

walter kennedy  
27  
cliftwooddrive  
huntington, New York 11743-2102

**From:** heykennedt2@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, Apr 25, 2003 11:02 PM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

walter kennedy

27

cliftwooddrive

huntington, New York 11743-2102

**From:** vanguardsisters@earthlink.net  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 12:09 AM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

The FCC must consider the unique 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 children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

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

Sincerely,

Barbara Schatan  
1425 laurel St  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

cc:  
Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Sam Farr

**From:** Kevin Corstange  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 2:15 AM  
**Subject:** June 2 ? What's your rush?

Dear Chairman and Commissioners.

I am incredibly concerned about the current state of our country's communications industry and alarmed that you are scheduled to make a ruling in a month about regulations that effect us all. There has been shockingly little mentioned of it in the media. While I do not doubt your commission's integrity, the lack of public awareness of this upcoming ruling - and, in fact, the surprising lack of general public awareness of the 1996 ruling - have created a cloak of secrecy around the FCC's decisions that makes them feel exclusionary and questionable. I'm not suggesting they are, only that they give that appearance.

I do realize that you are attempting to uncover the current trends and follow the law and not simply public opinion. I also realize, as I hope you do, that for any democracy to exist the central core of that democracy's media must be to inform its citizenry. I understand that times have changed. The 'airwaves' are no longer 'the major media' outlets. In fact, from what I understand, the airwaves are no longer even consider to be 'public domain'. However, as opposed to reverting to a system that fostered monopolies and oligarchies in the past, a system which was reacted to by forcible FCC regulations several decades ago because of the lack of competition and lack of diversity that system had created, it seems more prudent to redefine the concept of media and to create separate regulations to govern these separate forms. No regulation, which is where we seem to be heading, will obviously create a consolidation of content and a lack of diversity (I know you claim it won't, but it already is despite what you claim). Conversely, to assume that one regulation is going to fit all is ridiculous. However, by suggesting that 50% of Americans get their media from sources other than the airwaves and using that as your open door to deregulation, you are doing, I believe, a grave disservice to the details of those statistics. The reality of it is that people with enough money to pay for cable or satellite or to own a computer and pay for internet service can get other information - if they search for it - and the poor people are stuck with whatever the five media giants want to give them. In case you haven't noticed, what the media giants want to give them is a great deal of entertainment coverage and very little political debate. That your upcoming ruling has been virtually ignored by all of the major media outlets demonstrates this fact quite well, I think.

Please don't screw us any more than you already have by allowing an even smaller number of people to own an even greater number of media outlets. Finding anything even close to truthful debate on any given subject is already a difficult and time-consuming chore. Please don't make us all look to England for some diverse debate and perspective on our own country.

Thanks for your time.

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Kevin Corstange

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**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 2:15 AM  
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Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Corstange

**From:** vonfurstermann  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 8:14 AM  
**Subject:** Media Ownership

Dear Chairman Powell:

Please don't allow the giant media conglomerates to gobble up the airways (which belong to the public). Too much of the public domain is owned by a few. Enough is enough! Free access to the airways is essential to our democratic form of government.

Brigitte Arwe  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**From:** vonfurstermann  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 8:17 AM  
**Subject:** Media ownership

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Brigitte Arwe  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**From:** Rachael Davis  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 8:40 AM  
**Subject:** FCC Media Deregulation vote, June 2nd

Approximate number of newspapers in North America:

1800

Approximate number of magazines in North America: 11,000

Approximate number of radio stations in North America: 11,000

Approximate number of television stations in North America: 2000

Approximate number of book publishers in North America: 3000

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 1984: 50

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 1987: 26

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 1996: 10

Dear Chairman Powell & Commissioners:

Regarding the information in the above chart (outdated at this time), I urge you to strongly consider the advice of Barry Diller, Chairman & CEO of USA Interactive, and vote NO to further de-regulating the broadcasting/media industry.

The 500+ channels you have referred to Mr. Powell are now controlled by 5 media giants. A real concern regarding further deregulation is about the ownership and distribution of media programs by what Mr. Diller calls "oligopolies", and whether these few companies are responsibly serving the public good on public owned airwaves.

