



The following Public Comment was made to the FCC on May 15, 2026:

On behalf of the Association of Christian Schools International: Parents rely on television ratings and content descriptors to make informed decisions about what programming enters their homes. We appreciate the Commission's decision to examine whether the current system is genuinely empowering parents in today's media environment. In our experience, it does not. We were shocked to learn that programs created for and marketed to and rated as appropriate for the very youngest members of the family frequently feature LGBTQ themes, messages, and characters, but the inclusion of this content is not labeled or disclosed. Nothing in the current rating system serves to adequately inform and equip parents to evaluate whether the content presented is appropriate for their child and reflective of their family's values. When parents shop for groceries, they can look at a food packaging label, evaluate the ingredients, and decide whether they are comfortable with their family's consuming that product. It is a highly individual decision, and their choices in that matter do not affect or constrain the decisions of other families who may feel differently. Program content labeling should work along the same lines. Parents should have full information available to them so that they can make the best decision for their families. Others may make different choices. But the lack of transparency from the entertainment industry sends the message that they either do not care about parent choice or that they are intentionally and willfully working to subvert the authority and autonomy of parents who don't agree with their political, social, and cultural agenda. We are concerned that the companies that are producing and distributing content are the same companies that are determining what the content should be rated, and also the same companies that granted oversight of the entire system. It's a closed system that's meant to protect industry interests over the interests of the families the ratings system was created to serve. The many failures of the current rating system become especially apparent across distribution platforms where no single, uniform standard seems to apply, and the burden falls on parents to learn how to navigate different systems, different parental control standards, and a multi-billion dollar industry that's actively working against them. We urge the Commission to encourage reforms that improve clarity, consistency, and transparency in the ratings process, with meaningful parental input. Parents are not seeking censorship or editorial control, only honest, intelligible information they can rely on. Thank you for considering the perspective of families who depend on this system to function as intended.

**ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL**

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