

Sinclair Broadcasting plans to show an anti-Kerry documentary in the coming weeks. This seems to be a clear case of a media giant engaging in flagrant electioneering, and not in the public interest at all. They, for instance do not have plans to provide balanced coverage in the form of a pro-Kerry or anti-Bush program. This threat is all the more grave due to the vast consolidation that has been allowed to happen in the media. Sinclair is so big that their choice of what to air, without regard to balance or the public interest, can have a large impact on the upcoming election. An impact they do not deserve if they are not ready to represent their FCC-given mandate to serve the interests of the public in providing a full spectrum of information and opinion to the voting public.

I would rather see representatives from my own community controlling and deciding the media that I am exposed to, rather than a media conglomerate that may, as in the case here, be trying to use their power to influence national politics directly. This is unfair and should be stopped.

Sinclair's actions are a clear example of the tragedy that is modern media consolidation. Let us try to remember the ideals of the early days of radio and the internet, when a new medium was seen as a powerful democratizing force which could be owned and operated by many to serve many. What we have now are a few holders controlling what the many citizens are allowed to see and process -- this is most especially dangerous when what they are deciding are the terms of debate over our next president. Don't let them tell us what to think; open the media back to the people!

Thank you,
Andy Graydon