

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.

Our democracy has suffered with the weakening of diversity ownership in all media markets. The lack of effective criticism leads to the narrow-mindedness we find in existence today and to a political polarization that is dangerous to our society.

By continually weakening the rules concerning media monopoly ownership over the past two decades, the FCC has done to our 'free' press what political contributions have done to our Senate and Congress: removed its integrity and independence.

I object in the strongest terms to any loosening of the rules and call for the break up of those huge media conglomerates that the FCC policies begun under Reagan have allowed.

We are only as free as the information we are allowed to receive. The inaccurate and misleading coverage of the anti-war demonstrations across the country are a perfect case in point, NY Times, and Washington Post reports that had to be corrected days later after a storm of protest at their blatant inaccuracy.

The rich will write for the rich. The FCC is there to protect the minority opinion, and to guarantee that the common person's voice can be heard in the great debate.

The FCC's assertion that it doesn't matter who owns the media because people get their news from digital sources now is foolish and false. The medium makes no difference. We need reporters and writers on the streets who represent a wide diversity of opinions in order that we all may arrive at a reasonable assessment of the truth by a kind of cultural triangulation.

The FCC's proposal runs entirely counter to this critical need. Democracy is only as good as the information its citizens get.

Do not further restrict that diversity of opinion by concentrating control of the media in the hands of conglomerates.

You cannot pull out the plug in the bottom of our boat because it pleases the rich and then later wonder why our civilization is sinking, which it clearly is. No one trusts the corporations any more, they've proved themselves to us. No one trusts the government any more, they can't even get fifty percent of us to vote. Reverse this trend now.