**Motion: Restoring Internet Freedom**

‘Net neutrality’ and the debate for this is everywhere right now. Is it so important that it is catching the attention of millions? Yes, of course! It isn’t for any normal issue that people from different demographics, age group and so many other aspects that separate us joining hands and raising their opinion. The network neutrality debate addresses the right of Internet users to access content, services and applications on the Internet without interference from network operators or overbearing governments. It also encompasses the right of network operators to be reasonably free of liability for transmitting content and applications deemed illegal or undesirable by third parties. Those aspects of net neutrality are relevant in a growing number of countries and situations, as both public and private actors attempt to subject the Internet to more control. Because Internet connectivity does not conform to national borders, net neutrality is really a globally applicable principle that can guide Internet governance. (Mueller, M. 2007)

Just like electricity, internet is an important utility that has become a necessity. When you are not charged for what kind of device you use the electricity for but on the usage. Internet, which is not only essential at home but when you are travelling you need it in your mobile devices and it is needless to talk about the commercial use of Internet!

There are various reasons to stay firm on the net neutrality policies and restoring Internet Freedom but I would like to focus more on innovations and startup organizations.

Digital divide inhibits the growth of innovations and new ideas being implemented. Andreasson, K. (2015) talks about how the availability of opportunities leads to the increase in digital divide and participation gap. If the Internet Service Providers charge for different bandwidths that we use than it will hinder the growth.

Revoking Internet Freedom could hinder innovators from creating disrupting technologies which are necessary to keep up with the ever increasing demands of the electronic world. If we cut off the basic necessity of the innovation world i.e. Internet then it will create issues. For example, consider the success of Snapchat, how do you expect new technologies and ideas to be successful without the freedom to use the applications.

What we need is to analyze the need to revoke the net neutrality rules and get charged for using different contents provided by the providers so that we can come up with a balanced policy. According to Peha, J. M. (2007), balanced policy, which is a policy that limits the, more harmful discriminatory practices in markets where there is insufficient competition, with little interference to beneficial discrimination or innovation.

The policymakers should keep in mind the needs of all the people and organizations (big, small and budding ones) before enforcing rules and regulations. After all, the government of the people, by the people and it’s for all the people and not just for a few.

**References**

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