

Bruce  
Ramon  
Mass Media  
Burlington  
RM-9208  
RM-9242

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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JAN 11 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Please take the time to read this through do not dismiss it as just a piece of trash. I'm writing you this letter in response to what I've heard about pirate radio and what has been happening to micro-watt stations as of late.

Pirate radio is not a bad thing, as <sup>you</sup> seem to think it is. All these people want to do is have their own radio station where they can speak their minds and tell people out there what is really important. It's that simple, but yet you choose to persecute these people for no apparent reason. As was the case with Dag Brewer. This man did absolutely nothing criminal except speak his mind to the ones who wanted to listen. Then in November of 1997 he was thrown to the ground, shackled in handcuffs and guns pointed at his head. This man was treated with brutal force by our corporate muscle power. You really had no reason for it either. Was it because he was interfering with corporate radio? No, almost every single rebel radio station gets set up so they won't interfere with any big wig station. Was it because he wasn't tapped into the Emergency Alert System. No, because if he were just legally ~~licensed~~ licensed he could air the warning very easily. I don't see the point in pulling guns on this man. Did you think that because he was a micro broadcaster he was dangerous and might have weapons?

you just leave people such as Stephen Dunifer, of Free Radio Berkeley, alone. Their cause no harm to anybody. I believe the main reason that you are trying to shut all these rebel radio stations down is because they don't make you any money. All these big stations are paying at least \$50,000 to for a small FCC licensed station, while micro-broadcasters are only buying used pieces for under \$1000. It's because you ~~are~~ not making any money off these rebels that you dislike them and that's ignorant. It's all about your corporate profit. isn't it? Well it shouldn't be pure profit. Radio should be about giving people from every walk of life what they want and this is not happening. There is definatly enough airwaves to accomplish this feat easily. As Jello Biafra pointed at "I think it goes way beyond pirate radio and the FCC. It's more of a fight going on for how much access the average American has to relevant information that affects their lives." Just remember that the airwaves belong to the people. Thank you for taking out of the day to read this. I hope that you will • consider my points and fight for a change. I enclosed some interesting articles please read them.

A concerned punk,

Tommy Faulkner

PS.-Please write back telling me your thoughts and opinions, at  
Tommy Faulkner  
43 Manchester Cir.

# RADIO REBELS

...the original intent was that Albuquerque in general has a pretty strong sense of community. This town also tends to be a bit divided in the social movements that take place here and a lot of us wanted to maybe bring some of those movements together, just kind of provide a forum for free speech in Albuquerque.

B: My first impression when I heard about it was that it was a pretty good idea. I was involved in the music scene at the time and I was just the music.

Then I realized what else was going on and what the possibilities were. What really appealed to me was being a voice for other people in the community who were actually doing something, no matter what it was, even if it was something that we might not necessarily agree with. When people are taking some kind of action it really appeals to me to let other people know about it. It's a lot of fun too.

R: What are some of the things that are happening in the community in terms of action and what kind of free speech issues are there?

J: We've got a lot of home and health about environmental issues. The EPA is...

...the other side of things...

...there are...

...like...

...the...

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printed announcement we can read to the public which better to have someone who's involved in the issue write because they can speak a much better.

J: Yeah, I've heard of some radio stations where people have taken the route to be very secretive of everything and just have a couple of people doing it. Something that we as a group decided was to make it an open community station regardless of the possible repercussions.

Sheila: Albuquerque as I understand it is a town with about a half million people. Are you the only alterna-

...tive station here. Is there any community radio that deals with any of these issues? What about the college station?

J: I wouldn't call the college station community radio. It's more like co-opted, jaded radio (laughs).

B: The college station is better than any other commercial station out there, but it's still very heavily NPR programming. To most people, that's pretty far left, but really it's pretty far right when you think about it.

R: Yeah, I agree. You mentioned music and I was listening to the station the other night and there's a pretty wide variety of music that you play. How do you see music fitting into the concern for free speech?

J: Music is another form of expression. It's a social and cultural thing. There are a lot of different ways to express things like...

