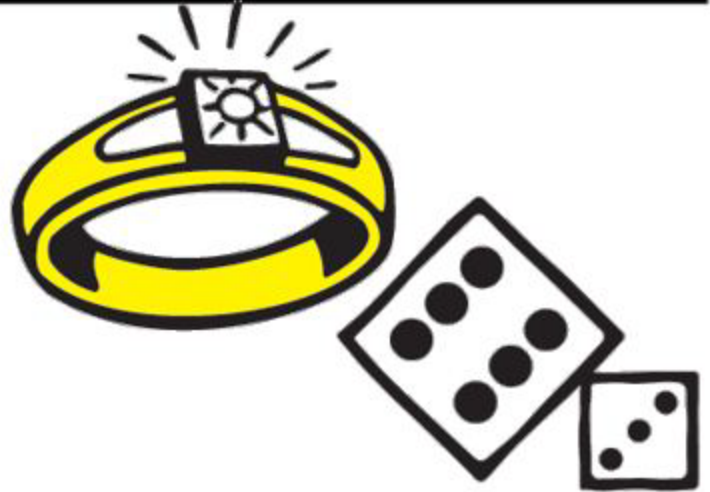


# MONOPOLY



NO WORRIES, HASBRO. WE'RE RESPECTING YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS BECAUSE THIS COMIC IS EDUCATIONAL!!





I CAN CONTROL THE INDUSTRY IF THERE'S NO COMPETITION! I WILL BE THE ONE WHO DETERMINES WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYONE OUTDOING ME. I ONLY HAVE TO SHARE WHAT I WANT TO SHARE WITH MY CONSUMERS.



BUT THAT'S UNFAIR! WHAT IF PEOPLE WANT SOMETHING DIFFERENT, SOMETHING NEW?



WHO CARES? I'M IN CHARGE! LET'S SEE IF THEY'LL STOP BUYING WHAT I'M SELLING!  
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!



AOL Time Warner

VIACOM



Microsoft®

DID YOU KNOW THAT FEWER THAN TEN TRANSNATIONAL MEDIA CONGLOMERATES DOMINATE MUCH OF OUR MEDIA: DISNEY, AOL-TIME WARNER, VIACOM, GENERAL ELECTRIC, NEWS CORPORATION, YAHOO!, MICROSOFT, GOOGLE.

AND SHUCKS, THE FCC HAS RAISED THE NUMBER OF STATIONS A SINGLE ENTITY COULD OWN FROM 7 TO 12 IN 1984. A YEAR LATER IT ADDED A NATIONAL AUDIENCE-REACH CAP OF 25% TO THE 12 STATION LIMIT. IN 1996, THE FCC DID AWAY WITH STATION CAPS ALTOGETHER AND RAISED THE AUDIENCE-REACH CAP TO 35%. MOST RECENTLY IN 2003, IT RAISED THE AUDIENCE CAP AGAIN TO 45%

IF INDEPENDENT MEDIA COMPANIES CAN'T SURVIVE IN THE MARKETPLACE, A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF WHAT WE SEE (AND WHAT WE DON'T SEE) WILL BE SHAPED BY LARGE, MONEY-HUNGRY, PUBLICLY TRADED CONGLOMERATES.

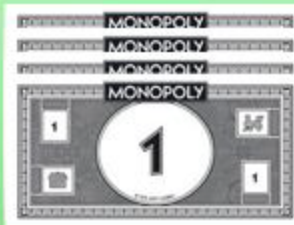


Google

News Corporation

YAHOO!

I AM GIVING PEOPLE EXACTLY WHAT THEY WANT AND THAT IS WHY THEY ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR IT. I MAKE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AS CHEAPLY AS I CAN AND SELL THEM FOR AS MUCH MONEY AS I CAN. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO TURN A PROFIT!



YOU OFFER PRODUCTS TOO CHEAPLY YOU HAVE PUT ALL OF THE SMALL AND LOCAL SHOPS OUT OF BUSINESS! JUST WAIT UNTIL A NEW, BETTER COMPANY COMES ALONG SELLING BETTER THINGS AT A RATE EVEN CHEAPER THAN YOURS AND PUT YOU OUT OF BUSINESS.

MY PALS IN THE INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT AND I WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE THAT NO ONE WILL PUT US OUT OF BUSINESS - I'D LIKE TO SEE SOMEONE TRY TO MATCH THE STANDARDS AND PRICES THAT WE HAVE SET!



