

JOE WHITE
Real Estate Broker
P. O. Box 728
Healdsburg, CA. 95448

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

May 16, 2003

Regarding relaxing Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Honorable Mr. or Ms. Honorable Adelstein, Abernathy, Powell, Copps and Martin.

I am apposed to this.

Sincerely yours,

JOE WHITE

Phone: (707) 431-2151
FAX: (707) 433-1236

Car: (707) 483-5427
or (707) 695-5427

WEB SITE <http://www.joewhite.net>
E MAIL joewhite@sonic.net

JOHN L. ADAMS, O.D.
156 West Main Street
Georgetown, MA 01833-1444
Daytime phone: 978-356-7263
E-mail: john.adams123@verizon.net



The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Martin,

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

If proposed "broadcast ownership rules" are adopted, huge media corporations could snuff out independent voices in cities across the United States.

Whole communities and even whole states and regions could be dominated by one media company which could decide which viewpoints to allow on the air and which to censor.

Many of the corporations that are fighting for these rule changes – including media giants Viacom/CBS and Disney/ABC – are precisely the same companies that have a known track record of attempting to keep many of our viewpoints off the air. These proposed rule changes would give them far greater power to keep opposing views off the air and out of the newspapers.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. It is our heritage to listen to opposing views, to discuss and debate the important issues. Our founding fathers realized how important it was when they wrote the First Amendment to our Constitution. Therefore, for the sake of our republic and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that were wisely instituted decades ago, and for all those decades have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John L. Adams", written in a cursive style.

BethAnne Nelson
2000 Jerrold Ave.
Arden Hills, MN 55112

May 19, 2003

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

Commissioner Michael Copps
445 12th Street SW
Washington, 20554

Re: Make Your Voice Heard on Media Diversity Before It's Too Late!

Commissioner Copps:

I am writing to remind the members of the Federal Communications Commission that you are responsible for ensuring that the media "serve the public interest." I am concerned that if the FCC continues to relax regulations on media ownership, the victor will be big business--and the casualties will be the people of the U.S.

The free flow of information, the benefits of local competition and the power of a diverse marketplace will virtually disappear.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review the remaining regulations. These regulations must be kept in place, and strengthened, not weakened. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

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BethAnne Nelson

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Sincerely,



BethAnne Nelson



Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

21 May 03

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner:

I urge you to reject the Proposed FCC Media Consolidation Rule (Broadcast Ownership-Docket 02-277). This legislation will reduce diversity in media and extend corporate domination of news outlets within the United States. As you know, five corporations currently control 80 percent of America's media. The Media Consolidation Rule will increase that percentage.

Safeguards against the concentration media in the hands of a few are essential for a democracy. The Proposed FCC Media Consolidation Rule is inherently anti-democratic.

Sincerely,

Alan Cumings, Ph.D.

Alan Cumings, Ph.D.



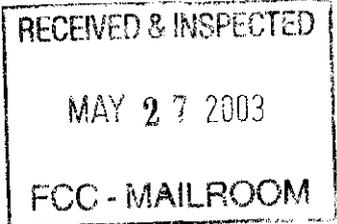
Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

May 19, 2003
6719 E. Malcomb Dr.
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
480-922-9766

Distribution Center

Michael Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington D.C. 20554
by U.S. Mail



re: newspaper-broadcast cross ownership rules

Dear Commissioner Copps:

I oppose deregulation of newspaper-broadcast cross ownership rules because it would decrease competition and decrease freedom of the press.

Enclosed is an Arizona Republic May 18 article on local musician Joe Bethancourt. When I moved to Arizona in 1964, Bethancourt played in lots of local clubs. Now, 38 years later, he can't get local jobs because of "local radio." He explains:

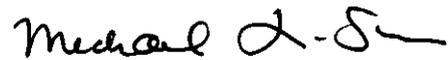
"Any city with a thriving music scene has a radio station that plays local music. Here you have to be on a national rotation, and if you are not, you don't get airplay. If you can't get airplay, its harder to be heard."

In other words, because there isn't any local radio (thanks to the FCC and Congress), there isn't any local music anymore. All we get is corporate monkeyjunk served up by the oligopolies you empower.

