

I am writing to express my outrage that the FCC has failed in efforts to foster more minority perspectives in mainstream media. The Don Imus controversy shows how badly we need more diverse, independent and local media owners. But the FCC's policies are promoting exactly the opposite outcome.

A recent report by the media reform organization Free Press found that that while minorities make up 33 percent of the U.S. population, only 3.26 percent of all broadcast TV stations are owned by minorities. The report also finds that the percentage of minority-owned stations has dropped since 1998.

Diversity is the cornerstone of a democratic media system; we cannot afford to lose it in any way. It would be unconscionable for the FCC to let large media owners buy up more local media outlets before redressing the agency's failure to foster minority voices in the media.

The FCC should not allow relaxation or elimination of the limits on media ownership without first hearing out widespread public concern about the problems of minority representation and lack of minority broadcast station owners. Allowing further concentration of local media markets, will only worsen the problems we already have.

Our democracy requires the free flow of local information from diverse voices. The FCC should stand firm with the public against further concentration of media ownership in the hands of the few.

We have had an "opportunity" to have more discussions and air our grievances, which is a good thing.

The public outcry over this incident caused the sponsors to pull ads, thus the dropping of Imus' show.

The public does not want to suppress free speech, but airing hateful derogatory comments such as those with no reaction from the network to tell Imus to stop this type of "shock jock" for ratings is disgusting. No laws were broken, I do not want laws, but I thought we now had the "delay" button. I find it very interesting and speaks volumes that this was allowed to air, given the nature of the comments.

Who would want the host of a program to say such things and apparently not see "the problem" which would arise. More conservative stations have had even worse statements like the disgusting "if you'd abort all black babies, crime would go down.

Free speech being "tested" these days.

Perhaps the public at large will stop "consuming garbage" and an end of all the hate filled and outright nasty divisive remarks will go the way of the dinosaur.

We need more diversity and choices on the air to find suitable programming and the public is weary

of the shows of rudeness with arguments and talking over the guests to drown out an undesirable "message", thus manipulating what is aired.

I cannot stand Rush Limbaugh, Ann Coulter, Bill O'Reilly, Sean Hannity and the like.

We have a fairly obvious backlash to what is termed "liberal media" and a seeming attempt to squash any dissent. It has gone too far.

It turned out as it should have happened many times before, with others and perhaps Imus is the fall guy in the beginning of the end of garbage on the public airwaves, and pushing the limits of decency.

I don't enjoy objectifying of women, degradation of minorities and acting like a bunch of hateful morons on the air, but I can turn it off and HOPEFULLY find something else more to my liking. This was over the top and I don't understand why it took so long for public outcry over similar remarks.