



October 25, 2002

Mr. Donald Clark
Secretary for the Commission
Federal Trade Commission
Office of the Secretary
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20580

Your word is a lamp to my feet...
Psalm 119:105

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am writing to comment on the Federal Trade Commission consent order relating to the National Research Center for College Admissions. I have made their survey available to my students for several years.

In September 2001, Dan Golden, a reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*, visited our school and observed me giving the survey to my students. I told him about the benefits of helping our students become informed about postsecondary opportunities. For the record, it is important for the FTC to understand that we let our students know that completing the survey is voluntary. We also stress that other organizations, in addition to those related to higher education, could use a limited amount of the information. The privacy statement on the survey clearly states this information-sharing system.

Unfortunately, Mr. Golden wrote what I consider a slanted and misleading article. He included none of what I told him about our positive experience with NRCCUA or any of the comments from our students saying that they looked forward to getting information as a result of completing the survey.

One of the great strengths of the survey is that it is free. This gives more students the opportunity to receive information about colleges and universities. Many students are unsure about what options are available to them and are even less sure about how to go about building their futures and becoming productive adults. This simple survey is an effective way to help students gain exposure to many possibilities and to help them make informed decisions as it allows them to participate in their classrooms, in a few minutes of time and at no cost.

I have learned from their website that NRCCUA has been taking steps to adhere to new federal regulations and ensure they remain a well-respected and responsible organization that connects young people with educational opportunities. It is my firm belief that NRCCUA has never misled teachers or students and that FTC action is not only unnecessary but could have far-reaching consequences for my students and others like them across the country.

I urge the FTC to conclude its review of NRCCUA and reject the consent order, so it can focus on its mission to help young people make informed decisions about their futures.

Sincerely,

Dan Crabtree
College & Career Counselor