

As a current college student, I have grown up with the internet, and it has now become a part of almost every task I carry out daily. I depend on the internet for my source of news, entertainment, buying goods, and even my education. Most assignments are done online and require research using online sources. Having a variety of information available at my fingertips has become a necessity. If net neutrality is abolished, there is so much we would lose. And it is unfair that our government, in a country that prides itself on democratic ideals, is trying to make a decision that affects everyone in the country without consulting us (the people). If companies can pay to have their product displayed first, the availability of information is no longer unbiased. I would only see the information of companies that are willing to pay. As a student, I am trying to provide the best information and present the most unbiased view I can when I do research, and this becomes impossible if net neutrality is abolished. Furthermore, most of us students are in critical formative stages in terms of how we see the world, and a lot of the information we use to make these decisions comes from the internet. If the availability of information is no longer unbiased, our worldviews will be skewed.

Additionally, if websites are sold in “bundles” rather than just getting access to all websites with internet service, people without money are put at a disadvantage in terms of the online services they can use, and we will now have to make decisions about what websites we’ll want to pay for and what access we will have to give up. This is a big drawback for us, especially regarding something that has been an all-in-one commodity. With net neutrality gone, internet service providers can deliberately slow access to certain websites and slow down download speeds. As someone who has to do online research, online projects, and write online papers, internet speeds of 3 mbps won’t be enough. Assignments that would normally take an hour

could take all day, not because of a lack of productivity but because the internet isn't fast enough, and this would be an enormous waste of time. If one of my professors posts an important update or assignment, I won't be able to view it in time because of slow internet speeds. I don't pay for a newspaper, so the internet is how I stay connected to world news. If internet speeds are too slow, I might forgo checking the news because I would have to prioritize all my activities that take place on the internet, and checking the news would have to be put on a back burner to make way for schoolwork. Additionally, a lot of the shopping I do is online. If internet speeds are too slow, I will stop shopping online and many others may do so as well, which could hurt the economy. The internet is the backbone of our world now, and abolishing net neutrality would prevent progress on all fronts.