

The recent changes of FCC ownership rules are harming the nature and structure of the radio and television industry and related media, such as newspapers and magazines. These changes have caused a reduction in the number of owners and operators of these services. These media are, fundamentally, means of informing the public or service receivers of national and local events and activities as well as provide educational and entertainment experiences. By their nature, they can be very effective and persuasive in their results. Hence, the extremely high value they can reach and the dogged competition that can arise toward the control of these facilities. Genius intellect is not needed to see and understand that fewer and fewer corporations and persons are controlling more and more of these facilities, thus reducing the number and variety of content and interpretation available to listeners, viewers and readers. The original rules and regulations of ownership served the public very well for a very long time. I believe that the increase in the number of media outlets under sole ownership has resulted in a homogenization of content and reduces or eliminates the regional variety in news delivery and entertainment available. More and more, central population areas have the same choices. Eventually, as in most other "free markets" there will exist a big three, or maybe four, choices. Certainly, in the case of electronic broadcasting, the spectrum is limited and is thought of as a public medium. It should have boundaries and rules of behavior to prevent domination by a few. Therefore, I insist that the current trend toward fewer ownership limitations be reexamined and the more restrictive ownership limits be reinstated. This will provide opportunities for more ideas and voices to, not only be heard, but to have continuing outlet for more viewpoints on all matters of public interest.