WHOA, HOLD YOUR HORSES MONEYBAGS. DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT ANTITRUST LAWS? ANTITRUST LAWS WERE CREATED TO PROMOTE FREE COMPETITION IN THE MARKET PLACE BY OUTLAWING MONOPOLIES.



# WANTED

IN 2009, THE AUTHORS GUILD AND THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS SUED GOOGLE FOR ALLEGED BREACH OF COPYRIGHT IN ITS PROGRAM TO DIGITIZE MILLIONS OF BOOKS FROM RESEARCH LIBRARIES AND TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE ONLINE, FOR A FEE.

"BY PERFORMING SURGICAL NIP AND TUCK, GOOGLE, THE AAP, AND THE AG ARE ATTEMPTING TO DISTRACT PEOPLE FROM THEIR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A MONOPOLY OVER DIGITAL CONTENT ACCESS AND DISTRIBUTION; USURP CONGRESS'S ROLE IN SETTING COPYRIGHT POLICY; LOCK WRITERS INTO THEIR UNSOUGHT REGISTRY, STRIPPING THEM OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT RIGHTS; PUT LIBRARY BUDGETS AND PATRON PRIVACY AT RISK; AND ESTABLISH A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT BY ABUSING THE CLASS ACTION PROCESS." || RESPONSE FROM OPEN BOOK ALLIANCE, WHOSE MEMBERS INCLUDE MICROSOFT, AMAZON, AND YAHOO (DARNTON)

IN 2011, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TODAY FILED A CIVIL ANTITRUST LAWSUIT TO BLOCK AT&T INC.'S PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF T-MOBILE USA INC.

"THE COMBINATION OF AT&T AND T-MOBILE WOULD RESULT IN TENS OF MILLIONS OF CONSUMERS ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FACING HIGHER PRICES, FEWER CHOICES AND LOWER QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR MOBILE WIRELESS SERVICES" -DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. COLE.

# Google

For Wrastlin' up all the customers  
and makin 'em pay a bundle

WHAT COULD ANOTHER COMPANY HAVE TO OFFER THAT I'M NOT ALREADY PROVIDING? IT'S NOT LIKE I'M ONLY SELLING ONE THING; PEOPLE GET PLENTY OF VARIETY TO CHOOSE FROM.

WHAT?! EVERYTHING YOU ARE SELLING IS MORE OF THE SAME! PEOPLE WANT DIVERSE PRODUCTS!



SO WHAT? THEY CAN'T MISS WHAT THEY DON'T HAVE! AND THEY SEEM PERFECTLY HAPPY WITH WHAT THEY DO HAVE, SO WHY OFFER MORE?

COME ON, MONEYBAGS! YOU SAY THAT AS IF PEOPLE CAN'T HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS. IDEAS THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BE GOOD, AND STIR OTHER COMPANIES TO WORK FOR SOMETHING EVEN BETTER. MORE OPTIONS LEADS TO MORE COMPETITION, MORE IDEAS, AND BETTER



YOU'RE A BAD EGG, MONEYBAGS, YOU SHOULD TAKE A LEAF OUT OF TED TURNER'S BOOK: "DIFFERENT VOICES DO NOT MEAN DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS, AND THESE HUGE CORPORATIONS ALL HAVE THE SAME VIEWPOINT--THEY WANT TO SHAPE GOVERNMENT POLICY IN A WAY THAT HELPS THEM MAXIMIZE PROFITS, DRIVE OUT COMPETITION, AND KEEP GETTING BIGGER."



WHEN THIS HAPPENS THERE IS....




**LOSS OF QUALITY:**  
WHEN ALL COMPANIES ARE MONEY-OBSESSED, COMPANIES THAT DON'T RAKE IN MONEY QUICKLY ARE PUNISHED. SO, AMERICAN BROADCASTING FOCUSES LESS ON QUALITY AND MORE ON CHEAP THRILLS.




