

It is undeniable that paying for a connection only four to five times faster than a very basic 6 Mbps DSL connection can change one's life immensely.

A broadband internet connection is a luxury I prioritize not simply because I am a fan of Netflix. The entertainment benefits aside, the internet connection I value so much is a priority because there would have been no other way for me to finish my college degree. I took most of the courses required to finish my Bachelor's degree online, streaming educational videos, downloading scholarly articles and completing course-requirements such as posting to discussion boards in a timely manner. Without a consistent, powerful internet connection I would not have been able to commit to online courses that required weekly uploads.

Finishing my degree in this convenient fashion offered me unparalleled flexibility. It helped me to maintain a full time job, so that I could pay for the college courses in full. Such an option wouldn't be available to me if I was priced out of high-speed internet. My education would have been in serious jeopardy had I not had access to consistent, fast internet on both ends. My school, a publicly funded university, might not have had as robust an offering for online courses if *their* access to steady, un-throttled internet was not cost effective for them. If ISP's are able to control the fast lanes of the internet by pricing out not only a majority of customers, but charge university's access to their fastest connections, prices for education could end up spirally further out of control. Let us not forget, this debate is not about how fast I can stream *Game of Thrones*. The implications are far more serious and far-reaching.

Therefore, I implore the voting members of the FCC to preserve the rules regarding net neutrality as they currently exist.