

Dear FCC,

Media Consolidation is killing our most popular forms of expression and entertainment--all for the sake of corporate greed and monopolization. If it continues we will all be paying usage fees for our standard tv broadcasts, movie rentals, phones, cel phones, and see increased fees at movie theaters and when buying movies at retail stores. When will it end?

Please know that these are my own feelings. I include the comments provided on this form because I believe in what they say and stand for. As a taxpayer, parent, and hard working citizen, as well as a professional in the television production industry, I am sickened by the merging of companies under larger and monopolized corporate umbrellas. I see these corporations bending the rules by making under the table deals and scooping up tv stations and newspapers with duopoly arrangements and then firing of so many seasoned and qualified workers. My big fear is more biased journalism and also small businesses being 'elbowed out' of internet traffic because larger corporations will pay more for increased exposure.

Please put a stop to this!

John Brune
Fort Wayne, IN

I am writing to express my strong disapproval of any relaxation or elimination of the public interest limits on media ownership. Localism and diversity are the cornerstones of a democratic media system, and we cannot afford to compromise them in any way.

Limits on media consolidation have been a bulwark against the concentration of economic power in the marketplace of ideas -- a critical part of balancing the public service mission of the media with their private profit motive. Our democracy requires the free flow of information from a broad range of diverse voices.

Any public policy seeking to protect diversity in the media must recognize the simple fact that ownership matters. Media consolidation has already led to declines in local and minority ownership as well as the homogenization of content in radio and television. Permitting cross-ownership of newspapers and broadcast stations, or allowing further concentration in local television markets, will only worsen the problems we already have.

When the FCC attempted to weaken and remove media ownership limits in 2003, millions of

Americans rose up in protest. Congress and the courts ultimately intervened to turn back that misguided regulatory process.

Now that these same rules are being reconsidered, the FCC should stand firm with the public against further concentration of media ownership in the hands of the few. A vote against media consolidation is a vote for democracy.