**LOSS OF LOCALISM:**  
BIG MEDIA NEWS ORGANIZATIONS AIR NATIONAL STORIES WITH NO LOCAL CONNECTION, WHICH POSSES A THREAT TO COMMUNITIES BY IGNORING THE PUBLIC-SERVICE MISSION OF THE MEDIA




**LOSS OF DEMOCRACY:**  
AS JUSTICE HUGO BLACK SAID IN 1945: THE FIRST AMENDMENT RESTS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE WIDEST POSSIBLE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION FROM DIVERSE AND ANTAGONISTIC SOURCES IS ESSENTIAL TO THE WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC.  
IF MEDIA COMPANIES DOMINATE THEIR MARKETS, OUR DEMOCRACY SUFFERS-- THERE IS ALWAYS A CHANCE THAT NEWS ORGANIZATIONS WILL MANIPULATE THE NEWS TO SERVE THEIR CORPORATE INTERESTS.



THE PEOPLE ARE DEMANDING MORE DIVERSITY IN THE PRODUCTS THEY HAVE ACCESS TO! THIS IS AN UNDEMOCRATIC WAY TO DO BUSINESS, THEY SHOULD HAVE A SAY IN THE KINDS OF THINGS THEY WANT TO PAY FOR.



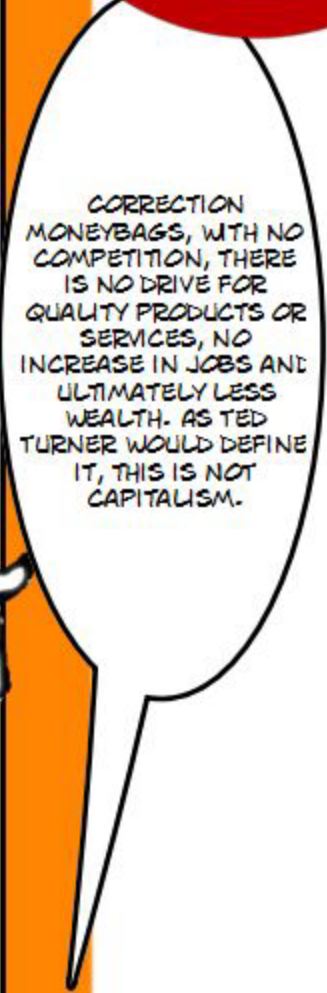
WE ARE IN A CAPITALIST SYSTEM - I CAN SET THE PRICES, AND DETERMINE WHAT I WILL SELL!



PEOPLE ONLY BUY WHAT YOU SELL BECAUSE YOU HAVE BLOCKED ALL COMPETITION - YOU ARE NOT SERVING THE COMMON GOOD! GO TO JAIL!



MONOPOLY



CORRECTION MONEYBAGS, WITH NO COMPETITION, THERE IS NO DRIVE FOR QUALITY PRODUCTS OR SERVICES, NO INCREASE IN JOBS AND ULTIMATELY LESS WEALTH. AS TED TURNER WOULD DEFINE IT, THIS IS NOT CAPITALISM.





WE KNOW YOU'VE ENJOYED OUR THOUGHTFUL AND WITTY COMIC ABOUT MONOPOLIES- BUT IF THIS THING GOT BIG, HASBRO WOULD PROBABLY SHUT US DOWN FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT.



HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (OR IP) LAWS. IP LAWS ARE IMPORTANT TO GIVE PAST AND PRESENT AUTHORS SOME CONTROL OVER THE USES OF THEIR WORK. BUT, IP REGULATIONS ARE BECOMING MURKY IN THE DIGITAL AGE.



MANY FEEL THERE IS AN IMBALANCE BETWEEN COPYRIGHT PROTECTION AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS. "PROTECTING THE CURRENT STOCK OF INTELLECTUAL GOODS IS TO GIVE FUTURE CREATORS A CONTINUING INCENTIVE TO CREATE... AT THE SAME TIME, THOUGH, COPYRIGHT MAKES THE TASK OF THOSE FUTURE CREATORS MORE DIFFICULT BY MAKING IT HARDER FOR THEM TO BORROW/STEAL/PARODY/BUILD UPON/TRANSFORM/ADAPT /MODIFY/RIP EARLIER WORKS." DAVID POST



LAWRENCE LESSIG (PROFESSOR OF LAW AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY) AND ONE OF THE LEADING FIGURES IN THE "CREATIVE COMMONS" AND AN ADVOCATE FOR "FREE CULTURE" ARGUES THAT CULTURAL CREATIVITY IS UNDERMINED BY RIGHTS HOLDERS WHO ABUSE THE POWER THEY HAVE UNDER EXISTING IP LAW.



# THE END!