It is preposterous to claim there is an effective increase of news sources due to increased competition amongst media types. Consider this: A man staggers home from work at 6 P.M., gulps down supper, fixes the faucet, pays bills, returns phone calls, says hi to his family, wishes he had time to exercise, and then stumbles into bed around 10. He watches TV news for a few minutes and then slips into dreamland. Is it realistic for this guy to surf the internet for alternative news, or comparison shop between network and cable news? This guy doesn't even have time to read the daily paper, but for a few headlines, sports and maybe a comic. Do you claim this man spends his precious few free minutes shopping news?

You are decreasing freedom of information. You are creating anti-free market rules. You are removing access to information from the average citizen. You are further injuring the democracy.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Shoen

cc: John McCain

SPOTLIGHT

Joe Bethancourt grew with his music

By Curtis Grippe
Special for The Republic

At the age that most children are learning their first words, Joe Bethancourt was learning his first songs. When most of us were taking our first steps, Bethancourt was learning to play his first musical instrument. By the time most kids are getting their first bike, Bethancourt got his first banjo. And at age 18, Bethancourt became a professional musician, the only job he has ever had.

Bethancourt, 56, plays 65 instruments, including the banjo, guitar, mandolin and bagpipes, and plays from a list of more than 1,000 songs from many genres, including country, folk, Celtic, bluegrass and medieval/renaissance. His specialty, however is the music of the southern Appalachian and Ozark mountains, where he spent time as a youth.

In addition to writing, recording and performing music, Bethancourt also gives lessons and produces recordings for other artists.

He will appear Thursday at the West Valley Art Museum in Surprise for a one-hour presentation.

As a child, Bethancourt moved around frequently because his father was in the military. While living in North Carolina, he became more aware of the music he heard around the house.

"My mom was a ragtime pianist, so I heard a lot of that," he said. "But the majority of the music I heard was Appalachian music. Everybody played, family members, neighbors, friends. There were just songs that everybody knew."

Many of the songs were handed down over time, and it's unknown who wrote them.

"We have some records of collections that date back to the early 1800s," Bethancourt said. "There are about five songs that go back to the 1300s."

As Bethancourt's musical interest was growing, his family began making yearly visits to Arizona to see his grandfather.

"My grandfather was a fiddler," he said. "Every year I would go back and learn as much music as I could while we were there."

In 1961, the Bethancourts moved to Arizona, and Joe, then a junior at North High School, continued to expand his musical world through his grandfather.

"I began to spend more and more time with the old boy," he said. "He not only taught me about Appalachian music, but he started showing me other types of mu-



T.L. Story

Joe Bethancourt can play more than 1,000 songs on 65 instruments.

sic, like mariachi, which I took to right away."

Bethancourt began playing guitar and playing with musicians of all genres around the Phoenix area. Being a self-taught musician came in handy.

"When you don't have any musical baggage, things are a lot easier," he said. "Mariachi rhythms, for instance, are strange. A classically trained musician might have a harder time than someone who wasn't trained in one specific area."

The different styles of music he was learning also led to his continued need to explore new forms of instrumentation.

"Most of the instruments I play are stringed, and many of them are related in some way," he said. "It's like a foreign language. Once you learn the language of the instrument, you can play it and anything like it."

Bethancourt became a regular on the Phoenix music scene and worked as a studio musician in Los Angeles, where he

Joe Bethancourt

Favorite movie: *Princess Bride*.
Favorite book: *Fancies and Goodnights*, by John Collier.
Favorite musical artist: Doc Watson.
Favorite city to visit: Seattle.

made his first record in 1969. *The Joe Bethancourt String Concert Album* was reviewed in *Billboard* magazine (Feb. 28, 1970) and given a four-star rating.

In the late '70s and early '80s, Bethancourt made weekly appearances on the *Wallace and Ladmo* show.

"I would just come out and say, 'Here's a weird musical instrument. Let's hear what it sounds like.' It was really fun working with those guys."

