

I am a life-long broadcaster... from local stations to NBC News, Westinghouse, RKO, United Press International Radio Network, and the Voice of America.

I and started as musical talent on the early "Kiddy Talent Shows" on a number of local radio stations in the late 1940's...moving on to attain a Bachelors Degree in Broadcasting, Radio and TV production, and Journalism, with a second study in Sociology of Mass Communications. I worked my way through college at several local radio stations.

Later, I designed, built (as a broadcast engineer), managed and broadcast America's first space missions to the world from radio station KMSC (local) adjacent to the NASA Johnson Space Center. There I developed a team of you reporters who have now gone on to become notable broadcasters and journalists in their own right. NOT possible without that local radio experience.

Later, with sponsorship by the Wall Street Journal, first at the LOCAL level, I pioneered what is now today's television format for reporting the nation's business, stock market and economic news....steps I first took at the local station level.

I moved from there to New York City to perform that financial reporting function on TV. I also reported world, national and scientific news, including space news developments and mission for RKO General, Westinghouse Broadcasting, and NBC Radio Network News where I was a news anchor, and specialist reporter.

Now I consultant and advise business, governmental and industry leaders on how to best get their message heard and understood by working effectively with the News Media.

So you see.....NONE of this would have been possible for me, without the learning and progressive steps that began and continue through local broadcast stations.

The FCC knows what locally programming is and should protect it....as a majority proportion of the daily broadcast material from a "local station," while allowing a reasonable amount of network or syndicated source material, not to exceed 49%

"Local programming" should be locally conceived, developed, produced and distributed by the LOCAL station that has a vested interest that is held accountable by it's Local audiences, sponsors and community standards.

FCC Sections 4 and 5 of station applications for decades REQUIRED, participation in the local community....as the FCC's own mandate to regulated the airwaves "in the public interest, convenience and necessity...and especially at the LOCAL leve.

That is NOT possibed under the growing and proposed consolidation and centralization of radio broadcasts to the exclusion of local operations and programming designed for the local community.

This practice, while cutting costs for the broadcasters....is every bit deceptive, it is economically damaging to talented DJ's and should be as illegal as the long-banned "sporting events recreations" that were discarded

after the abuses of the late, great Gordon McClendam and other broadcast pioneers in the 1950's and 60's.

That's not allowed anymore...nor should be "Voice-tracking."

We are grateful that the FCC is not immediately bowing to the burgeoning pressure of monopolistic-minded Broadcast Corporations.

Please hold paramount your oath to protect the public interest, convenience and necessity

remembering that the "public" IS an individualized local entity, in every state....not a faceless homogenous mass that can be dealt with in a single brush stroke.

One size does NOT fit all.

Thank you,

Jeff Thompson
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