

Legal arguments pan, praise Google's book deal

September 8 2009

(AP) -- Critics and supporters of a class-action settlement that would substantially expand Google's library of digital books submitted their final written arguments in a flurry of court filings Tuesday.

Microsoft, <u>Yahoo</u> and other opponents have attacked the settlement as a conspiracy to create a monopoly that will drive up book prices and make Google's online <u>search engine</u> even more influential than it already is.

The settlement's backers, including a group of economics professors, contend those concerns are misguided. They hail the agreement as a breakthrough that will benefit society by making millions more books available to anyone with a device connected to the Internet.

A federal judge in New York is scheduled to review the settlement Oct. 7.

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Citation: Legal arguments pan, praise Google's book deal (2009, September 8) retrieved 24 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2009-09-legal-arguments-pan-google.html

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