Mr. Powell, before your commission votes on June 2nd whether to further loosen the regulations on the media industry, or not, there needs to be more public hearings, more voices heard and more public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Respectfully,

Rachael Davis, New Britain, CT

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein, now@thirteen.org, wfsb@mdp.com, Diane Nancy, NASW, Tony Norris, Tim O'Brien, Rebecca, Suzy

Rivera, Beth Roberts, Faith Rodriguez, Joann Samson, Mary Sanders, Ellen Simpson, Betsy Tallant, Chris Traczyk, Steve Varga, Lisa Weiss, Adrienne, Linda Anton, Linda Barnard, Pam Belknap, Sharon Boyd, Rosalind Bussey, Joanne D, Susan Davis, Don DeFronzo, Eileen Downey, Hattie Fairbanks, John Howard, Emma Jefferson, CF Masat, Thom Masat, Mary McAtee, Mom, Toni Moran

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**From:** vanini@netstep.net  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 10:46 AM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

I strongly oppose any regulatory changes that would allow still further concentration of our media in the hands of a few large corporations. There is already too great a concentration of markets. The likes of GE/NBC, Disney, ClearChannel, and AOL/Time Warner already have too much power.

In particular, the FCC must consider the unique 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 children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation would reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

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

Sincerely,

Laurence Kirby  
36 Purdy Hollow  
Woodstock, New York 12498

cc:  
Senator Charles Schumer  
Representative Maurice Hinchey  
Senator Hillary Clinton

**From:** S Middleton  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 11:23 AM  
**Subject:** Media ownership, June 2nd

Expanding media ownership is an error and a meeting of the commission set for June 2nd does not give the public sufficient time to understand and comment on the ramifications of an expansion.

Although there are many stations throughout the country the overall ownership is too concentrated in too few companies. We are losing local ownership which truly provides diversity.

By moving too quickly on this important decision you are doing a disservice to our nation.

Susanne Middleton

**From:** jweidner2k3@netscape.net  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 11:38 AM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

Joe Weidner  
6800 North High St.  
Worthington, Ohio 43084

**From:** jweidner2k3@netscape.net  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 11:38 AM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Joe Weidner  
6800 North High St.  
Worthington, Ohio 43084

**From:** BernSFish@aol.com  
**To:** mpowell@fce.gov, kabernat@fee.gov, Michael Copps, kjmweb@fcc.gov..fcc.gov,  
Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 11:42 AM  
**Subject:** media consolidation

FCC Chairman and Commissioners:

We urge you to vote against any further consolidation of the media.

Diversity in news sources available to the public is vital for a democracy to survive. That diversity must not be stifled.

Respectfully,

Dr. and Mrs. A.A. Fischer  
948 Altos Oaks Drive  
Los Altos, CA 94024

**From:** wind4raven@aol.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 12:14 PM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

The FCC must consider the unique 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 children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

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

Sincerely,

Phoebe Knopf  
20 Charlesgate W.  
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

cc:  
Senator Edward Kennedy  
Senator John Kerry  
Representative Michael Capuano

**From:** nomorevictims@yahoo.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 12:49 PM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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Sincerely,

David Dixon  
7100 Mapleridge Dr  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28210-6507

cc:  
Representative Sue Myrick  
Senator John Edwards  
Senator Elizabeth Dole

**From:** dngriffin@wisc.edu  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 12:50 PM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

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Sincerely,

Dale Griffin  
402 Manning Witte A  
615 West Johnson Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

cc:  
Senator Herb Kohl  
Senator Russell Feingold

**From:** assefnia@yahoo.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 1:13 PM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Assefnia  
4905 Londonberry Dr.  
Santa Rosa, California 95403

cc:  
Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Lynn Woolsey

**From:** bjh  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 1:19 PM  
**Subject:** Media ownership rules

I am writing to you today to reply to the public comments on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. To promote competition, diversity and local content, the FCC should retain the current media ownership rules and impose stricter public interest requirements.

The studies commissioned by the FCC are flawed and incomplete. By allowing our media outlets to merge print and broadcast facilities a greater restriction on the breadth of news and information available to citizens to act in the public interest will result.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

In addition, I strongly encourage the Commission to hold hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions.

Thank you,

Beverly Hartsfield  
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

**From:** bjh  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, Apr 26, 2003 1:22 PM  
**Subject:** Media Ownership rules

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