...the...

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the pulse for their community. So I think it's important that we try to find a voice for all types of music regardless of whether everybody's going to like it or not because that lets people know what the pulse of the community is and the things that they can be aware of.

...personally, why...

J: I've done a zine before and it was fun but I get kind of tired of writing (laughter) and making photocopies and stuff. I prefer to do more hands-on, direct stuff that I know is going out over the air (laugh) and making a direct impact. Whether very many people are listening or not, it's an impact. It feels good to make a direct impact.

B: I've written a few music pieces for a few local zines and my other job entails a lot of writing. So I've got to do something else that's more immediate. No matter how much you write about music it really doesn't come across unless you can hear it. I forget who the quote was by but it was something like, "Writing about music is like dancing about architecture." Some people are just making music to have fun. Some people are doing it for a message. I grew up as a hippie and listened to hippie music. Back then it felt like a lot of people were doing stuff like working in collective bakeries and restaurants and co-ops. Now it seems like most people I know are way deep in debt (laughter) and driving fancy cars and all this stuff and something is missing. It's only been a few years that I've been listening to punk music. At first I thought, "Wow, this is so damn different!" So, so really excited.

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... influence on you. When we tuned in last night we  
... of music and I'm wondering where you get your  
... does it come from and how do you get exposed to

... from our personal collec-  
... all getting a little  
... (laughter). We also ask  
... to make tapes  
... although we  
... of response from that. We  
... local bands or bands that are passing  
... for a donation. I spend a lot of  
... money on music so I'll buy things for me,  
... but I keep in mind the idea of playing them  
... on the air too. Lately I was thinking about  
... making up a record, little letterhead and  
... and explaining it to the indie record labels and  
... again.  
... really generous  
... and all that  
... promotional pieces, stuff they didn't want. I  
... in the time and they said, 'Why don't you just go in the  
... and take 10 or 12 records.'

J: Lately there's been people coming with their own records who  
... want to be a DJ for an hour. That's really cool. Maybe they were  
... just going to watch TV on Tuesday night and  
... now they're getting out with other people and  
... doing something creative.

B: And it's been a good variety. If it was just  
... up to the main people at the station we'd proba-  
... bly play mostly punk and folk music, but we've  
... had people come in and play an hour of Brazil-  
... folk music and Latin jazz. This friend of mine  
... owned it and play classical music and everybody clears the room  
... (laughter). They aren't used to it.

J: We've had some interesting DJs come and spin turntables. Spin the  
... music and the turntables and all sort of stuff.

B: So it's a good mix of things and it's good to have people who are into music  
... that I mean.

... is a pretty red-neck type of community, ranching and farming and  
... stuff, plus the fact that our frequency is between two Christian sta-  
... tions on either side. So we never know who's picking us up by acci-  
... dent.

R: How many watts are you?

J: We're at about 12 watts right now, give  
... or take about 10. We reach pretty much  
... downtown from here.

R: Where's here?

J: Here's Albuquerque, in the university  
... area which is kind of uphill from down-  
... town, and downhill from the heights and  
... the mountains. We don't really go too far  
... uphill because of the way that the signal  
... travels, but we do go pretty far downhill  
... into the valley.

B: At this point we've got tens of listen-  
... ers (laughter). We're not sure how many  
... people we're reaching. We put out a little  
... survey at the bookstore.

R: I saw that survey. Any responses on that?

B: We've got them here in our archives. What was most interesting  
... to me was the number of responses we got that said they didn't like  
... free form music. The local college station here used to be nothing but  
... free form and there was a big scuffle over format because they want-  
... ed more subscribers.

R: That market-driven stuff seems to be hap-  
... pening all over at the expense of experimenta-  
... tion and idiosyncrasy.

