

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -  
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules  
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202  
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,  
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,  
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

To: The Secretary, FCC Commissioners, and Chief, Media Bureau

I am writing to you to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. I firmly believe that elimination or restriction of the FCC's current media ownership rules will lead to a less diversified media and will further unleash the already dominating market power of the huge corporations in broadcasting. This would definitely not be in the public's interest.

I do not feel the FCC studies truly reflect how media deregulation and consolidation have already reduced media diversity. I personally find fewer and fewer voices representing different viewpoints in recent years. This is tremendously dangerous for our democracy, which depends utterly on informed discussion and diverse perspectives. Weakening or eliminating ownership rules encourages media companies to merge, a clear threat to such informed debate.

I support the FCC public hearing tentatively scheduled for February on this matter. It is critical that the FCC take time to hold similar hearings all over the country to get input from as many citizens as possible. After all, the airwaves belong to the entire American public, not to the large companies which stand to make untold profits by monopolizing them at our cost.

Sincerely,

Debra Rose Van Dusen  
530 Bellevue Ave.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407