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Net Neutrality – My Opinion

The original concept of net neutrality was based on the end-to-end argument, which implies universal and reciprocal access among the users connected to the Internet (Mueller, M. 2007). Internet companies, innovative startups, and millions of internet users depend on these common-sense protections that prevent blocking or throttling of internet traffic, segmenting the internet into paid fast lanes and slow lanes, and other discriminatory practices. Thanks in part to net neutrality, the open internet has grown to become an unrivaled source of choice, competition, innovation, free expression, and opportunity, and it should stay that way.

Today’s open internet ensures that both new and established services, whether offered by an established internet company like Google, a broadband provider, or a small startup, have the same ability to reach users on an equal playing field. I am asserting my claim for net neutrality, and I pose the advantages below –

Due to the prevalence of net neutrality equal attraction is enjoyed by all the websites whether it is of a well-established organization or that of an individual freelancer. Information available on the internet easily reaches to masses without any monetary restriction which is the main purpose of Internet communication. User doesn't have to choose a particular website on the basis of the usage charge.

1. Internet is a big bank of knowledge. And knowledge should have free flow to have its full essence. Any obstruction in the data flow through the Internet could be an absolute disadvantage. When we talk of the illegal extraction of the data from the Internet, we should remember that the term illegal pops-in when we restrict the relevant flow of information.

2. Net neutrality supports a good marketplace. The data flow through the internet is one of the prime reasons for the easy communication between different countries that are miles apart. This sort of interaction and communications paves the way to the under-developed and the developing countries to know and understand the latest advancements and fasten to match their foot along with the rest of the world. The net neutrality has played a wide role in the development of the world at a much faster rate.

3. It will also negatively affect freedom of speech. In absence of net neutrality, the big companies could give priority to TV networks from videos it owns and slow down the signals from its peers.

The Internet has grown at an exceptional pace since its inception in the early 1990's, and this extraordinary growth is largely due to the freedoms and protections that net neutrality offers. Groundbreaking ideas and novel products like YouTube, Google, eBay and torrents have reached to where they are because of net neutrality. There are thousands of new online stores, start-ups, and simple ecommerce sites that hope to make big every day. Net neutrality promotes creative expression. It is true that many people fear government regulation of anything and net neutrality legislation is no different.  In this case, however, the presence of the telecom oligopolies has proven that the market will only hurt consumers if there is no government intervention.

On top of that, tiering could result in telecommunication companies becoming an internet “gatekeeper” that could greatly influence what stays and goes on the internet. There should be no need for them to be paid a third time. Worse of all is their misleading view that the free market will even out any inequities of their plans when they should clearly know that their industry is anything but a free market. If the internet is tiered, the greatest losses will be to the consumers (De Sola Pool, 1984). Hence, I urge you to spread awareness to the consensus of the youth, and let us understand the implications of opposing net neutrality. Support Net Neutrality. Thank you!

REFERENCES

1. Mueller, M. 2007. [Net Neutrality as Global Principle for Internet Governance](http://www.internetgovernance.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/NetNeutralityGlobalPrinciple.pdf)
2. De Sola Pool (1984) Ch. 5 Carriers and the First Amendment, Technologies of Freedom. Harvard University Press