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March 4, 2003

Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission

Mr. Powell

I understand you and the other commissioners are making your decision on whether to further relax the rules on how many media outlets can be owned by a single person or company. I don't think the previous round of deregulation has benefitted the public, and I urge that you do not deregulate further.

The airways were originally supposed to benefit citizens and make them better able to perform their civic duties, but from what I can tell they only serve to enrich the big media conglomerates. I remember traveling the country and hearing regional variations in radio programming, but no more. Deregulation has made what's heard on the radio more and more the same, with the same piped-in music thoughout entire single-owner systems, and DJs told what to play from on high. News more and more expresses the same viewpoints.

We need more owners, not fewer

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