

Chapter 1 : Wanna know whatâ€™s wrong with NCAA? Look at Seton Hall

But is it wrong? In the half-century since the original payola scandals, the music industry, the broader commercial culture, and consumer expectations have evolved to the point where the payola.

When I was in Lake Charles, Louisiana a few weeks back, a topic of discussion that came up in several different contexts was the way the local Cajun population was considered. They are a minority and are pejoratively labeled with many of the negative properties we find attached to other sub-populations, especially laziness. I began to wonder why it is that we consider laziness to be such a bad thing. Why do we vilify enjoyment of life, demanding a preference for toil over happiness? This, of course, is hardly an original question. It is one discussed at length by Max Weber. It was a well discussed fact of Europe in the late nineteenth century that a significantly larger percentage of high paying jobs, especially managerial jobs with authority, were held by Protestants, while Catholics tended to do the lower paying, dirtier, more physical labor. This regularity held across national borders in pluralistic societies with generally different cultural historical narratives. Much time and space, especially in Catholic publications, considered why this might be. In the first part of the book, Weber begins by debunking a number of seemingly reasonable hypotheses that seek to explain the phenomenon. For example, one might suppose that the hierarchical structure of the Catholic Church, as opposed to the diffusion of power in Protestantism, might put religion in a prominent place that would leave little room for financial concerns. But Weber points out that while Protestantism has removed a central authority, it has in fact replaced one authority with another that puts a religious spin on every aspect of life. Similarly, one might think that the difference is one of theology, in which the doctrinal beliefs stemming from the Reformation encourage the sort of money-making interests that were reported in the Protestant community. But examinations of early Protestant doctrine, indeed shows quite the opposite. And so it goes with several possible explanations. Weber took America, particularly the writings of Benjamin Franklin, as prime examples of the statement of the Protestant work ethic wherein making money is not seen as a means to a better life, but as a moral imperative that governs the very process of living itself. The Protestants made more money, but they did not seem to enjoy it; indeed, the enjoyment of the wealth they slaved so hard to achieve was seen as sinful. As the Protestants gained political power, they began to frame those sorts of behaviors that benefited them as a group in moral terms and thus the basic concepts of capitalism became internalized within the structure of society and within the consciousnesses of its members. It was not the religious that determined the economic, but rather, the other way around. The interesting question for the sociologist, then, is how such normative structures that determine how a person lives, acts, and feels in society come to be. The secular is to be left behind, to be transcended. But Luther elevates the secular to the status of the sacred. All work can be divine and this change permeates the boundary that the Catholics had placed between inferior worldly work and that which was Divine, now the Divine was contained within the ordinary and this meant that even the economic could be brought under the umbrella of the religious. Hence one was not working for the earthly rewards those were to be avoided, but rather working for the sake of working, a notion to be encouraged by the nature of the social relations in an emerging Capitalist society. The ethos of hard work for the sake of hard work then becomes internalized so that even the "colorless deist" as Weber refers to Franklin, has been sociologically conditioned to approach labor as an act with a degree of fetishism. Certainly the long way around the barn to ask the simple question, is there anything virtuous about the person who works hard and is there anything morally wrong with the slacker?

Chapter 2 : Philosophers' Playground: What's Wrong With Being Lazy?

The difference between payola and explicit advertising is that with the latter, the audience is fully aware of the origin of it. If i hear an advertisement for band XYZ's new album, I know that they clearly paid for that.

Check out this amazingly accurate and insightful article by fellow blogger rdstreets on Hubpages. This article points out a number of problems that are facing the music industry and music fans in this modern age. More original Payola content to come soon: The original article is by rdstreets on Hubpages, and can be reached by the link below.

Introduction You know what? I miss my vinyl records. I miss the larger sleeves with the cover art and the inside liner notes which told you who wrote what and who played on which track. The last time this reality was in full form was the late 80s perhaps early 90s. And since that time a number of changes occurred which created the mess the music business is in today most of it self inflicted. Ahmet Ertegun was known for his gift of discovering, developing and nurturing new talent. We used to have an industry focused on finding the next new and amazing thing. Now we have an industry where labels copy other labels both in artists and material. By becoming larger companies within ever larger umbrellas they became more beholden to their masters to execute quick profits or upticks in stock value which from the 90s on down to the present only led to a race to the bottom.