Over the past two decades, Bethancourt has continued to entertain and educate audiences even though the current music scene is not as fertile as it once was.

"In order to make a living, a performing musician has to do it by playing out of town," he said. "There are a few guys around town who make a living without having to leave, but only a couple of those guys are doing anything original."

Bethancourt said that numerous problems could be addressed in terms of reviving the local music scene but that it all starts with radio.

"Any city with a thriving music scene has a radio station that plays local music," he said. "Here you have to be on a national rotation, and if you are not, you don't get airplay. If you can't get airplay, it's harder to be heard."

Despite the state of local music in Arizona, Bethancourt stays busy playing, teaching and producing.

Bethancourt has appeared at the West Valley Art Museum before but has no agenda for his upcoming presentation.

"It's going to be whatever I feel like when I leave the house," he said. "I know that I'll have probably three banjos and some kind of guitar. I'll play between five and nine different instruments."

He appears at 7 p.m. Thursday at the West Valley Art Museum, 17420 N. Avenue of the Arts, Surprise. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students. Residents of Surprise and West Valley Art Museum members will be admitted free. Information: (623) 972-0635.

More information on Joe Bethancourt is available on his Web site, along with music, photos and upcoming performances, at www.whitetreeaz.com.

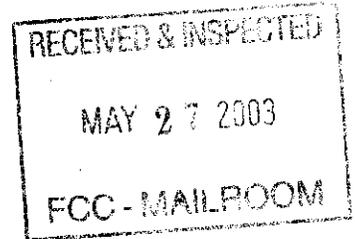
Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Rabbi Ruth H. Sohn
1238 Genesee Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90019-2406

Distribution Center

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554



RE: Docket No. 02-277 Don't abandon media safeguards!

Dear FCC Commissioners,

I strongly urge that the FCC abandon its plan to end long-standing and critical safeguards that have served as an important "check and balance" system to help ensure diversity of media ownership. Under the proposal you are considering, one company in a community will be able to own the newspaper, several TV and radio stations, the cable system, and the principal Internet access company. There will be fewer owners of networks, stations, and newspapers nationwide. This will very badly damage true media diversity and competition. A competitive and diverse media is absolutely essential to ensure an informed citizenry and a healthy and vibrant democracy.

Eliminating these last remaining protections of the public trust would constitute a complete abandonment of the FCC's mission to ensure that our airwaves, which are owned by all Americans, are used in a manner which ensures the diverse range of voices and opinions needed in a healthy democracy. Loss of these protections would constitute a huge and unacceptable giveaway of public resources and political power to a few large and powerful media companies.

Further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues. Americans depend upon the media to bring us information that will allow us to make the informed choices necessary for the well-being of our nation and our future.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I urge you to reject the current proposal to abandon the last remaining controls on media consolidation. Instead, I strongly urge you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth H. Sohn".

Rabbi Ruth H. Sohn

Confirmed
JUN 03 2003
Distribution Center



Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC20554

185 Hill Road
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 19, 2003

Re: Media Monopoly

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote NO on any proposal to come before you that would enable greater concentration of ownership on the mass media. The mainline sources of information now available to the public are too few in number, so please do not exacerbate the present baneful situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J B Neilands".

J. B. Neilands

iron@uclink4.berkeley.edu

MARGE DORTCH

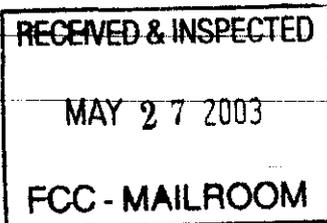
MAY 21, 03

F.C.C.

445 12TH ST S.W.

ROOM TW-204B

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554



Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

TO ALL F.C.C. COMMISSIONERS

— MICHAEL POWELL

— KATHLEEN ABERNATHY

— JONATHAN ADDELSTEIN

— MICHAEL COPPS

— KEYVIN MARTIN

VOTE NO TO DEREGULATE THE MEDIA

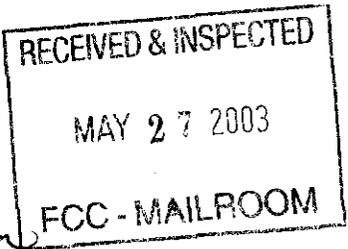
CALIFORNIA POWER WAS DEREGULATED

DEREGULATION OF THE MEDIA WILL BE A CATASTROPHE
FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN AMERICA.

