

Allowing network carriers to classify the fate of network traffic has already proven to be a failure in safeguarding the right of free speech and content on the medium of the internet. Comcast has already shown that it is willing to split the internet up into "tiers" of service that have nothing to do with the strict bandwidth bought by consumers.

If the FCC does not regulate these carriers, then the carriers will lean towards the interests of media giants, ignoring their subscribers in the process. Comcast has already shown their deceit and has acted in bad faith to block services which they view as bad for their business interests, despite the fact that they are in fact blocking a vehicle for data which is wholly legitimate. Allowing them to curtail bittorrent or any other protocol's carriage on the net is like making printing presses unlawful because they may be used to print hate speech or child pornography. Yes -- some protocols are used for unlawful means, but bittorrent is not the only protocol used in this fashion. There is copyrighted content shared via standard HTTP -- yet we would never allow carriers to limit access to the web based on the fact that some of it contains illegal content.

In the end, the fact remains that Comcast has proven themselves willing to segregate content on the internet based on a biased, unregulated corporate desire which benefits only Comcast at the material expense and harm of the consumers. Letting the market self-regulate has already failed. It is time to set standards and limits on free carriage of data -- when consumers purchase an internet connection or a phone connection they should not be restricted in who they contact, how they communicate, or what they communicate. If there is a problem with illegal content then it is a task for law enforcement -- not Comcast nor any other common carrier -- to decide and deal with.