

I am writing to support increasing rather than decreasing local media ownership and to additionally oppose allowing further media consolidation within markets (newspaper+television in the same market, etc). I oppose relaxation or elimination of the public interest limits on media ownership because I think it hurts localism -- or at least I have seen that happen as more and more coverage of local issues disappears from broadcast media and newspapers alike.

I am frankly offended by the entire term "ownership" when applied to any broadcast medium since I hold strongly that the medium itself -- the broadcast spectrum and public airwaves -- are public in their nature and that at the very most they can be leased out to media companies. But those leases have to come with a view of public service as a significant part of the bargain. Our claim to a democratic system of government is baseless with out a free flow of information from a broad range of diverse voices, and a high level of media consolidation is anathema to the establishment of such a broad spectrum of available means of public expression.

I thought that the issues raised by 06-121 were already addressed and dismissed back in 2003. I hope that the FCC will stand firm against further concentration of media ownership.