Internet Neutrality must be maintained in the U.S., just as it is all over Europe. The Internet is, and must always be considered, the property of the public, not that of corporate conglomerates. There is enough profit in these corporations, what with their bundling of television channels, telephone service, and the Internet that they don’t need to charge customers extra for faster Internet speeds. Why should the U.S. be in last place, relative to the speed that consumers get with their standard monthly Internet service? Everyone, everywhere should be entitled to the exact same speed and bandwidth, which should not be at the mercy of corporations offering Internet connectivity. In fact, it should be none of the ISPs business who visits what sites and how many hits a site may receive in the course of a day. This all stems from corporate greed, and in my humble opinion (which isn’t so humble), the FCC should go even further regulating these corporations than they already do.

Here’s a prime example: Comcast is in violation of a 1948 Supreme Court decision, United States v. Paramount Pictures, Inc., 334 US 131, in which the Supreme Court ruled that a single corporation could not 1) produce films, 2) distribute these films, and 3) reserve exhibition of those films to a corporately-owned theater chain. In today’s language, this decision established a precedent which means that a single company may not 1) be a content creator, 2) a content distributor, and 3) a content exhibitor. Comcast, prior to its acquisition of NBC/Universal, was already a content distributor, but now since the acquisition of NBC/Universal, it is also a content creator via Universal Studios and an exhibitor for the shows it produces and broadcasts on NBC or any of the cable channels owned by Comcast’s NBC division. Viacom’s (now CBS Television Distribution) ownership of the CBS Television Network and its cable channels (formerly known as MTV Networks), and ownership of Paramount Pictures and a similar situation that exists at 21st Century Fox appear also to be violations of the same 1948 Supreme Court decision. How the FCC allows these major corporations to break the law established by the Supreme Court in United States vs. Paramount Pictures, Inc. is truly baffling. Perhaps it might take myself to sue the FCC to get it to realize its responsibility to uphold the federal laws in this country and specifically uphold the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890. I would wisely ponder this paradox and opt to solve the violation of this precious Act of 1890, lest the officers of the Federal Communications Commission find themselves replaced by those who will.

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