

Essential To Our Way Of Life

Net Neutrality is essential.

Everywhere I look, my life would be drastically changed if the Internet were no longer free and open.

As a voter, my ability to access information from various websites in order to make an decision or cast a vote would be severely hampered. The only information I could easily receive would be that which is "approved" by various telecoms and large corporations. This country would go right back to the days where only those with the money to pay them would be able to make their opinions known. A free and open Internet would exclude the free exchange of ideas, and the ability for most people to communicate about them. This would lead to millions of people no longer having a collective voice. Our country would be run by the rich.

As a writer, I depend on the Internet for research. Without a free and open Internet, I would be denied the tools I need to do my job. This is true with many people (artists, entrepreneurs, musicians)who also rely on the Internet for income, thereby impoverishing a good number.

Many use the Internet to access information about music, books, and movies. Without a free and open Internet, it is plausible that any number of careers would be ruined. If the people can no longer use the Internet with ease, its importance in everyday life would be diminished and a large number of consultants, repairpersons, and companies would be effectively put out of business. Many small businesses would no longer exist.

As a citizen, I implore you to protect the Internet. Our United States Constitution is full of safeguards and protections of free speech and commerce. By not protecting Net Neutrality, we are gutting the Bill of Rights and endangering our way of life. Our country has long protested communism and dictatorships, and State-run media. This country, my country, should not become a country that only acts on Corporate interests, denying the people access to information they need.