Lack of Talent and Personality Signed artists no longer have the staying power, personality or song writing abilities of their predecessors. Further, many song artists have failed to understand that music is a calling, a passion. You do it to do it. Yes you want to make a living, but fame and celebrity is the afterglow, not the inspiration.

Traditional Roles Have Disappeared The music business was once an industry where producers, songwriters and artists used to be siloed within their own core competencies. As such, there were clearly defined expectations and requirements that had to be met in order for someone to take on these titles.

Fan Abuse Over the past 20 years the music industry has abused fans in the U. S with both unnecessarily high CD prices and obscenely high concert ticket prices. Concert tickets are also overpriced with all sorts of made up fees included in the ticket transaction to further pad the profits of the vendors who service this side of the industry. Frankly we live in an age where there are just too many other options available out there to entertain us that provide much more bang for the buck.

We Lost Some of the Old Experience Compact discs which deliver music via the WAV audio format have provided excellent listening quality since their wider introduction in the 80s but we lost something in this transition in respect to the full experience we had with records. The product became much smaller as did the print which makes it less likely that anyone is going to take the time to actually appreciate the album art or read the liner notes or credits. This, along with the cost and quality of content issues pervading the industry, has only served to further lessen the level of satisfaction the consumer feels after making a physical music purchase. And the music industry and electronics industry have failed to address it.

MP3s Sound Horrible The MP3 format which made music truly portable also cheapened it by lessening the fidelity and hence the overall experience. Granted, we have reached a wonderful age where music can now fly thru the air and into our cellphones and music players. However, in its current format, MP3s sound tinny when listened to over an extended period of time.

Too Many Choices and Not Enough Filters There are simply now too many outlets and too many touchpoints where everything is just noise and clutter. At the same time no one trustworthy is directing, filtering or grading all the music being created and trafficked out with the exception of the better known music blogs whose share of voice is still relatively small. Radio stations used to fill this role for the most part followed by the staff at your local record shop. Unfortunately with the gobbling up of local, independent stations by the likes of companies such as Clear Channel, all we have now are generic, universal playlists. Further, potential music enthusiasts are no longer simply being hit with the current offerings of the majors with their traditional marketing tactics. The fact that there is so much out there in the market is not necessarily the problem, however. The problem is that a lot of the good stuff is being missed entirely while a lot of garbage is being shoved down the throats of a consumer that as a result values music less and less, day by day.

Lack of Musicianship There seems to be a serious lack of musicianship at play across so many of the song artists that are signed to major labels. Yet now it really seems to have gone too far. Where are the virtuoso

instrumentalists? Where are the guitar and drum heroes? The fact that we need video games to get our fix vs. Traditionally, songs have comprised of four ingredients namely; melody, rhythm, harmony and lyric. Over the last years, the strongest and most memorable music ever written more or less received equal weight in these four areas. Classical music saw heavier weight applied to melody and harmony. Then jazz, blues and later rock each applied rhythm to a greater extent i. This gave energy to the songs and to their performances both on the turntable and on the stage. You need melody for that. And, in the opinion of this song artist only serves as the final nail in the coffin of an industry that has for far too long overstayed its welcome.

Chapter 3 : Payola - Wikipedia

You know what? I miss my vinyl records. I miss going to the record store (a real community experience) and buying an LP for \$\$ I miss the larger sleeves with the cover art and the inside liner notes which told you who wrote what and who played on which track.

