

From: Kaia Tollefson
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 1/28/03 5:46PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Kaia Tollefson (kaia@unm.edu) writes:

I am a social studies teacher. I have worked with students of all ages, from grade school through college. When I teach students about the First Amendment, I would like to be able to engage them in discussions about democracy in proactive ways - emphasizing the ideal of informed citizenship.

As things stand, however, under the imminent threat of further media consolidation, the FCC appears more invested in corporate well-being than in mine, my students', and my fellow citizens'.

Our Constitutional rights impel you to work on our behalf. Please do so. It is a brutal thing, to listen as 10-year-olds reveal their cynical wisdom - their knowledge of a media system that is out to make money, no matter the social cost. It makes the teaching of Constitutional ideals, what should be a powerful and uplifting experience, a sad business, indeed.

Please do all that you can to ensure that any semblance of media diversity that remains is allowed to continue. Even better, please do all that you can to help us, the people, to believe that you hold some value for a vibrant democracy.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 207.66.72.100
Remote IP address: 207.66.72.100

From: David Doerr
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 1/29/03 12:08AM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

David Doerr (doerr_david@hotmail.com) writes:

Dear commissioner,

In regards to the upcoming FCC decision on further media deregulation, please take into consideration the awful consequences on what further deregulation would do to this essential democratic institution. Please take a look at the following information on the current status of the media before you make your decision.

BACKGROUND:

Many know that the Tribune Company, Viacom, and other media corporations are lighting to expand the percentage of media that they can own in one market, This could mean that 'both' your daily newspapers could be owned by the same company, or that all your local news radio stations could soon be owned by one corporation—obviously, bad for providing a diversity of opinions and information---and bad for our democracy.

This issue has not been covered by NBC, CBS, and others, because the companies that own our media have a vested interest in the outcome of this decision.

So how can people learn about this issue, much less understand the implications? This is where ACME and other hard-working media reform groups come in.

The FCC has had a one public hearing about this, and scheduled *two* others, but three events is hardly enough for such a big revision of regulations.

FCC Commissioner Michael Copps has been eloquent in his dissent; The Nation recently published his views on-line. (<http://www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20030203&s=copps>).

HERE ARE SOME FACTS:

- * Recent rapid media consolidation has meant fewer corporations controlling larger and larger percentages of the media market. This has reduced media owned by women and minority groups; led to less community programming; shrunk diversity in content; and created a media climate that is hostile to alternative and dissenting voices.
- * According to an 'FCC STUDY', in 1970, 20 studios supplied 68.4% of all prime-time programming ---- in 2002, 10 studios supplied 87.8% of prime-time programming.
- * News organizations run by media conglomerates have now been forced to focus on the bottom linemaking money for stockholders rather than informing the public. Often, these two objectives are at odds.
- * Currently, only 6 major companies dominate the newspaper industry; 7 major book publishers dominate publishing; and 5 music companies and 6 cable TV corporations own most of the media in those categories.
- * Mass media has been called the fourth branch of government because of the industry's massive lobbying power. The media trade associations have spent \$1 11.3 million to lobby Congress and the Executive Branch Justsince 1996. [source: The Center for Public Integrity]

CURRENT REGULATIONS:

TV OWNERSHIP: Currently, one company is limited to owning two TV stations in one market. One company's TV stations cannot reach more than 35% of the national audience (raised from 25% in 1996).

CABLE: Right now, one party cannot have interests in a cable system that reaches more than 30% of homes with cable nationwide. Cable companies can only own a maximum of 40% of the programming on their channels.

CROSS-OWNERSHIP: Currently, one company cannot own a newspaper and broadcast station in the same market. One company cannot own a cable station and broadcast station in the same market.

* * * *

Democratic media fosters informed citizens, accountability, critical analysis and debate, and diversity. If current trends continue, however, our 'public' airwaves will slide even farther from a people-centered forum to strictly a corporate profit center.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 147.26.248.62
Remote IP address: 147.26.248.62

From: jimtroesh@aol.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: 1/28/03 11:31AM
Subject: Consider The Needs Of Children!

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps,

I urge the FCC to consider the distinct needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in the development of children.

The relaxation of media ownership rules will result in significantly less original programming for children. Relaxation also will reduce competition, potentially stifling innovation and increasing commercialism in children's programming.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Jim Troesh
5225 Blakeslee #222
North Hollywood, California 91601

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Howard Berman

From: miklosQusc.edu
To: Michael Copps
Date: 1/28/03 1:05PM
Subject: Consider The Needs Of Children!

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

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Sincerely,

Michael Miklos
502 112 N. Bronson Ave.
Los Angeles, California 90004

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Diane Watson

From: erickagettman@hotmail.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: 1/28/03 1:07PM
Subject: Consider The Needs Of Children!

