

## The American Dream LIVES ON THE NET-NEUTRAL WEB

As an American in his 40's, I remember when the introduction of the IBM personal computer in the early 80's and the I Mac, as well as the early days of cable television. I also remember when Al Gore spoke of the up-coming internet revolution and like most Americans didn't quite know what he was talking about at the time.

Then there was AOL and dial-up service and who would have thought that a start-up internet company would go on to buy Time/Warner and then find it's core service become relatively obsolete in such a short period of time.

In my view, Net-Neutrality allows for American Creativity and ingenuity to play out on a level playing field. It provides small entrepreneurs the opportunity to go directly to a world-wide audience and live or die based on the strength of ideas and service.

I can understand why large traditional corporations like phone and cable outlets find this unsettling and are attempting to control the pipelines of access. Both from a financial and Competitive Risk prospective, they would like to gain no matter what future companies develop in this new communications medium and control access.

However, if we look at the creative environment currently offered by Cable television as an example; we must conclude that control by a few players has led to a stifling of creativity in this medium. Most cable outlets, in my opinion, offer a small number of variations on a few ideas. The result, in my opinion, for the most part is BORING TV! Consider this the next time you find yourself flicking the remote control.

As I recall, this was not the promise held out when a monthly fee 500 cable channel universe was initially presented to us to choose over free television.

With Net Neutrality, the FCC has the ability to protect this new medium from the same fate and continue to allow small players access to this game based on their creativity and resourcefulness with relatively little financial obstacles. This fosters the very ideals that is envisioned when one speaks of the American Dream.

In a way, the end of Net-Neutrality can be seen as a TAX by phone and cable companies that discriminates against fledgling start-ups.

Consider that a great website that cannot be accessed quickly is likely to find itself, like a seed without proper water, lacking the necessary nurturing to allow it to grow into a giant Redwood.

In the last 10 years, we have seen extraordinary jumps in productivity and new wealth creation in this internet medium. Companies like Google, Ebay, MySpace and Utube are just a few examples. The system that includes NET-Neutrality Works! Who knows what the next ten years will bring us.... Let's not mess it up, by relinquishing control that should reside with the FCC to private cable and phone companies.

Protect access to the American Dream for tomorrow's small entrepreneurs. I urge the FCC to protect Net-Neutrality.

Thank you for your time and consideration.