

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER
JAMES H. QUELLO

December 15, 1989

Gary Morse, General Manager
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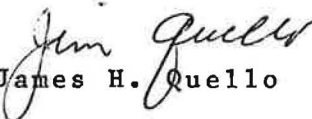
Dear Gary Morse,

Your letter to Radio and Records (December 15 issue) is exceptionally well stated and right on target!

As I stated in one of my speeches, the FCC is not on a Salem witch hunt but we will enforce statutes and regulations prohibiting obscenity and indecency. I also believe that our founding fathers didn't guarantee political freedom of speech for repulsive obscene purposes. Another important consideration is that licensees cannot abrogate responsibility to a few over adventurous radio personalities who use questionable shock tactics to gain publicity and ratings.

It is always gratifying to find licensees and general managers who have a responsible, socially conscious appreciation of first amendment rights. Congratulations!

Sincerely,


James H. Quello

Copy: Editor,
Radio and Records

LETTER

Shock Radio: Smokescreen For Rebellion?

I wonder whether I am the Lone Ranger in my views about the FCC's recent actions? I question whether critics of the agency's anti-filth efforts have thought about the big picture — the ramifications on society, especially on impressionable young people, [of] negative influences from radio.

Are there any who think the examples of obscenities in question should have been on the air? Has the FCC ever been heavy-handed in keeping PUBLIC-OWNED airwaves decent? And is [Jeff Pollack's 12/1] reference to [McCarthy] just a smoke screen to not face up to the fact that a few broadcasters are hiding under the First Amendment to get away with a form of rebellious programming that cannot be justified under any standard of decency?

The Constitution's guarantee of freedom of speech . . . means freedom with reasonable limits. [Without] boundaries we would have anarchy and . . . a breakdown of society. If we emphasize our freedom and rights more than our values and responsibilities, eventually we will lose both . . .

Doesn't someone have to exercise responsibility in a society preoccupied with materialism and pleasure while angrily lashing out against [the suggestion] that responsibility, discipline, and decency are a prerequisite to survive as a mentally, spiritually, and emotionally healthy nation?

Children lock into radio when they wake up, go to bed, and much of the time in between. The ones who are unattended are especially vulnerable. But even if a parent is around, should a mother or father have to take on the added burden of constantly policing the airwaves that they own in the first place?

As the adage goes, we are how we think, and if it's garbage in, then it's garbage out . . . I don't

contend that shock radio alone will take a young person down the path of destruction, but it can be a contributing factor.

My question is, why take the side of blatant offenders who take radio's image down to the gutter, when our main mission is to encourage and build up listeners . . . ? Is this approach not more profitable in the long haul?

—Gary Morse

General Manager

WKYQ & WKYX/Paducah, KY

Ratterman GSM At WLSY

WLSY/Louisville has named crosstown Full-Service AC WHAS AE Helen Ratterman GSM. In her first GSM opportunity, Ratterman will direct a four-member sales staff. The BM/EZ station had had no GSM.

She told R&R, "I've been in radio sales for more than 11 years in this market and I'm extremely excited about having my first management job. This station is a diamond in the rough. Programming here is way ahead of sales. A lot of people in this market aren't familiar with the strength of the 35+, upper-income, upper-educated target our station reaches."

Ratterman reported WLSY (AM) will soon sign on, possibly within 30 days. The station, at 680 kHz, will simulcast with WLSY-FM during the day and carry TalkNet at night.

Ratterman had been with WHAS for four years. Before that, she worked in sales for crosstown AC WRKA, and for seven years was an AE for WHAS sister Country outlet WAMZ.

Colvin Tops Bottom Lin



Columbia's Shawn Colvin was the center of attraction at her first headlining show at NYC's Bottom Line for a sampling of tunes from Colvin's label debut. Division President Tommy Mottola, Colvin, and producer John Leventhal; (st) Abbey Konowitch, Columbia's Steve Berkowitz and VP Jack Rovner, manager and President Don Jenner, and Colvin attorney Robert Flax.

Tashjian

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been the best years of my life because of my change in spirituality." Federal prosecutors who were responsible for Tashjian's conviction did not recommend a prison sentence for the defendant.

Rymer told the court, "[Tashjian] has made a concerted and significant effort to turn his life

around . . . [so] one of the objectives of any sentencing already been accomplished."

Tashjian, who continues to as an independent promoter in Francisco, told R&R, "I'm pleased with the outcome. I'm glad that my family and I were able to start the new year with a fresh start."

"While I was still drinking using drugs, I hired an employee my company that was in a self-recovery program. I noticed well she had managed herself. I wanted what she had, so I, too."

He noted, "The quality of life I have today is infinitely better than I ever had before. I used to be that without alcohol and drugs couldn't be successful in my business. Today I find that ridiculous."

"I hope and pray that my future and this ordeal might inspire others in this industry who are from the same type of problem to seek the help they need."

Separate Trial Asked For Anderson

Tashjian and Craig were once associates of independent promoter Joe Isgro when they committed their offenses. Isgro

Cloutier GSM At WGR Combo

Bill Cloutier has been named GSM at Rich Communications AC/AOR combo WGR-AM & FM/Buffalo. Cloutier served as a sales consultant for the stations for the past six months.

"We are extremely pleased to have such a qualified, experienced radio broadcaster as Bill join Rich and become a permanent resident of the Buffalo community," remarked company President David Rick.

Prior to joining Rich, Cloutier was GSM at KOME/San Jose and spent nine years with Fuller-Jeffrey in a variety of positions.

Because All Ears Are Not Created Equal

