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Comments in the Matter of Microbroadcasting or LPFM

#99-25

Comments of Diane Imelda Fleming
AKA Condom Lady formerly of Radio Mutiny
2618 South 6th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148
July 29th, 1999

I, Diane Imelda Fleming, file these comments on July 29, 1999 in the matter of Microbroadcasting or LPFM and NPRM 99-25.

Greetings to all at the FCC, Richard Lee, whom I met in April of 1998 and David Fiske, whom I met last October, outside of the FCC building.

I am writing to you again as a citizen and an activist for positive, healthy change that is so needed in the lives of United States citizens today. It took me a long time to decide to write this comment, as you know I had a safer sex and harm reduction health show on the station formerly known as Radio Mutiny. I have felt alternately elated and discouraged by our movement's progress in getting this issue to the public. I decided to write to thank you for teaching me valuable lessons in community organizing and mobilization that I can utilize for any situation.

It is with great trepidation that I face the ruling on LPFM, my fears are that commercial interests will prevail over the non-profit, non-commercial niche I sought to build through the Microradio Empowerment Coalition. The other fear is that the religious community will seek preference for non-profit spectrum allotment, when they already occupy so much commercial spectrum with repeaters.

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I feel strongly that the smaller the wattage of stations, the better of we would ALL be. Smaller wattage might disinterest commercial owners from attempting to establish multiply owned stations. Owning more than one LPFM station is completely unacceptable.

Ten watts is more than enough for my city community, one hundred watts is even better. One thousand watts, at first sounded unsuitable, but I now understand the need for rural communities higher wattage needs.

I (of course) feel that amnesty for the "pioneers" of LPFM is not only essential but practical on your part. Working together with the movement to create a system might ensure that the "issue" ceases to be one and that civil disobedience slows down and eventually stops.

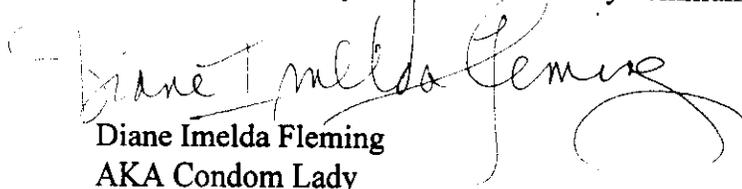
Serving my community is of vital importance to me. I live in the inner city of Philadelphia, which much like DC, has high crime, drug addiction and poverty rates. When you feel disconnected with your community it is easy to feel alone.

I am trying to bring people together in a positive way to provide support and a referral system. I am willing and able to do a research project on how radio can act as a bridge that can reach multiple populations and decrease disease rates. There are two populations that I serve that I would like to do research with, injection drug users and teens who are trying to help other teens prevent pregnancy.

I thank you for allowing me to respectfully comment on the LPFM issue and I hope you got to see the big article on LPFM in the July issue of Penthouse Magazine.

Enclosed is a comment from my mother whom I love dearly.

Sincerely and always with LOVE for my community,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Imelda Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, decorative flourish at the end of the word "Fleming".

Diane Imelda Fleming
AKA Condom Lady