

Bio -- Gary Ruskin

Gary Ruskin is executive director and co-founder of Commercial Alert, a nonprofit organization that protects children and communities from commercialism. Commercial Alert's mission is to keep the commercial culture within its proper sphere, and to prevent it from exploiting children or subverting the higher values of family, community, environmental integrity and democracy. For more information, see Commercial Alert's website at <http://www.commercialalert.org>.

Ruskin is an expert on commercialism in schools, government and culture, and the effects of advertising on children and public health. He has written widely on these issues, and is quoted regularly in major newspapers across the country, such as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. He has appeared dozens of times on TV news programs on ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox and CNN.

Since 1993, Ruskin has also directed the Congressional Accountability Project, which opposes corruption in the U. S. Congress. He has testified before congressional committees regarding issues such as congressional ethics, reducing corruption in Congress, and the proper compensation levels for top government officials. For more information, see the Congressional Accountability Project's website at <http://www.congressproject.org>.

Ruskin received his undergraduate degree in religion from Carleton College, and a graduate degree in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. He lives in Portland, Oregon.