

# **“Bad Reception” Film (2003) about the Wireless Revolution and Opposition to Cell Towers in San Francisco (Free Online)**

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American opposition to cell tower installation started long before 5G due to concerns about [reduced property value](#), public [safety risks](#), as well as health and environmental effects from radiation emissions. For many years now [American firefighter unions](#) have also opposed the use of their stations for cell tower and antenna installation due to exposure risks.

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#) and [other health experts](#) have repeatedly warned that children are more vulnerable to [adverse health effects](#) from exposure.

Of course, where there has been [opposition](#) – there has been more of an effort to strategically camouflage telecommunications infrastructure. This has only increased due to the controversial “Race to 5G” (see [1](#), [2](#)).

Environmental Health Trust has [recommended several documentaries and films](#) about risks associated with cell

towers and other sources of wireless radiation. Recently, one produced in 2003 became available to watch for free online.

From [Environmental Health Trust](#):

**The Wireless Revolution in San Francisco: Film “Bad Reception” Streaming Free Online**

**Bad Reception: The Wireless Revolution in San Francisco**

The Telecommunications Act of 1996, passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Bill Clinton, preempted local governments in the U.S. from considering the environmental effects of wireless facilities if they met F.C.C. exposure guidelines. These guidelines were designed to be protective solely of thermal (*i.e.*, heating) effects of radiofrequency radiation, not all potential biological and health effects.

Armed with this federal preemption, the wireless industry in the late 1990s-early 2000s began the rollout of so-called 3G (*i.e.*, digital voice and data) cellular phone technology and the infrastructure to run it. Across the country, local communities were faced with the sudden appearance of cellular phone towers and antennas mounted to buildings and other structures, oftentimes in close proximity to where people lived, worked and played.

*Bad Reception: The Wireless Revolution in San Francisco*, which premiered in January 2003 at local venues in San Francisco, California and was subsequently broadcast nationwide on Free Speech TV, focuses on San Francisco as a case study of one of many of these communities where concerns were raised about the potential health and environmental consequences of this revolution in wireless communications. *Bad Reception* tells the compelling story of residents from backgrounds as diverse as the city itself as they take on one of the most powerful corporate entities in the world.

Produced and Directed by Doug Loranger. Co-Produced by Gordon Winiemko. USA. Running time: 55:23 minutes

Lawsuits have been filed against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for failing to protect Americans from unsafe levels of cell phone and WiFi radiation as well as 5G on Earth (see [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)) and in space (see [1](#), [2](#)). A petition has also been launched asking the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) to establish more protective universal [EMF](#) and [RF](#) exposure limits.