

July7, 2006

Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20580

Dear Federal Trade Commission,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns. Upon learning of your proposed rules, I felt compelled to write for both philosophical and personal reasons. There are increasingly limited options for realizing the "American Dream," or frankly ever providing true security for our families. Common false perceptions are prevalent amongst wage earning Americans concerning the actual regulatory and taxation levels imposed upon the ever contracting smallest (but most heavily taxed) socioeconomic group in the United States. Yet, almost everyone would like the opportunity to have economic security, and they would take a chance in life if it could be guaranteed that, through hard but rewarding work, security and a higher living standard would result. It simply depends on how you word the question to people.

As a Physician in the Field of Surgery, I am well versed on institutionalization, whether government or otherwise imposed. In pursuit of the "American Dream," I placed dramatic and permanent limitations on my surgical practice. Having spent countless hours of my own time researching hundreds of businesses I have settled on a legitimate, fair realizable business plan, and committed myself to it financially and emotionally. I am certain that as Regulators you are aware of the many State and Federal restrictions that are already imposed upon marketers and entrepreneurs in general. Based on my now educated analysis, the restrictions you are proposing will effectively terminate mine and the other American based internet companies and cost these companies, their employees, States and the American Government billions in the present. It will furthermore cost what would have been hundreds of billions of dollars, in private and public monies, in the future.

This consequence may not seem important to any architect of these restrictions but look at the situation another way and ask your self two questions: What opportunities are available to me or any other American interested in economic advancement? I mean no insult but, have you ever looked into what still realistically exists as opportunities at any one individual American citizen's level? Do I personally want there to be other career and economic opportunities available to me, in case I one day decide to improve my life? As you well know, the description of American socioeconomic structure has changed over time and the old top down domestic industry approach with career long opportunities for individual economic stability no longer prevails. This model had to give way if the United States wanted to remain at the forefront of advanced nations. Therefore as the combination of rapidly changing technological advancement and expansion into global markets is the new frontier, our educational system, infrastructure, technological development, Governmental process (including regulation) and economic architecture must be in sink. Otherwise, one day soon, it will be a surprise to Americans when China allied with Russia is the leader and smaller countries around the world are making demands of us while at home our unemployment level is 10, 20 or 30 percent in the United States. If we think the internet is a luxury now, imagine the situation then.

Certainly there are corrupt operators of internet based businesses just as there are corrupt misleading businesses in all other market mediums. Nothing makes me more upset or feel more cheated than when someone else takes my money and gives me nothing in return. I am a victim of this from in person, phone and internet scams. However, I do not come running to the Government or my Representative asking for an effective complete closure of an industry. I may or may not seek to hold the individual entity responsible. Despite the manipulative tactics of a very few in the various industries, Americans still have the choice of different mediums and increasingly chose the internet as growing markets are able offer new conveniences and ways for the individual to save their time and money.

I do come running to the Government when their well intentioned proposed regulation threatens mine, my children and all of America's future way of life. I have worked very hard, in various segments of society, and it was difficult to find opportunity. Please do not enact what you are proposing.

With Respect,
John B. Thomas, MD