

I believe that free speech is the single most important value in a free society, and with that view in mind I find it necessary to criticize the FCC's recent decision to relax the rules on media ownership. Consolidation of media control into the hands of a few individuals can only serve to reduce the number of viewpoints offered to the public, with a corresponding reduction in the amount of intelligent public discourse on events of general interest. It must also necessarily serve to reduce the amount of vital ethical scrutiny under which those in the news services operate. If the press and the airwaves share a common ownership, who then will watch the watchmen?

I respect Chairman Powell and his colleagues, but I feel that they have erred in this matter, and I must strongly encourage them to reconsider their support for the measure.

Yours Truly,
Colin Kimbrell