J: I can give you some of the responses we had  
... on our Rebel Radio questionnaire that Bret here  
... made up. One of the questions was *What do you  
... like about Rebel Radio?* Some of the response

### What do you like about Rebel Radio?

It's for the people by the people and as good as  
... we make it. I like the idea of a tiny community  
... that's us, putting something together not for sale  
... but for the hopeful benefit of the larger com-  
... munity. Also, you kids are willing to talk about  
... anarchy and anarchists on a real level, not an  
... isn't that thrilling, honey? level.

### What do you hate about Rebel Radio?

It hasn't reached its potential which is  
... everyone's and no one's fault.

were: "It's for the people by the people and as good as we make it."

like the idea of a tiny community, that's us, putting something togeth-  
... er for our sake but for the hopeful benefit of the larger community.  
... Also, you kids are willing to talk about anarchy and anarchists on a  
... real level, not an "isn't that thrilling, honey? level." (laughter) *What*

... potential  
... the block  
... we're  
... we're al-  
... I hav-  
... that the  
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... survey

... know that are listeners, because we really have no way to gau-

I'm interested in knowing what kind of things people would like to hear, although that doesn't necessarily mean we're gonna play what they want to hear...

S: You'd invite them to come in and do it themselves?

B: Exactly. If you don't like what we're doing then come and do it yourself, (laughter)

Terry: Our motto is: If we suck, it's your fault.

S: So where have people gotten these surveys, at Mind Over Matter?

B: Yeah, I guess if anyone is our sponsor it's Mind Over Matter.

J: So, of course our survey is a little biased towards those who shop at the punk record and zine store. We should probably put it elsewhere.

R: Have you thought of dropping it out of airplanes?

B: There's probably some other record stores who might put it up, otherwise I don't know who else would.

S: Maybe some of the people you're reaching out to when you put them on the air?

R: Terry, what do you do at the station?

T: I don't do a lot right now 'cause my schedule conflicts, but I used to set up and take down. I know basically all the equipment and I'm one of the setter-uppers.

B: You have done more than that: DJing, reading the mail...

J: Getting drunk (laughter).

R: What kind of music do you play when you DJ?

T: I play lots of women's music.

R: What does that mean to you?

T: Music played by women artists is something that's not usually on the air. The music industry is usually dominated by men. I take that slant to make it more equal, but it doesn't always work out that way. I think usually it's male dominated music, but I try.

R: How many women are involved at the station?

T: I think there's about three or four of us. There's two or three of us that come on a weekly basis and there's a couple others that come periodically. Or maybe six.

B: Now there's more...

T: But as far as setting up the equipment, I think I'm the only woman.

B: I think that's probably the only woman there, 'cause we're all men.

T: I think there's probably about...

B: I think there's probably about...

T: I think there's probably about...

B: I think there's probably about...

T: I think there's probably about...

B: I think there's probably about...

T: I think there's probably about...

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T: I think there's probably about...

B: I think there's probably about...

T: I think there's probably about...

B: I think there's probably about...

glos that do the station and we want to try to diversify our programming.

B: There's a couple of young women who are in school who are friends of mine. They're interested in historical issues like the Spanish Land Grants here or the Chicano Rights Movement, and they have a lot of the music. So I've been trying to get them to come. They haven't made it because they're too busy with school, but hopefully they'll come during the summer.

R: When you get to be 30 watts, does that mean you'll reach the South Valley?

J: We should definitely, especially if we're still broadcasting from where we're here. We're more in the heights now and we can broadcast down in the valley, no problem. It's just reaching south.

T: Our technician said that it would cover all of Albuquerque so that would be really cool.

B: We already do get into the South Valley somewhat. I should explain that the valley is the oldest part of Albuquerque because that was where the farming was and the South Valley is mostly Spanish Mexican. The North Valley is where the rich, white folks have moved, and the land is still in big pieces because they can afford to keep it that way. But the South Valley is pretty poor. That's where the landfills are. That's where all the shit gets dumped.

J: There's also a lot of community activism in the South Valley. There's a lot of farming projects, and all sorts of different stuff happening down there. Actually, Pirate Willie went on a radio program which is on KUNM here, which is the college radio station, and he talked about Rebel Radio for a good half hour. It was all in Spanish so hopefully people got aware through that and eventually the snowball effect will occur. Albuquerque's not all that big of a place.

