

I vehemently am against limiting public interest limits of media ownership. This is a freedom of speech issue. Only five corporate cartels have hegemony over all global media. Alternative "free press" represents less than 1 tenth of 1 percent!

The huge decline in media ownership from family owned independent outlets and ethnic minorities/women media ownership was quite marked as soon as Collin Powells son became Director of the FCC. From that date onward, there has been a concerted campaign to gobble up total control of global media by a few monopolies.

Our American republic is in peril. Democracy is in peril. The future of our nation as a democratic institution is at stake. With the Bill of Rights and Constitution raped by Homeland Security and Patriot Act - a free press, independent, alternative media is even more critical.

Homeland Security and Patriot Act is far more insidious than McCarthy Era "witchhunts" and House on Unamerican Activities. I am in my 50's and remember that era vividly. We live in much more perilous times. At least during the McCarthy Era our media was truly a free press. Today, our news is heavily censored, expunged, suppressed and the true story is ignored. 100% of reporters in Iraq are "imbedded" forced to sign Orwellian "loyalty oaths" promising not to report any negative news about what our government is doing in the Iraq War.

I heavily depend on local public access cable stations, online blogs, websites and online discussion board forums to get uncensored news. If the FCC allows total corporate cartel hegemony to take over all media - we will soon be living in a police state which would make even George Orwell wince.

Mr. Powell and the FCC's deliberate effort to weaken and remove media ownership limits in 2003, resulted in several million Americans protesting. Congress and the Supreme Courts ruled to abolish Mr. Powells and the FCC's reprehensible, egregiously corrupt attempts to abolish media regulatory process.

Now the FCC and Mr. Powell are up to the same nefarious hijinks to squelch free speech, alternative media and independent family ownership of media outlets. The same rules are being reconsidered. How many times must we re-invent the wheel?

I am a 14th generation American - and a true patriotic "Yankee Doodle Dandy" - my ancestors landed at Chesapeake Bay in Maryland in 1740, fought in Revolutionary War. However, it greatly pains me to admit I am considering immigration to Canada/Ireland if things keep going in the same direction with FCC caving in to corporate-mafia hegemony with huge conglomerates having a strangle hold on media.

The FCC should be supporting the public's interest not fat-cat big business. Stop further concentration of media ownership in the hands of an oligarchy of media barons - corporate cartel - corporate robber barons.

A vote against media consolidation is a vote for a free press, democracy and self-autonomy for average citizens.

Please respond in writing your stance on this critical issue. I need to make a decision whether or not to immigrate to Canada or Ireland.

Sincerely,                      cmwhalen2001@yahoo.com

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