D.R. Wharton

DENNIS R. WHARTON

May 20, 2003



Federal Communications Commission
% Commissioners
445 12th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Commissioners:

Re: STOP FCC RULE CHANGES (June 2)

Please enter my comments as part of the public record in the above matter.

I understand that the ^{AIRWAVES} ~~airwaves~~ are the property of the public and that they are to be administered by the FCC in the public interest. Further, I understand that diversity in the media best serves the public because a monopoly control of the airwaves imperils truth, subordinating it to the corporate bottom line of profit. In a democracy, it is vital to maintain diversity in control of media of all kinds to promote competition that will offer the best possibility of a well-informed public. I strongly and urgently oppose any change to the FCC rules or regulations that

May 20, 2003 Page 2 FCC

would further imperil our democracy by allowing large corporations to own/control a greater share of any market or a greater number of media outlets, such as newspapers, cable/tv, and radio in any area. No one should have that much power to create reality and to control people's minds.

The FCC is proposing to take a final vote on these sweeping and unprecedented changes in less than 2 weeks, I understand, on June 2, yet I understand that there has been only one public official hearing, and that the content of the changes to be voted upon have not been published for the public to review. This simply is not acceptable. The FCC under its own rules is charged with a duty to inform the public, as I understand it. The proposed changes should be published in their entirety for public dissemination, and the media

May 20, 2003 Page 3 FCC

should be required to conduct a massive campaign to inform the public. Time should be allowed for public review and for vigorous public debate of these critical issues, which will deeply impact our future as a democracy. Many public hearings should be held in diverse geographical areas to both inform the public and use the vast public experience as a resource in making these determinations. I believe that it would be reasonable to allow a one-year period for this process, once it begins.

I believe that this attempt to rush through this fundamental alteration in our democracy without proper information being provided to the public, and without time being allowed for public debate, and without provision for public input is to be deplored. It is wrong.

May 20, 2003 page 4 FCC

Please postpone this vote on the FCC rule changes scheduled for June 2, 2003 to allow for greater time to inform the public and to gather public input.

I believe these changes would be antithetical to the public interest. I personally have chosen not to expose myself to the media under control of the corporate interests because I feel that it amounts to brainwashing and does not even pretend any longer to present diverse viewpoints. Where can I go to hear a debate between my candidate, who was Ralph Nader, and the opposing presidential candidates? Where can I turn for the words of such insidious social commentators as Noam Chomsky and Arundhati Rai and Malcolm X? I must turn to public radio - not PBS which is also diluting content now - but KPFK 90.7 FM in L.A., because the commercial media is on the whole already useless as

May 20, 2003 page 5 FCC

a source of trustworthy information, diverse viewpoints, and thought - full exploration of public issues.

Therefore, I urge you to vote "no" on any changes to the FCC rules, and rather to consider how the media, which is already very reflective in maintaining the public interest that you all are charged to uphold, can be made more diverse, competitive, and non-commercial, and fulfill its proper role in a democratic society.

Democracy,
NANCY CAMARCO

Nancy Camarco #104
9939 Sepulveda Blvd
Marina Hills, CA 91345

Victor F. Garcia
26928 Pleasant St.
Hemet, CA 92544



May 22, 2003

Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

Confirmed
JUN 03 2003
Distribution Center

RE: Media Ownership Regulations

Mr. Copps:

This is to register my opposition to the proposed action of modifying the above-mentioned regulations.

You and your colleagues are entrusted with a public entity, a public trust that is being brazenly and blatantly disregarded. The public trust is being disregarded so that rich and powerful media conglomerates may amass more power and profit. The media markets that these few media conglomerates will monopolize will have one voice, their voice.

There will be numerous TV channels, several radio stations and newspapers in each media market all towing the same line and hawking the same message.