Commentary about business and finance. July 27 4: On Monday, he announced a breakthrough in his latest crusade: The music giant agreed to stop the practice, hire a compliance officer, and pay a fine. In response, the Federal Communications Commission issued regulations in that require both broadcasters and people who make promotional payments to disclose the deals to the public. These were among the laws that Sony may have violated. Clearly, people working in regulated industries—especially radio, where broadcasters operate under federal licenses—should get nailed when they break the rules. And in radio, pay for product placement without full disclosure is clearly against the rules. But is it wrong? In the half-century since the original payola scandals, the music industry, the broader commercial culture, and consumer expectations have evolved to the point where the payola laws seem outmoded and backward-looking. Viewers have accepted with equanimity the rise of disclosureless product placement in television shows and movies. No disclosure, no hint of illegality. Why are Doritos bags stacked so nicely at the end of your supermarket aisle? Because Frito-Lay pays for them to be there. And the Web is one gigantic payola machine, from Amazon. Advertisement Not all forms of pay-for-placement are equally acceptable. The Securities and Exchange Commission has come down hard on mutual-fund companies such as Franklin Templeton for using mutual-fund assets to pay brokerage firms for shelf space. Randy Kennedy noted that "the practice seems less savory in bookselling, where bookstore owners and managers were once assumed to serve as an editorial presence, recommending and featuring books they liked. Which brings us to radio. Payola is banned in radio because the airwaves are publicly licensed, which makes them subject to government regulation in a way supermarket shelves are not. After the s payola scandals, government decided that radio stations should be as independent as possible from their suppliers the music industry. In the litigation release, he noted that "our investigation shows that, contrary to listener expectations that songs are selected for airplay based on artistic merit and popularity, air time is often determined by undisclosed payoffs to radio stations and their employees. How, precisely, are consumers harmed if a radio station in Toledo played Celine Dion more than it otherwise would have in the absence of payments? And in such an instance, the relevant laws broken would more likely have to do with torture. Fifty years ago, the prospect of a big record company like Sony and a big radio station owner conspiring to fix what got played could have threatened an important component of the economy and actually stifled musical creativity. With declining record sales , the rise of Internet and satellite radio, and the advent of iTunes, iPods, and podcasting, radio stations and record companies have become an object of pity more than fear. Sure, marketing blitzes and intense radio campaigns can help push undeserving artists onto the charts. Technology and competition have liberated listeners from the clutches of bad Top 40 radio. Artists might not get the kind of promotion they want if the Sonys of the world are paying stations to play Celine Dion. But show me a content creator—writer, musician, actor—who has ever been satisfied with the level of promotion his or her work received. In the s, a quirky band had no way to gain national exposure. Today, music groups can control distribution and reach global audiences instantly. Entertainment payola is harmless because this is a consumer market that functions reasonably well.

Chapter 4 : How The Music Industry Is Brainwashing You to Like Bad Pop Songs

There was a lot of controversy in the 50s and 60s over the idea of Pay-For-Play but what's wrong with it? You and your band just recorded a masterpiece.

By Ken Raggio Revelations With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: Cardinals wear Scarlet robes and Archbishops wear Purple robes at official church functions. The gold, pearls and precious stones with which she is decked can be plainly seen at a typical event held at St. The altar is decked with these ornaments. The golden cup can be seen in the hand of the Pope each time he conducts the Mass. If not, then who? It is the apex of paganism, and I will demonstrate why I say so. Before you make an accusation that this is only mindless Catholic-bashing, I will argue in complete favor of the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to the Bible. It does not exist to perpetuate paganism, idolatry, mysticism or extra-Biblical religious traditions. If history shows that the Catholic Church has faithfully defended the pure unadulterated word of God, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ - including the New Birth experience - as it was preached and practiced by the Apostles and the first-century Church, then we should fervently defend it. The Bible unabashedly, and unkindly, calls it "The Great Whore. I cannot imagine why anyone would not want to know all the facts that prove the case one way or the other. Is your church the "chaste virgin espoused to one husband," or is it "the great whore? But if it is "the great whore," then the Bible already tells me what to do: For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities," Revelation Nothing but the cold, hard facts really count in this assessment. Denial of the facts could cost you your eternal soul. You can never get to the truth of the matter with your head buried in the sand. Denial chooses deliberate ignorance instead of truth. If you insist on denying the real facts about the Roman Catholic Church, you are selling truth and buying ignorance. The outcome can only be bad. If the world knew all the facts, the RCC would already be out of business. The Roman Catholic Church only exists by deception and subterfuge. On the surface, it appears to be a most sanctimonious descendant of the Biblical church. Its pomp and splendor, global wealth and inestimable political power cannot be surpassed by any other entity on earth. But close inspection reveals a secretive, scheming, diabolical, murderous, despotic organization with nothing less than world dominion - world control - on its mind. There, where Jesus said to Peter, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: Look at this unbelievably exorbitant bronze and gold statue surrounding the so-called "St. Peter would certainly disown and disavow this entire sham. But when Pope Gelasius I, in began to teach "Papal Primacy" or "Papal Supremacy," that the Pope was the absolute authority over all churches, then the title "Vicar of Christ" was given to the Pope - meaning that the Pope is the stand-in for Christ. These Papal claims are almost identical to the claims Lucifer made in Isaiah I will be like the Most High. Is the Pope "The Ruler of the World"? Is the Pope "Vicarious Christ"? Does he replace Christ? But for over years, the Pope empowered the kings of Europe by presiding over their coronations. Today, the Pope is the only international religious leader who holds observer status at the United Nations, and the only official religious voice to address the General Assembly. Lucifer has finally, albeit temporarily, exalted his throne in the earth in the form of the RCC. But make no mistake about it. This throne will be thrown down. Neither Peter nor any other Apostle or Pastor in the first years of the early church ever claimed to have the kind of authority that modern Popes claim to have. Consider these blasphemous claims made by the Roman Catholic Church: He said, "To this holy city, famous for the memory of so many holy martyrs, run with religious alacrity. Hasten to the place which the Lord hath chose. Ascend to this new Jerusalem, whence the law of the Lord and the light of evangelical truth hath flowed forth into all nations, from the very first beginning of the church: This catholic and apostolical Roman church is the head of the world, the mother of all believers, the

