

Dear Ms. Dink:

I oppose the Federal Election Commission's proposed new rules that would shut down groups that dare to communicate with the public in any way critical of the incumbent President or members of Congress. I understand that you will receive comments until April 5 for hearings on April 14, otherwise until April 9; you propose to finalize your rules in May, and have them in effect in July; right in the middle of an election year. Here are some reasons your rules are wrong:

- Campaign finance reform was never meant to gag public interest organizations.
- The FEC has no legal right to treat non-profit interest groups as political committees. Congress and the courts have considered and rejected such regulation.
- Some of your proposed rules are *ex post facto* in violation of the U.S. Constitution, Article I, section 9.

Respectfully submitted,

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