

Fewer choices mean less democracy. Allowing an oligopoly to exist in the media means restriction of free speech and freedom of the press. It is not the FCC's place to facilitate cronyism - quite the opposite. The FCC's job is to protect the American public from exactly what the cable companies are trying to do.

Deregulation has been disastrous for consumers. Service stinks. I hate most cable channels, but I have to buy them if I want to be able to watch the few that I like. That's just plain coercion. My mom's service, in Pennsylvania, is even worse. We've decided to just get the most basic package, just to get better reception, but it is not worth what they charge for what amounts to a

dozen shopping
channels.