faithful interpreter of God and mistress of all churches. Because of its enormous influence in the world today, the RCC should have to face the most piercing scrutiny and brutal questioning to prove its authenticity. If the RCC could pass unfettered Biblical scrutiny, then we should have no doubts about it, and we should all join it. But if we thoroughly investigate it and discover that the Roman Catholic Church in its present form is almost completely alien to the Biblical church and its teachings, then we should pull the wool off, and show the entire world what a wolf it really is. The founding of the Roman Catholic Church cannot be understood without understanding its root in the ancient Roman Empire. Emperor Constantine of Rome, a terrifying adversary of early Church Christians, played a major role in the founding and establishment of the Roman Catholic Church. That fact, by itself, should trigger every alarm, and cause us to ask probing questions about how this movement really became what it is today. So, was Constantine a true disciple of the religion of Jesus Christ and the original Apostles, or was HE part of a great deception? But the Catholic Church holds dozens of fundamental doctrines that are not only unbiblical, but they are also unbelievably heretical and subversive. To preach and practice these doctrines is to countermand countless infallible truths of the Bible. The biggest single reason why the Catholic Church can get by with these diabolical teachings is because virtually all though not ALL of modern Christianity has its roots in the Roman Catholic Church. Society has become so accustomed to the RCC definition of Christianity, that the Bible and God Himself have almost no influence to convince this generation otherwise. But in earlier centuries, these lies had to be foisted on the public by force - by threatenings, confiscations, excommunications, abuses, even murders. Look at these flagrant heresies, for examples: Transubstantiation - This RCC doctrine teaches that the communion bread becomes another substance [transubstantiation], changed miraculously into the literal body of Christ, the communion wine is miraculously changed into the literal blood of Jesus. No one can be saved unless he or she takes that communion from the hand of a Priest in the Roman Catholic Church. But just as bad, if this doctrine were actually true, then every time a person partakes of the communion sacraments, he would be literally committing cannibalism - eating human flesh, drinking human blood, AND crucifying Jesus Christ all over again and again. All of that is patently absurd and flagrantly offensive to the Truth of the matter. I personally believe that it exposes the true spirit of Roman Catholicism, which is to crucify Christ again and again. Why else would it gloat in keeping Jesus Christ hanging on a cross for all of time? The Communion Supper that Jesus gave to His disciples was commemorated on the Passover - a once-a-year event instituted by God when Israel escaped the bondage of Egypt. It is raw heresy. The Catechism states, "Venial sin does not set us in direct opposition to the will and friendship of God; it does not break the covenant with God. Venial sin does not deprive the sinner of sanctifying grace, friendship with God, charity, and consequently eternal happiness. So there you have it. You can sin without sinning. This is taking leave of all rational thought. Sin is sin is sin. How can ANY sin be sinless? If sin is not sinful, the entire subject is a farce. Indulgences - In exchange for donations to the Catholic Churches, the priesthood is allegedly able to absolve the donors of their guilt, allowing them to commit adulteries, fornications and many other sins. So, for a reasonable donation to the church, you can excuse your adulteries and fornications, or whatever indiscretions you may have committed. How can any rational person believe that Almighty God endorses such payola or extortion? Confessionals - The Catholic Church teaches people to confess their sins to their priests instead of confessing to God. What kind of extortion and intrigue could YOU perpetrate if you knew every secret sin of every person in your community? It is supremely deceptive. You should take your sins directly to God in sincere repentant prayer. Purgatory, Limbo and Prayers for the Dead - Jesus taught that when the rich man died, he went immediately to hell, and the righteous man, Lazarus, went immediately to be with Abraham in the presence of God. But the Catholic Church has created a fantasy world called Purgatory or Limbo, a supposed "staging area" where ungodly souls await their entrance into heaven or hell. These are gravely unscriptural beliefs about the destiny of the soul. The RCC teaches that through gifts and donations, deceased loved ones can be prayed out of purgatory into the Holy Presence of Almighty God in Heaven, regardless of the lives they lived or what they believed. They can be bought free, by making substantial donations to the Roman Catholic Church. The blasphemy of this is only matched by the nauseating avarice and greed designed to take advantage of grieving loved ones. This entire concept is completely foreign to the Bible. At best, the RCC is fostering deceptive,

