Dear FCC Commissioners,

I write as a US citizen and professor of media studies, in which capacity I am expert on the subject of internet-distributed television. There are many reasons why maintaining net neutrality is important for democracy, but I’ll focus here on how crucial it is to the future of television.

As you know, Americans now have access to several internet-distributed services. If you examine the timeline of their development, as I do in my forthcoming book from MIT Press titled *We Now Disrupt This Broadcast: How Cable Transformed Television and the Internet Revolutionized It All*, a sea change in the availability of these services takes places in 2015. The best explanation for the shift in the marketplace is the establishment of net neutrality policy. Without net neutrality, it is not only internet service that will change, but the budding choice and competition that is finally coming to the multichannel television business will be stymied as well.

There are many pressing problems related to internet policy that would better serve Americans—particularly initiatives aimed at creating more competition in the high-speed internet service market and increasing the availability of these services in rural markets. The companies that were cable companies and have long records of poor service, price gouging, and slow innovation are now the core of the US home internet provision. Eliminating net neutrality so that they can charge internet traffic AS WELL AS the internet customers ALREADY paying them will only enrich their owners and shareholders at the expense of US consumers and American competitiveness in new media industries.

Sincerely,

Amanda D. Lotz, Professor