

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.

Dear FCC, I am very alarmed and disturbed by the FCC decision to "reconsider" some of the last regulatory checks on media consolidation in this country. These regulations protect the public interest by preserving diversity and dissent in the media, two qualities of a healthy democracy. I strongly urge you to keep the existing regulations in place, unaltered. These include the Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule, the National Broadcast Ownership Cap, the Local Radio Ownership Cap, the Duopoly Rule, and the Dual Network Rule.

I take issue with the FCC suggestion that TV is no longer as important a source of information as it once was due to a "proliferation of outlets." This is not the case, and TV is more important than ever. Consolidation would have disastrous consequences for our democracy. Larger media companies do not strengthen diverse reporting and analysis, they weaken it. Local coverage is virtually eliminated, and the "watchdog" role of the media will be scrapped in favor of corporate and private interests. In short, the public suffers. We suffer from a lack of diversity, media scrutiny, commentary, analysis, and dissent.

I strongly urge you to not "reconsider" any FCC media regulations. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Kennedy
Scottsdale, AZ

I personally am troubled by the intense media consolidation and mergers that have occurred in recent years. Here in Scottsdale, AZ, I have witnessed the decline in locally owned and controlled radio stations and billboards as Clear Channel has bought them out, and also the general decline in journalistic integrity and quality of the Arizona Republic Newspaper.