misleading false hope. Nothing could be further from the truth. Veneration of, and Prayers to the Virgin Mary - Solomon asserted that when a man dies, his body returns to the dust. His spirit has no more awareness of what is going on in earth, " Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished," Ecclesiastes 9:

Chapter 5 : What's wrong with payola? Nothing.

The final 45 seconds of Monday's Pacers-Mavericks lasted 17 minutes as it included three timeouts, two video reviews and four intentional fouls (And thanks to reader Yank Poleyeff for the heads-up).

Will anyone be wearing a wire? Given all the financial, academic and sexual scandals and FBI arrests and continuing revelations — with much still likely to be revealed then adjudicated — where does the committee seed the implicated, including Duke, Kentucky, Louisville, North Carolina, Michigan St. From a TV standpoint, it seems impossible CBS and Turner will be able to ignore or even minimize recent hard news that big-time college basketball has been positively identified as a resident of the sewer. My guess is that it certainly will try. Barkley knows this Tournament — and many before it — is predicated on frauds of every kind, yet, bold as he is, will he say so? Having made a deal with the devil, it needs an exorcist. Morton is an unregistered but fully suspected power broker with extraordinary college recruiting influence within the often fetid local AAU basketball scene. In he was arrested then convicted for carrying a loaded handgun in his car. His arrest last year for four loaded weapons and a bulletproof vest remains legally unresolved. Shoot, by the time this thing shakes out a 16th-seed may be declared the NCAA Basketball Tournament champion, the other teams having been forced to vacate their wins and their money, the latter in large part provided by the two networks now charged with televising a college tournament to an audience that increasingly knows what it takes to win — at least until we learn if it counts. With the leaders bunched in the home stretch in the final round, playing holes 12 through 14, CBS chose to show them on tape in order to show Woods, well out of it, play 16, 17 and 18, live. Until Woods was finished, CBS treated the tournament and its leaders as intrusions, nuisances. Listen, I get it. I, too, want to see every shot and putt Woods takes. But with the leaders on the back nine and Woods out of the hunt, must we watch him walking the fairways, deciding which iron to hit, lining up long putts from both sides? Might he, as opposed to those playing far better and headed toward the wire, be seen on tape? Again, two easily enacted rules are needed: McDonagh one of the good guys Ryan McDonagh played with a relentless determination that often had me watching him rather than those with the puck. But shamelessness is the new norm. Heck, kids and young men are still being mugged and murdered for Nike Air Jordans at half the price.

Chapter 6 : What is wrong with the music industry? | Payola

In the late 's disco started to decline because of the payola scandal. Rock stars hated disco because the disco craze took the focus off of rock music. Rock stars promoted the burning of disco records.