B: It'll be interesting to see what happens when we get the high watts and cover more. Just because it's out there doesn't mean people are going to hear it, especially with digital tuners, people will just push in the buttons of the station they want to hear. I don't think many people will just happen to stumble across what we're doing, we also need to have a way to let people know that it's there so they can tune it in.

T: My dream is to have all these little transmitters in the different parts of town that can broadcast to each other, so that the community is really represented and not just a few people.

B: I think that's a really good idea. If you have a lot of little transmitters, you can cover a lot of ground. And you can have them in different parts of town, so that people can hear the station from wherever they are. It's a really good idea.

J: I think that's a really good idea. If you have a lot of little transmitters, you can cover a lot of ground. And you can have them in different parts of town, so that people can hear the station from wherever they are. It's a really good idea.

T: I think that's a really good idea. If you have a lot of little transmitters, you can cover a lot of ground. And you can have them in different parts of town, so that people can hear the station from wherever they are. It's a really good idea.

B: I think that's a really good idea. If you have a lot of little transmitters, you can cover a lot of ground. And you can have them in different parts of town, so that people can hear the station from wherever they are. It's a really good idea.

Don't be afraid of technology just because it's in the wrong hands, and if you can get it in the hands of your community.

REBEL RADIO  
90.9 FM













...very important for all mediums to be as democratic as possible. I mean that if we live in a democratic society it doesn't make sense that the medium that the vast majority of people use to get most of their information should be controlled by small powerful interests...

CM: Disney for instance, and for the people to be left with the scraps. I don't think of anything that is more important than democracy. Certainly there's nothing about the right to commercialism in the U.S. Constitution. It forces us to look more carefully at what our society is about today and to what extent our society is dominated by commercial interests, by corporate interests, by interests that... their job is not to serve the public. Their job is to make money for themselves.

CM: Basically what we need is more participatory media where we can not just receive but send and receive.

PD: Yes, and that has very little to do with technology and has a lot to do with the nature of our economic system. It's really not like that, even in other countries that are capitalist. Many countries around the world consider it just part of the course, it's just part of the nature of operating an open pluralistic society that ordinary citizens should have a good solid amount of access to represent themselves in media, represent themselves in public dialogue. Canada is a good example. Canada has a thriving community radio sector and it is incredible in comparison with the impoverished community radio sector in the United States.

CM: If you look at history, Professor Robert McChesney and others have compared the Canadian radio system and the British radio system to the American radio system back in the 30s. How it started out being very noncommercial and how the others stayed non-commercial and government-supported, whereas this one became privatized and commercial dominated.

PD: There is a disturbing trend in world media today of this emergence of media conglomerates, media giants that are going in and trying to dismantle every anti-commercial element. This is a particular moment in history when the market has become a secular religion. No one dares question the supremacy of the market and the market's prerogative to do whatever it wants. One of the paradoxical things about the 1996 Telecommunications Act was that they lifted the limitations on station ownership. There are some obvious reasons for not wanting any one entity to own many radio stations. It's monopolistic, it's oligopolistic, it's anti-democratic, having a wide variety of interests represented on media. But the fact that it was time to lift that restriction and allow for the ownership of multiple radio stations, and the fact that the FCC is now open to all these... it's a very disturbing trend.

...have a new control placed upon their behavior, but the fact of the matter is, every time more environmental regulation goes up, small businesses crumble and big corporations stand to benefit. They swallow up all their competition and they do very much the same way. The nature of communications regulation has created a situation that is vastly favorable to larger interests over small interests.

CM: It sucks.

PD: It's a travesty.

CM: I'm looking forward to some more community radio in my town. I hope that somebody is inspired to do something about it because all I know is that my stations suck.

