

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS**

Re: Creation of a Low Power Radio Service (FCC 05-75)

This proceeding is a welcome step towards addressing long outstanding questions regarding low-power FM radio service. These locally-based stations which are licensed to churches, schools, and other community organizations increase localism and diversity in our media. They are already helping in significant ways to meet the needs of under-represented communities. They are benefiting local talent by providing more outlets for airplay. They are providing community coverage in often strikingly-successful ways. As fewer and fewer conglomerates control the airwaves, there is an even greater need for low power radio. I look forward to a full record on the questions raised in this Notice and an expeditious resolution of this proceeding.