With corporate ownership and a new form of payola strangling play-lists, listeners are tuning out. By Greg Kot, Rolling Stone Magazine At a time when a handful of radio corporations are making more money than ever, dissatisfaction with the quality of music programming has reached a breaking point. People are listening to radio less, and the reason is simple: National play-lists are in the hands of corporate programmers, who are influenced by big-label money funneled into the stations by independent radio promoters. The focus of his ire is the Telecommunications Act of , which deregulated radio and set off an unprecedented wave of media mergers. That action "made radio more corporate, more homogeneous, and rounded out the rough edges that make music interesting," says Copeland. Though more than 30,000 CDs are released annually, national radio playlists are becoming tighter than ever. In one recent week, the forty top modern-rock stations added a total of sixteen new songs, and the biggest forty-five Top Forty stations added a total of twenty. Access to the airwaves has narrowed even more in recent years as a powerful network of independent radio promoters - acting as liaisons between record labels and broadcasters - has consolidated its control over what songs even got presented to radio stations. All of this underscores another huge problem facing the radio industry: The latest Arbitron figures show that while the total audience for the radio has remained steady in the last decade, listening time has dropped thirteen percent. Figures measuring the number of listeners and how long they listen show especially steep drops for young people: Figures show that all music formats - including alternative, album rock, Top Forty, country and urban - are stagnating or declining. Michaels says that despite consolidation, programming and music decisions are still made locally at Clear Channel stations. Since the demise of old-school "hit men" following the payola scandals of the s, this new, legally sanctioned system of indie promotion has surfaced, in which record-company money is no longer paid directly to the radio stations in exchange for playing records. The indies, in turn, set up what amounts to bank accounts with stations, funneling some of that record-company cash to programmers in the form of listener giveaways such as concert tickets and vacation trips. I am shocked that the music industry is as meek as it is - why do we put up with this crap? But the Federal Commission says that it is not conducting any investigation of the radio-promotion business. Michaels, whose Clear Channel stations glean tens of millions of dollars annually from indie promoters, says labels are coping out by not putting an end to the practice. Michaels contends that the public will be better served because of it. But people want to eat at the chain restaurant for some reason. We miss Main Street, but we shop at Wal-Mart. Nor do the few mom-and-pop stations left have the financial muscle to out-promote Clear Channel and the other conglomerates who dominate the radio business. But the ones who like it stick with us. A few years ago, the station fought off a challenge from a corporate-controlled alternative-rock station. The competitor, owned by Clear Channel, has since switched formats. People are listening to radio less and are disappointed more when they do listen. We are fortunate to be owned by a local guy who loves music, who has a passion for new sounds. But always lingering in the back of my mind is that the next quarter could be our last.

Chapter 7 : What's Wrong and Right With Greece | The Nation

The pro-payola argument (or at least the non-anti-payola one!) is that you can't force a song to be a hit by paying for airplay - all you can do is pay enough to give it a chance to become one. There are historical examples of songs and artists that likely wouldn't have had a chance without someone opening their wallets.

Ready to fight back? Sign up for Take Action Now and get three actions in your inbox every week. You can read our Privacy Policy here. Thank you for signing up. For more from The Nation, check out our latest issue. Support Progressive Journalism The Nation is reader supported: Travel With The Nation Be the first to hear about Nation Travels destinations, and explore the world with kindred spirits. Sign up for our Wine Club today. Did you know you can support The Nation by drinking wine? Once again, all five FCC commissioners were invited. Once again, only two showed up. Ad Policy It was the Democrats alone commissioners Michael Copps and Jonathan Adelstein who arrived at Hunter College in New York City Thursday to listen and to agree with a crowd of citizens opposed to further consolidation of the media. Emotions ran high, as some waited for nearly four hours, until 10 PM, to have their chance at a microphone. Earlier this month, a crowd of showed up at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles to express similar sentiments about the lack of independently owned radio and television outlets and newspapers. It was the first public meeting on media consolidation in which all five commissioners appeared, and only then, under pressure. In cities like San Antonio and Milwaukee, hundreds more have camped out in the chilly predawn hours for a chance to voice their concerns speaking passionately about what consolidation has done to stifle the creativity of independent musicians and artists in their communities. In the FCC attempted to relax ownership rules further, allowing big media to gobble up still more radio and television stations. And they can get awfully proprietary about it, and awfully damn mad. The group accused WABC-TV and its parent company, Disney, of undermining progressive African-American voices by pre-empting the show with sports programming and consistently slicing its one-hour time slot to thirty minutes. Ownership matters, as speakers pointed out, and repeated studies have shown that minority owners report more local news, have more diverse hiring and management, and serve their communities better. Free Press , a Washington, DC, media reform organization, recently released a study on minority and female ownership of broadcast television showing that minorities own a little more than 3 percent of all commercial broadcast television stations nationwide. Women own about 5 percent, and African-Americans and Latinos own about 1 percent each. Advocacy groups such as Free Press have had to do this research because the federal government has refused to collect such data since Who is controlling the minds of the masters of the future? To submit a correction for our consideration, click here. For Reprints and Permissions, click here.