PD: It's funny, because all the people I've ever talked to about it, lots of people ask me is it illegal? Is it dangerous? or whatever, but I've never had anybody ever say to me 'What's wrong with radio? Nobody has ever asked me that question! Everyone I ever talk to they say 'Radio, it really sucks!' 'I remember when I was younger there was... people often remember something that really inspired them that happened on the radio, something that gripped them. That just doesn't happen anymore. Radio has very few surprises. It's 'traffic and weather together on the hour' and it's the little ticker behind the all news station with all the three second blurbs that are supposed to keep you informed. Radio has gone so far downhill that I don't know of anyone who likes it anymore and so I'll end up with a question 'Who is this serving except for the people that own radio stations. A radio station is a license to print money. They are enormously profitable and they manage to make tons and tons of money at what they are doing.'

At Radio Mutiny we really feel like too much of radio today is stuck in these safe formats, safe formulas that won't offend anyone. No one will ever need to touch the dial because they know that within 45 minutes they'll hear their favorite song AGAIN!

CM: Basically stations are owned by large companies so the format are the same from town to town. You drive around you're going to listen to all news, you listen to adult contemporary, or hip hop station. There's no local variance anymore.

PD: The DJs all sound exactly the same. At Radio Mutiny we really think that radio should be at least a little dangerous. It should really have the potential to take you someplace you've never been before. That's some of the magic of radio. It's something that has really been lost, that as a radio pirate, you can bring back.

I had a pretty interesting thing happen to me about six months ago. I got a call from the... I don't know where they are, but I've written a number of the... with passage of... at the bottom... learned all... to buy a co... communications... to have to... that I... chains... all the... by... radio u... director... for... thinking... can't b... that... ri... c... ssu... qu... they... (i... pre... for i... cultur... it goi... Amer

...could comply tended to be large organizations. Large... history of environmental regulation, on site, corporate America screams and whimpers whenever they

"OK, its 92.6, pirate radio broadcast. Today only broadcasting on this frequency. This is all for you. Take broadcast freedom back into your own hands. Pirate radio is bullshit, we demand air space. Its free and open to anyone." I stopped typing. What was this pirate radio station? Had I just stumbled across one of the underground circuits?! I was fortunate enough to witness the secret event of rebel radio straight from the source. And so, as the intro gives leeway to, I began a transcript...

Since 1980, when low watt stations were stripped of virtually every broadcasting right, micro men and women have been taking to the air waves without any legal or regulated rules and regulations are unattainable for the micro radio community. defiance its nature and its cause. Pirate radio is indeed protected under the 1st Amendment, in which all citizens have the right to free speech. It's been historically proven that any law that is passed by the general public, is no law at all. All laws are made by the privileged, and the peasants rejected.

Its the punk of pirate radio-and from the very beginning. Steal This Radio collective had its sights set far higher than that of the radio hobbyist. A band of anarchists, squatters, and radio nerds jamming the airwaves with the low frequency transmissions-there was no way it could fail. Formed in September of 1995, the Lower East Side Steal This Radio collective began its hunt for cheap equipment and radio techies who could assist their cause. The goal was to sustain a micro-power station that would be a constant circuit to their community.

The moment arrived in November of 1996, when the station was finally constructed via materials

on a full 20 watts, and its transmitting schedule is brimming, 5 days a week baby! The in-house Audio Damage Laboratories create a forum for the communities voice, and to think it all began with some plumbing

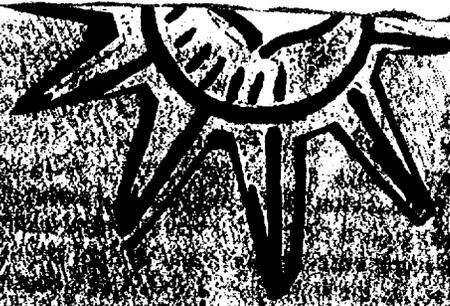


is overrated. The FCC (Federal Communications Commission) is NOT your friend. The estimated minimum start-up price is a hefty \$60,000, and that's just for the smallest FCC licensed station. The FCC's priorities are pure profit-corporate profit. The FCC's side of the coin? They argue that micro-casters are not added into the Emergency Alert System, but decline to comment when it is mentioned that a micro-caster could easily be the EAS if legally licensed. The airwaves, results of the recent war owned by the public. Recently the FCC has been in Berkeley, a 15 year history of the FCC's aggression towards the community is illustrated by Duffler's... recently discussed

