

I am taking my time to request that the public (taxpayers own the airwaves) be included in the debate over the changes in media ownership. I understand you must review every two years and it is your recommendation to allow the large media corporations to increase their ownership of the media through TV, radio and newspapers.

I fail to see how this creates "more diversity". The constitution of the U.S. is the document that protects the people from the government when it gets too big or uncaring. You are shrinking government checks and balances in favor of large corporations. This is unacceptable.

Diversity means different, unlike, variety as in diversity of opinion. This diversity of opinion is currently lost with too many stations being owned by one media outlet. The TV and radio are the major sources of information for Americans. When each show lines up the same guests with the same four topics to be discussed, this is not diversity. Watch the cable outlets and ABC, NBC and CBS; they decide the same topics to be discussed. There was no detail (and the devil is in the details) for example on how the Bush tax plan was going to effect the lives of ordinary people. The topics on the differences between political candidates are not discussed in detail. Who is covering the Social Security issues in detail? No one. Who is covering the details of the FCC changes? No one except the print media. Yet these major media outlets stand to reap the most benefits at the expense of the people. Survey after survey shows that the people want to know the details on important issues effecting their lives not ad nauseum details of Monica Lewinsky, Laci Peterson, O.J. Simpson and Gary Condit. Diversity of opinion does not mean Rush Limbaugh and then Oliver North. It means Nader, Gore, Clinton, Bush, Kerry, etc. need to be challenged by true investigative reporters not paid talking heads that take every word they say at face value.

Right now there is not enough variety of opinions and that is the FCC job to increase rather than decrease. Corporate profits will drive the news we see and hear or don't see and hear. Corporate decisions will be made as to what is relevant and what is not relevant and then tell the public this is "what they should know". Please halt the decision of June 2, 2003 until the public is included in this debate. The TV medium has yet to discuss this topic except on Nightline last night. A search on lexis-nexis shows that ABC also mentioned it another time at 4AM. You commissioners are "a servant of the people" paid by us taxpayers.

Sincerely,
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