

<PROCEEDING> Dockets No. 01-235

<DATE> 01/04/03

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<TEXT> Dear FCC:

I am a citizen, who is concerned about protecting and improving the welfare of people and our environment. Out of this concern I insist that you preserve what little we still have left of one of our most valuable resources, heterogeneity of news reporting and opinion.

Permitting more media consolidation is unacceptable. For example, granting the ability of a business to own both a television station and newspaper in the same community would lay the ground work for many communities having a thoughtless homogeneity of opinions. Increased media consolidation would leave no room for the invigorating divergence of perspective and opinion that we need in order to make well informed decisions. The highly esteemed freedom of the press was placed in our constitution in order to prevent any holder of power from having a headlock on news and opinion. Our rules blocking media consolidation must stand in order to have our freedom of the press exercised toward its fullest.

I find it suspiciously annoying that all the TV stations have the same news at the same time. The only divergent news on regular TV right now is Pat Robertson. Long may he broadcast! He will report the persecution of Christians in Islamic countries while the mass media remains silent! The same news on TV is the same news in the newspaper except for local news. Currently the news has the same bias and stance. Passing a law allowing the same entity to own more media is dangerous and monopolistic.

Why did you break up Microsoft and Ma Bell? Why bother these entrepreneurs if you are going to create a monopoly in news. We need to have different viewpoints. A diversity of perspectives and opinions serves the public.
Vivian Gladden