Chapter 8 : Whats Wrong With The Radio? | Yahoo Answers

WHAT'S WRONG WITH RADIO? With corporate ownership and a new form of payola strangling play-lists, listeners are tuning out. By Greg Kot, Rolling Stone Magazine.

April 11, A noted communications law attorney, Gregg represents broadcasters and other parties in their regulatory dealings before the Federal Communications Commission in their commercial business dealings. Nothing in return; "Just play our records," he says. Can you take this? Will you play his records? But the questions persist post-Spitzer: Just what is it and how do you know what is acceptable, and what is not? The Communications Act and FCC rules require that the public be informed whenever someone pays for having their message broadcast. Payola occurs when anything of value is accepted, or agreed to be accepted, in return for the broadcasting of records or any other material without disclosing that the payment was made. Payment does not have to be money; it could also be services, a limousine ride, baseball tickets, or Enter "Plugola," which is promoting the non-broadcast activities of the station licensee or an on-air personality on the air. Plugola occurs only when the financial interests are those of persons "responsible for including promotional material in a broadcast. Again, why would a jock or a station be so unwilling to disclose this on-air? Everyone else does it! There are some things that you can take with such disclosure. Anything more, and you are in trouble unless you inform management. By the way, you do not have to actually air the record or make the plug to violate the rule. The matter never need be broadcast. So long as it can be shown that the consideration was taken for the purpose of making the broadcast without the required disclosure, a violation has taken place, whether the broadcast took place or not. Well, no, not exactly. You cannot advertise or plug cigarettes or little cigars, but the other stuff? Well, not snuff, either, but what about the other stuff? I got this exciting call from a radio station executive. A man wanted to advertise on the entire station cluster. He has all the necessary legal paperwork in place to open this new business venture. Can the station take the ad? If the air staff reads the copy, are they protected? By the way, the most popular and highest rated station in the cluster is a Top 40 with a high teen content. The question was this: Is there a difference between this and, say, any legal drug advertising? The spot was already in his head. A couple of old guys listening to Pink Floyd trying to remember why they are making a commercial. It always helps a station to be in the news. Just get the calls right True, medicinal cannabis has been made legal in California and in seven other states: However, federal drug policy continues to ban its use. In , the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the federal drug law that classifies marijuana as an illegal drug still stands. The Supreme Court ruled in in *Raich v. Gonzales* that the federal government can prosecute medical marijuana patients, even in states with compassionate use laws, and several medical marijuana dispensaries in California have since been subject to Drug Enforcement Administration raids. Look it up at <http://> A conviction of violation of federal drug laws, or the advertising of an illegal substance, might even be considered the type of conviction that requires an adverse answer on the Anti-Drug Abuse Act and adverse finding certifications found on most of the FCC forms. All things taken into consideration, this is not advertising you want to take, or voice. More interesting examples next week This column is provided for general information purposes only and should not be relied upon as legal advice pertaining to any specific factual situation. Legal decisions should be made only after proper consultation with a legal professional of your choosing. He is the immediate past Telecommunications Practice Group Leader. He frequently lectures on the political broadcasting rules and regulations administered by the Federal Communications Commission and has represented broadcaster associations before the Federal Election Commission. Gregg represents broadcasters and other parties in their regulatory dealings before the Federal Communications Commission in their commercial business dealings. He serves as Washington Counsel to several state broadcaster associations. He also works with telecommunications companies and with radio device manufacturers to obtain FCC approvals and to assure regulatory compliance. Gregg has served on the Pike and Fischer Communications Regulation Advisory Board since its formation, the leading communications law legal research library in Washington, D. Prior to private practice, Mr.

Chapter 9 : What's Wrong with Secretary Kim - Wikipedia

Some contend that payola helped smaller labels break the majors' stranglehold on the market, and the scandal offered a way to fight back. Others think rock 'n' roll, which had emerged as a music industry force only a few years previously, was being made a scapegoat.

