May 22, 2018

Re: Sinclair Media takeover of Tribune

I oppose this merger, for the simple reason that consolidation of the media into the hands of a few HUGE corporations is NOT good for democracy and free expression.

They have already been exposed for ordering all of their affiliate stations to repeat – VERBATIM – the exact same announcement to their audiences. Individual reporters were not allowed to change one word of the script.

Local news stations are important for providing coverage of local and state governments, local school boards, etc. Their news staffs need to be completely independent to do their work.

Sinclair owns multiple stations in multiple local markets across the United States.

They already have too big a share of local media markets. They should not be allowed to create concentrations of media in additional markets/states.

Thank you!

Ann Gipalo

Jacksonville, FL