

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 June 2022 20:14  
**To:** BrowsersAndCloud  
**Subject:** Yes, do regulate Apple on the Browser Engine issue

Hi,

I'm a grad student at University of Toronto doing Computer Engineering. I have been developing for the web platform for 8 years by now. I stand firmly with Google, Facebook, Mozilla, EFF et al, believing that using the regulatory force to open up the iOS browser engine landscape is a huge force for the good with not many downsides.

Here's my opinions on Apple's current behavior:

It deliberately, and unnecessarily make web apps worse. On iOS, a web app will most likely provide a worse experience than a) the same web app on Android and other platforms, and b) an equivalent native iOS app. I'm sure you have heard many good reasons why this is true so I won't repeat them here.

It also hurts users on Android, believe it or not. Because iOS is too large a platform to ignore, companies (and indeed indie devs) cannot afford to ship a second class product to iOS. This means they must write separate native apps for it, because remember Apple needlessly made web apps a second class citizen. So the company allocates half the resource for iOS native, and half the resource for the web app. Everyone is now worse off.

Apple always says disallowing the alternative is for security. Well, having to deal with something that JITs is certainly harder than otherwise, but I'm not buying that it's a big deal. I think most engineers would agree with me in saying that if JITing caused an exploit, it means that the OS kernel has a hole in it, and that's what Apple should fix, its own OS.

I think the real reason behind is that web apps don't pay a 30% cut to Apple for every transaction that happens within. I have a weird feeling that that's the true reason why Apple keeps crippling WebKit (their own engine, the only one allowed on iOS). If it becomes too good, if web apps flourish, their other anticompetitive scheme aka AppStore falls apart.

At any rate, I'm just a student and a developer, but Apple left enough of a bad taste in my mouth I think a comment is warranted. If someone actually read all these, then you are amazing. I hope I made a bit of a difference.

So yes, do regulate Apple on the Browser Engine issue. Actually regulate it fiercely, it will be good for the human race. The US regulators is too bought-and-paid-for to do what's necessary. It's a tragedy we have to hope for you guys across the pond. Do it!!

Best,  
TJ