Entertainment Law

Lawyers For The Talent

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###### by Richard Dooling

## First Amendment - Indecency

Just as we get comfortable with the notion of categories, and the notion that speech is either protected or unprotected, along comes a category of speech the Federal Commmunications Commission wishes to REGULATE.

Please read these two cases in their entirety. Keep your eye on the ball: Is George Carlin's speech protected speech? When Bono says, "This is really really fucking brilliant" during a prime time TV broadcast at the 2003 Golden Globe awards, is that obscene?

### *FCC v. Pacifica Foundation*

###### U.S. Supreme Court (1978)

* [case at Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=9738309099999149495)
* [how cited at Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?about=9738309099999149495)
* [case at Westlaw][pacifica]
* George Carlin's [Seven Dirty Words][7dirty] routine.

### *FCC v. Fox Television Stations* (Fox II)

* [case at Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_case?case=9187101700166207966)
* [case at Westlaw][fox]
* [case at Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Communications_Commission_v._Fox_Television_Stations_(2012)).