

Friday 14, 2006

To: Federal Trade Commission

Title: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking  
Subject: Business Opportunity Rule

RE: CFR Citation: 16 CFR Part 437

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Rachel Tompkins and I am a part time network marketer. I have been in this business now for four months. My reason for writing this letter is my concern with the proposed Business Opportunity Rule R511993. I feel that this suggested proposal would more than hurt my growing business, but more importantly create more problems than either side wants to deal with.

I can tell you, being a wife and a mother of three what you are proposing waves many red flags about the safety of my family and those that I would bring into my business. I have already had my identity stolen once, with the predator never being brought to justice for the damage that they caused. Not a single enforcement unit in the police department even looked into my case, when that person left a clear paper trail of personally paid bills to find them. Imagine what putting this kind of information out to the public would do. The opportunity for Women to be put in compromised situations by perverts and really sick people becomes a threat to women who are now and who will be in the industry. Do you realize that would be handing the gold mines of all gold mines to those that participate in identity theft. Let's also touch base on how many pedophiles would be drooling at this new list of children. For those in the crime industry, what a buffet you are placing in front of them. Where are our rights and our privacy? Why is it that the scum get all the rights and those of us that are good standing citizens have to pay for all the idiots that choose to cheat?

In this country most families have to work two jobs just to try to make ends meet, and look at the amount of credit card debt there is as well as bankruptcies, foreclosures, welfare participants, and the lack of social security for the younger generations. Do you honestly think that these laws are going to help improve any of these situations? I have seen and heard far more stories of people who have become debt free, paid off their house, saved themselves from for foreclosure and

bankruptcies, and most importantly are investing in their retirement fund due to being a part of a home based business. Now tell me how you can pass this proposal knowing that more good has come from home businesses than those who are not playing fair? I truly believe that if anything, all of these wonderful home based business opportunities are actually keeping us from seeing more of the debt, bankruptcies etc.

I also believe that it gives hope to those who want to have more and make more out of themselves. If you have ever been in network marketing or any other home based business you would know that more times than not, it builds better people. Yes it is easy to scam someone, that doesn't take much. Those of us in a home based business actually have to work to earn what we build. We have values and beliefs that we commit to upon entering into our business, that we hold serious and with integrity. Our business ethics represent who we are and what we stand for, why would we purposely be dishonest, petty and misleading to those we prospect. Do you realize that most of the clientele in businesses like these are your friends, families, and people you care about? Yes you do work with a cold market, but how long before they are in your warm market? Do you know how hard it is to build a home based business with a great product when you're not in the spot light? Just imagine how much harder it is going to become when the media spins it into something that is shady or a scam or whatever else they may want to label on this line of work. All of us are just trying to make a honest living just like the next guy.

The business that I currently am an independent distributor for holds us very accountable for what we do. They have policies that protect the product users by refunding money or replacing product. We as distributors are held to standards of honesty that we sign contracts stating that we will not resale product for more than a certain percent of what the company has stated. There are many other rules that we follow because those of us in the legitimate home based business arena truly want to help people. There is no thrill of taking people for their money, our thrill and excitement comes from the opportunities that we help create for them. How can you slap the hands of many brilliant people who are helping to improve the lives of others in America physically, temporarily, and spiritually? Are you going to go with us on prospecting appointments to tell them that we are legit, and yes we can really help them so don't worry in seven days after your waiting period is up you can start your business? I highly doubt that. How many people can wait seven days to get started in a business or would want to for that matter. You don't have to wait that

long to get most other jobs out there, so why us? You can also purchase vehicles, weapons, houses etc without having to wait more than two to three days! C'mon this is really ridiculous!

Really the problem is not those of us who play by the rules. The problem is obviously the already existing laws and rules that are not being enforced harshly enough to where people think twice before scamming others. See adding more little rules only helps to shut down hard working citizens and create more need for jobs and then you get the snowball effect of what happens to people that fall into that category. Besides who wants more paper work to have to worry about? Maybe you guys, because you want to help your people, but what about helping our people? What about protecting those of us who are doing our business right? It's funny how the lawbreakers make the rules for the rest of us. Especially when the lawbreakers are a minority compared to the scale of all of us who have real legitimate companies. There is a great idea, hurt millions upon thousands of hard working people just because some people in this world want to have their cake and eat it too.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this proposal and focus more on what can be done to catch those who are scamming others and find ways to make their lives miserable, as opposed to making a huge percentage of legitimate business owners suffer the consequences for something they didn't do. Whatever happened to being responsible for your own actions? You know growing up I never remember being taught that our country was for letting criminals make our rules. I do believe it was the other way around. My dad always taught me to be proud of what I do so let me ask you which do you want to be proud of; Shutting down hardworking people who have made an honest living selling products for legitimate companies and creating unnecessary paper work for everyone or bringing to justice those who think that they are above the law and that the rules don't apply to them! You're the ones who decide so many of our fates. Please don't make it harder for us than it already is.

I appreciate the time that you have taken to read my comments concerning just a smidgen of what this bill means in my life. I hope and pray that you will make a fair and just decision.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Tompkins  
Independent Distributor