The sad thing is that the very principles of democracy are being dismantled. The effect of shutting out diverse voices and debate on important issues stifles the very foundations upon which this country was founded on.

Do the right thing, place the american public above power and profit.

Sincerely,


Victor F. Garcia

Victor F. Garcia
26928 Pleasant St.
Hemet, CA 92544



May 22, 2003

Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

Confirmed
JUN 03 2003
Distribution Center

RE: Media Ownership Regulations

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Victor F. Garcia".

Victor F. Garcia

Victor F. Garcia
26928 Pleasant St.
Hemet, CA 92544



May 22, 2003

Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

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JUN 03 2003

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Victor F. Garcia
26928 Pleasant St
Hemet, CA 92544



May 22, 2003

Jonathan S. Adelstein
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

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Sincerely,

Victor F. Garcia

Robin Boynton
203 South Birch
Urbana, IL 61801

May 17 2003

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY 27 2003

Confirmed
FCC - MAILROOM

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
445 12th Street SW
Washington, 20554

Re: Make Your Voice Heard on Media Diversity Before It's Too Late!

Commissioner Abernathy:

I am writing to remind the members of the Federal Communications Commission that you are responsible for ensuring that the media "serve the public interest." I am concerned that if the FCC continues to relax regulations on media ownership, the victor will be big business--and the casualties will be the people of the U.S.

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The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

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Sincerely,



Robin Kearton Boynton

Commissioner Michael Copps
445 12th Street SW
Washington, 20554

Confirmation
JUN 08 2003
Distribution Center

Robin Boynton
203 South Birch
Urbana, IL 61801

May 17, 2003



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robin Kearton Boynton".

Robin Kearton Boynton

To: The Honorable Michael J. Copps
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

From: James H. Munsey
22408 Price Grubbs Rd.
Robertsdale, AL 36567

Confirmed
JUN 03 2003
Distribution Center



Dear Mr. Copps:

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues.

Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Munsey".

James H. Munsey

16 May, 2003

The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed
JUN 03 2003
Distribution Center

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
MAY 27 2003
FCC - MAILROOM

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I have recently heard that your commission has requested comment from the public regarding the relaxation of rules governing broadcast ownership. I urge you not to relax these rules.

America has been and is a great nation because her people have the right to freedoms granted by the blood of many thousands of patriots who have selflessly given their all for their fellow citizens. Their sacrifice has given us the freedom of speech. I fear that a relaxation of these rules will pave the way for media conglomerates to gain a stranglehold on the radio and television stations across America. It will allow a chosen few to control what Americans are permitted to hear and say. The track record of many of the corporations petitioning for this change is to suppress opposing viewpoints. Our freedom of speech will be limited to only what they wish to have Americans hear. This hands control of the American people over to the few and would violate all that our forefather stood for. It would destroy the principles of freedom that make America great.

Please, do not hand our lives over to those who would use this new found power to make us into something that we can not tolerate.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey J. Hansen
Stockton, CA 95207-7869

Robin Boynton
203 South Birch
Urbana, IL 61801

May 17, 2003

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center



Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
445 12th Street SW
Washington, 20554

Re: Make Your Voice Heard on Media Diversity Before It's Too Late!

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I am writing to remind the members of the Federal Communications Commission that you are responsible for ensuring that the media "serve the public interest." I am concerned that if the FCC continues to relax regulations on media ownership, the victor will be big business--and the casualties will be the people of the U.S.

The free flow of information, the benefits of local competition and the power of a diverse marketplace will virtually disappear.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

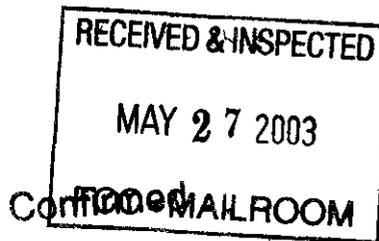
Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review the remaining regulations. These regulations must be kept in place, and strengthened, not weakened. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Robin Kearton Boynton

To: The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

From: James H. Munsey
22408 Price Grubbs Rd.
Robertsdale, AL 36567



JUN 03 2003

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

Distribution Center

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues.

Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Munsey".

James H. Munsey