

Phil Ochs, Talking Pay T.V.

Walkin' down to Denver town
I watched the western sun go down.
Thought that I would stop a while,
Switch around my TV dial.
Got some free TV
Only price was a little boredom.

Well, I'm not sure about my taste
But it seemed that TV land was a waste.
I saw 30 Westerns, 30 Private Eyes, 30 doctors operated before my eyes.
None of the operations was successful, though
It's hard to operate with so much violence around.

Well, every few minutes they'd take a break
For a profound message on a stomach ache.
They sold cures for dandruff, milk from the farm
Perfume for my underarms.
I've had enough
I'm stickin' to greasy kid stuff.

Well, the blood and gore was upon the floor
And I couldn't hardly stand no more,
So I walked outside to get some air.
A theater owner was standing there:
Carryin' a picket sign
Said Pay TV was un-American.

He said "I'm against that Pay TV.
I've much rather have people pay me."
A dollar for parking, two for the show,
Three for the baby sitter, there you go!
Get to see a wide-screen spectacular
Hercules meets Godzilla
Audience meets nausea.

Well, Pay TV is fine to see
You get much better quality:
Broadway shows, heavy-weight fights
First-run movies every night.
Viewers of Denver, unite!
Nothing to lose but commercials.

Well, people are afraid of something new.
They laughed at planes before they flew.
You know, you only get just what you buy
So give that Pay TV a try.
Remember: families that pay together stay together.