History [edit] In earlier eras there was not much public scrutiny of the reasons songs became hits. Payola to DJs is less of a concern today because they rarely are involved in choosing the songs. Modern radio is widely based on company-delivered playlists , often scheduling every song, commercial break, and DJ talk time, and most shows are pre-recorded well in advance of their broadcasts. Especially with shows that are voicetracked from elsewhere where an off-air assistant may choose the playlists rather than the DJs themselves, local radio staff have little to no input on a playlist outside of special but rare segments where a local artist might be spotlighted, or contests where local artists are offered the opportunity to open a station-sponsored concert or music festival for more well-known acts. Congressional payola investigations[edit] The Congressional Payola Investigations occurred in , after the United States Senate began investigating the payola scandal. Payola can refer to monetary rewards or other types of reimbursement, and is a tool record labels use to promote certain artists. The first major payola investigation occurred in the early s. DJ Alan Freed, who was uncooperative in committee hearings, was fired as a result. Dick Clark also testified before the committee, but survived, partially due to the fact that he had divested himself of ownership interest in all of his music-industry holdings. After the initial investigation, radio DJs were stripped of the authority to make programming decisions, and payola became a misdemeanor offense. Programming decisions became the responsibility of station program directors. As a result, the process of persuading stations to play certain songs was simplified. Instead of reaching numerous DJs, record labels only had to connect with one station program director. Labels turned to independent promoters to circumvent allegations of payola. This practice grew more and more widespread until a NBC News investigation called "The New Payola" instigated another round of Congressional investigations. With the creation of Napster and other now illegal music sharing websites, the power of the independent promoters began to decline. Labels once more began dealing with stations directly. In , investigations by the office of then-New York District Attorney Eliot Spitzer uncovered evidence that executives at Sony BMG music labels had made deals with several large commercial radio chains. Third-party loophole[edit] A different form of payola has been used by the record industry through the loophole of being able to pay a third party or independent record promoters "indies"; not to be confused with independent record labels , who will then go and "promote" those songs to radio stations. Offering the radio stations "promotion payments," the independents get the songs that their clients, record companies, want on the playlists of radio stations around the country. This newer type of payola was an attempt to sidestep FCC regulations. EMI remains under investigation. Clear Channel Radio through iHeartRadio launched a program called On the Verge that required the stations to play a given song at least times in order to give a new artist exposure. Brand managers at the top of the Clear Channel chain, after listening to hundreds of songs and filtering them down to about five or six favorites from various formats, send those selections to program directors across the country. These program directors vote on which ones they think radio listeners will like the most. Tom Poleman, president of national programming platforms for the company, stated that the acts selected are based solely on the quality of their music and not on label pressure. It is possible to opt out of it using a setting. These music groups and singers start to appear consistently on radio, television and public broadcasts with a strong promotion of their concerts. This happens for a fixed amount of time, and in the same sudden way they appear, they stop their promotion and disappear from the music scene, or change their stage name. Such artists are commonly manufactured by producers of dubious origin, who pay payola and do events in order to launder money from drug trafficking, prostitution or other illegal operations. Both the FCC and the Act demand that "employees of broadcast stations, program producers, program suppliers and others who, in exchange for airing material, have accepted or agreed to receive payments, services or other valuable consideration must disclose this fact. Disclosure of compensation provides broadcasters the information they need to let their

audiences know if material was paid for, and by whom. The reason why record companies have managed to find relatively big loopholes in an otherwise complex and strict document is because of the wording. According to the current regulations in place, it is still considered legal to pay to play a particular song on the radio. The only hitch is that the broadcaster has to reveal who paid. In addition, the disclosures must be from DJ to station manager to program director and upwards. The loose wording has created a loophole that makes it easier for wealthy record company officials to pay the DJs large sums of money to play certain songs a certain number of times at a given time during the day. The loophole has created a "grey market, one in which shady, quasi-legal deals take place, and independent artists lose out more often than not. And a current example of this is the lengths Macklemore and Ryan Lewis went to get their music heard. Because Lewis and Macklemore belonged to an independent label, they feared payola laws would interfere with their airtime. Zach Quillen, manager of Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, discussed how "they paid the alliance a flat monthly fee to help promote the album. In , the website Jango created a plan to do payola legally by saying they have been paid to play the songs. The TV industry has engaged in a form of payola with interviews. Networks deny paying for interviews, but are willing to pay large sums of money in cases that garner a lot of attention. An example is the Casey Anthony case in