

The Internet has become quite an expansive and truly astounding network that touches every part of our lives. It is integrated into our world in ways that most of us cannot imagine. The integrity of the network is paramount to its continued usefulness, and while monetary gain is integral to our current economic system, and therefore those that run the physical network, those of us who are subject their whims are often voiceless. We rely on the relative openness of the current system. A bit from me should be able to traverse the net as readily as a bit from anyone else regardless of how much clout they hold in the "system." I don't want special treatment, just a fair shot.

This country runs on fair access to resources such as water, air, electricity, natural gas, roads, etc. These resources are crucial for our health and wellbeing, and as such have become known as public goods. The Wikipedia article on [Public Goods](#) is a fair summary of my feelings on the matter, and is a good refresher on the matter. When I think of internet, an ethereal whole comes to mind, not a company. I do not go to a friend's house expecting different electrical power from the wall, or a different quality of water, and a friend using Cox shouldn't be giving me a different internet than Comcast. The internet is not Comcast's to control, but the people's.

While there are many internal network management issues that each provider must deal with on their own, if my usage is not impacting the quality of the service for my neighbor, then my usage should be unhindered. Likewise, if any one service is not hindering the availability of another, then their ability to reach me should not be in any manner be blocked.