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Sincerely,

Ericka Wietecha
1307 W. Eddy St.
Chicago, Illinois 60657

cc:
Senator Richard Durbin
Senator Peter Fitzgerald
Representative Rahm Emanuel

From: jdetar@earthlink.net
To: Michael Copps
Date: 1/26/03 3:38PM
Subject: Consider The Needs Of Children!

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Sincerely,

Judith De Tar De Tar
2541 Ivanhoe Dr
Los Angeles, California 90039

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Diane Watson

From: mrsdoos@hotmail.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: 1/28/03 5:16PM
Subject: Consider The Needs Of Children!

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

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Sincerely,

Kerri Diener
2660 Grove Way
Castro Valley, California **94546**

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Barbara Lee

From: libraryescsQyahoo.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: 1/28/03 6:06PM
Subject: Consider The Needs Ot Children!

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

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Sincerely,

Inez Benichasa
115 Pearl Street
Somerville. Massachusetts 02145-3250

cc:
Senator Edward Kennedy
Senator John Kerry
Representative Michael Capuano

From: f uck you I Hate You
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/28/03 9:42PM
Subject: <No Subject>

Michael K. Powell

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War 11, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the present.

Furthermore, the series of reports released by the FCC about the current media marketplace are focused almost entirely on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules. They ignore the public's interest in a diverse and independent press. You have also scheduled only one public hearing regarding this issue. The FCC has barely publicized the proposed changes, and combined with a very short public comment period I can only surmise that you hope to sneak these changes past the American people. I certainly didnt find out about them as a result of anything that was done by your agency.

You should be ashamed that an agency under your leadership is not using what is in the best interests of the American public as its guiding principle, but instead is thinking of what is most profitable for a few huge corporations who only care about the bottom line, not about what is good for democracy.

Sincerely yours

Airick Oseland

p.o.box 374

nisswa ,mn

56468

Add photos to your e-mail with MSN 8. Get 2 months FREE'.

From: Star Shine
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/30/03 7:29AM
Subject: <No Subject>

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

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Sincerely,

Suzanne Carlson

16025 Boulder Creek Drive

Minnetonka, MN, 55345

Add photos to your messages with MSN 8. Get 2 months FREE!

From: nicholas
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/28/03 6:03PM
Subject: Changes to Media Ownership Rules

Michael K. Powell

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely yours,

Nicholas Ashby

100 Bog Brook Road

From: zoe loves phil
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/20/03 4:29PM
Subject: changes to the currensnt Media ownership rules.

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, the USA and UK government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans and other members of the world such as myself, have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the present.

Furthermore, the series of reports released by the FCC about the current media marketplace are focused almost entirely on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules. They ignore the public's interest in a diverse and independent press. You have also scheduled only one public hearing regarding this issue. The FCC has barely publicized the proposed changes, and combined with a very short public comment period I can only surmise that you hope to sneak these changes past the American people. I certainly didnt find out about them as a result of anything that was done by your agency.

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Sincerely yours,

Zoe Anderson

Scotland , UK

From: rdhiranoQjuno.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/29/03 10:21AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

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)

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, the Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In promoting its supposed goals of fair competition, diversity and local voice in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of the huge, dominant companies and players in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate, or even attempt to demonstrate, the negative effects that media deregulation and consolidation have had on the diversity of our media. While there may indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented has been severely limited.

The right to conduct an informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was renewed in the marketplace of diverse ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge and consolidate further, our ability to have an open, informed discussion from a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

I urge the FCC to preserve the public interest by keeping the media ownership rules in question intact.

Also, I support the FCC's plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February of 2003. I strongly encourage the Commission to hold similar hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public. The rarified, lawyerly atmosphere of an FCC rulemaking is not an appropriate decision-making venue when questions as profound as the freedom of our media are at stake. I encourage the Commissioners to come out and meet some of the people who do not have a financial interest in this issue, but a social interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Raymond Hirano

25 West 64th St Apt 5D
New York, NY, 10023

From: mcollins@insightengineering.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/29/03 10:21AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank you,

Michael E. Collins
Voter, **Tax** Payer, and YOUR EMPLOYER!

7979 Glenview Drive
Indianapolis, IN, 46236

From: mlahey22@yahoo.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/29/03 10:21 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

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Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Michael Lahey

4008 24th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN, 55406

From: sleestackm@netscape.net
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/29/03 10:21 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank you,

Anthony Magni

po **box** 1371
carlise, **PA**, 17013

From: heorot19960yahoo.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/29/03 10:21 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank you.

Christina D. Short

9368 Benchmark Drive Apt. B
Indianapolis, IN. 46240

From: jimheadjr@hotmail.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 1/29/03 10:22AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
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Thank you,

JIM HEAD

2279 THOMAS
BERKLEY. MI, 48072