...steps, ...the

...FCC. In ...beyond ...on fi ...releva

...electron ...ed o ...on ...and ...at ...at ...at ...at ...at



#### 4 Kinds of Corruption

Corruption is caused by desire  
- corruption to get those against  
whom one bears ill will  
- aberration due to ignorance  
- fear which stifles and slowly  
destroys all senses of right and wrong.  
It lies at the root of the above three.

The first can be passed by a fear of  
pain and death or a fear of losing  
to those whom one loves  
and is caused by all fear

RM 1208  
SIR OR MADAM

RM-1244

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JAN 11 1985

REGARDING THE BILL - I'M NOT A LICENSE  
DORSE, I'M JUST A RADIO BUG/DXER  
POWER MAXIMUM OF 3 KW SEEMS TOO HIGH, ESPECIALLY  
FOR ZONE ONE (NORTHEAST U.S.). I WOULD THINK 1,000  
WOULD BE PLENTY FOR ZONE 2, AND 100 TO 500 FOR  
ZONE ONE. ANYTHING HIGHER AND THESE STATIONS W  
BE NO DIFFERENT THAN STATIONS ALREADY ON THE  
STATIONS IN LARGE METRO AREAS WILL HAVE TO H  
TO 10 OR 100 WATTS DUE TO PRESENT DIAL  
CROWDING. FOR EXAMPLE THE ONLY OPEN FREQ IN  
WASH DC. WOULD SEEM TO BE 93.5 WHICH MIGHT TAKE  
100 WATTS, I ALSO ~~QUESTION~~ QUESTION THE ANTENNA  
LIMIT. IF ANTENNA HIGHER, THEN POWER CAN BE LOW  
AND VICE VERSA.

R.S.V.P  
T.C. (GUS) MANCUS

November 18, 1998

The Honorable John F. Kerry  
421 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Re: RM 9208, 9242, 9246 Petitions for Legalizing Low-Power Broadcasting

Dear Senator Kerry:

I am writing to ask you to support the above-mentioned petitions, which advocate the reintroduction of low-power, non-commercial community broadcasting licenses.

I was a member of Radio Free Allston, a low-power community radio station that operated from March through October 1997. Our goal was to establish and promote a radio outlet controlled and directed by the community in which it was situated. Current FCC regulations made it impossible for us to secure a license, and although we did have the unanimous support of the Boston City Council and were enthusiastically received by the community, Radio Free Allston was shut down by the FCC.

Many philosophies can be found in the so-called "Pirate" radio environment. Many of us are not anti-regulation, but are *pro-fair* regulation. The airwaves are controlled more and more by fewer and fewer corporations and the voices of individual communities are being drowned out by the generic voice of the conglomerates.

While such things as cable access and the Internet do provide for a measure of community access and democratic control of certain media, radio is the most democratic of media (I have yet to hear of Cable-Free Europe).

I feel fortunate that I am from Massachusetts, as we enjoy fair and intelligent representation. Please help support fair and democratic control of the media. Thank you.

Sincerely,

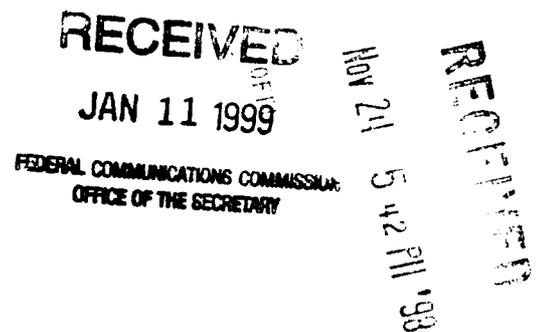


Joy Campbell  
43 Kingston St., #1  
Somerville, MA 02144  
Joy@sneaker.net

Copy: William Kennard, Federal Communications Commission  
Susan Ness, Federal Communications Commission  
Harold Furchott-Roth, Federal Communications Commission  
Michael Powell, Federal Communications Commission  
Gloria Tristani, Federal Communications Commission

