

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

A larger media company does not necessarily lead to more diversity. One such firm, Clear Channel, has purchased a number of radio stations in my area. Rather than have each station give a different news report, all of Clear Channel's stations run the same 60-second newsbreaks, weather, traffic, etc. Local morning drive shows are being replaced by nationally syndicated shows, so people wishing to discuss local news events have no outlet to air them. From what I see here, commonly owned media does NOT provide diverse formats. They repeat the same programming to "save money" and give listeners little variety.