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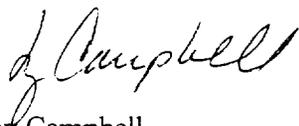
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Rm 9208

Rm 9242

# THE RADIO MONOPOLY

By James W. Harkleroad

What happened when the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) decided to no longer license radio stations using 100 watts or less of power?

It was not too long after that Congress was "convinced" (i.e., paid off) that it would "be good for the country" (i.e., big business and incumbent elected officials) to permit companies to increase the number of big power radio stations they may possess.

Who benefits?

Big business gets a near monopoly which permits them to increase license rates and reduce the number of people employed.

Big business reduces their tax bill since the bigger the business the less in taxes they pay.

Incumbent politicians obtain large sums of money from big business for their re-election campaigns.

Incumbent politicians obtain slanted news coverage and biased editorials in their favor from big business.

Who loses?

The citizens lose program variety and services that are provided only by locally owned radio stations.

The citizens have to pay more for products and services as the companies pass along the increased advertising costs.

The citizens who lose jobs are not able to buy what they used to buy. Their purchases are further reduced due to the increase in prices of the goods and services advertised on the radio.

The citizens who lose jobs are no longer paying taxes. So the government loses revenue.

The citizens who lose jobs need welfare. So a need for more tax revenues is created. Fewer radio licenses are being sold. So the government loses revenue.

As the government loses revenue from lost jobs, fewer licenses being sold, and fewer companies paying less (if any) taxes the citizens tax rates are increased to compensate for the lost revenues.

The citizens can not make informed voting choices because they are denied the opportunity to learn about the people challenging the incumbent elected officials.

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What can be done to rectify these attacks on the nation?

All that is needed is that the FCC license radio stations using 100, or less, watts of power. It is that simple.

The National Association [Big Business] of Broadcasters objects to this solution on the grounds that the FCC can not police the airwaves properly now.

The FCC can not do what it has not the money to pay for. Money which would be raised by selling more licenses and from tax revenues paid by more companies being in business and more people holding jobs.

And by selling licenses there would also be an end to the problem of interference with other users of the radio spectrum.

(The author is presently serving a life sentence for first degree murder in Florida State Prison. Any comments/questions may be addressed to him at : BOX 181 #030597 /Starke, FL 32041.)

## SAVING THE INDEPENDENT ISPs

By James W. Harkleroad

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Internet Service Providers (ISPs) who use the telephone system  
Cable television systems are able to provide modem service that is up  
faster than using copper phone lines. And the equipment that would speed up the  
travel time on copper phone lines is more costly and will take several years to put  
in place.

Thus, cable television companies are fixing to drive phone line dependent ISPs  
into the "little money" corner. If not out of the picture altogether.

Meanwhile, traditional phone companies are in trouble as people switch to sat-  
ellite and Internet phone services.

What can the phone companies do to stay in business and thus benefit the ISPs  
which depend on them and make them money?

Take a cue from the portable phone service providers. Use the radio waves.

The main base sends a signal to a sub-base. The sub-base forwards the signal  
to a local area station. The local area station forwards the signal (by fiber optic/  
copper line or radio wave) to the individual building.

(In apartment and business buildings the individual phones would be reached by  
copper/fiber optic lines from the buildings transceiver station.)

- (1) Radio waves travel faster than electricity over copper lines.
- (2) As the radio system replaces copper lines then the copper lines, and their ac-  
companying hardware, can be removed from the landscape. This reduces, especially in  
areas where there is much distance between the phone company and the phone(s)  
being served, installation and maintenance costs.
- (3) Customer costs are reduced.

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Prison. Any comments/questions may be addressed to him at: Box 181 #030597 /  
Stucke, FL 32041.)