

I rely on the Internet as a public platform for free speech, equal opportunity, economic growth and innovation. Without vital Net Neutrality protections, companies like Verizon and Comcast, which have a commercial incentive to limit the free-flowing Web, can decide whether I will have a voice online. These companies should not have the power to determine my fate on the Internet. So that's what they want me to say, so I will go ahead and say it and now I'm going to say what I mean.

As a country we react with outrage when a country like Saudi Arabia moves to ban Blackberry's because they are a security risk. Blackberry's have an encryption standard on all their communication that in theory could prevent a government that didn't have friendly relations with RIM from monitoring communications. RIM stands for Research In Motion and they were not reached for comment as it would have been irrelevant. My point is that in our outrage we decry that these other people would create such inequality in their society. They do it in the name of their God just the same way we do. Only our God is Not called Al-ah. Our god is called \$, \$\$\$\$. Rather than Ohm or Amen our god makes the sound Cha-Ching.

Our society is rife with examples of the God Money creating inequality. Some of them are the dreary reminder of slavery's past. When you look at labor or criminal statistic and compare them with relative poverty rates there are correlations there. But I don't even need to race card so let's forget I said that. Instead, let's just look at being rich vs. being poor. I know, life's not fair, if it were we would live in a utopian communist society where the sports would all be cooperative and boring. That's just unrealistic. So fine, we live in an unfair and unjust world, I can live with that. I can live with that because there is a place called the Internet. It's a system of wires made of glass and copper, computers made of plastic and silicone, and people made of flesh and blood and dreams. This system allows the people to communicate with each other in ways that even a decade ago we could hardly imagine. When I was a kid the idea of a VideoPhone was only slightly le!

ss exotic than the idea of warping like in Star Trek. A short Twenty years later and video phones are nearly as common as Televisions all because of the internet. An internet that up till now has only grown more and more available as it's gotten faster and easier to use.

In step Google and Verizon. Having read their Statement I can tell you it is a shocking assault on the freedom I so value in the internet. In a nut shell they are saying that the current level of access is enough. That as the internet gets faster and faster, and with fewer and fewer wires attached, unless you are able to exploit the great God Money you will be left out. Let's be honest the fewer and fewer wires is a key part of this. Right now there is a wire that comes out of the wall and connects to a modem and through a router I transmit a wireless signal. Will it really be all that long until that wire becomes as irrelevant as the one that used to connect directly to my laptop?

How, when in my pocket I have a device that is at the same time a phone and an internet access portal, can the internet possibly not be a form of telecommunication? Lets look at that word shall we?

Tele from the Greek meaning Far Off combined with communication. Below is the third entry, and while the first entry includes the word transmit, the third is the one that really gets it.

3 a : a process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, signs, or behavior <the function of pheromones in insect communication>; also : exchange of information.

Information being exchanged? Isn't the internet the information superhighway? Common symbols, signs, or behavior? I'm typing letters on a keyboard and we make up new behaviors to transmit over the internet daily. Clearly we live in a delusional society, but is it so delusional that we are going to pretend that the internet is not a system of Telecommunication? To do so robs to word of its meaning. It robs us all of the number 1 best thing about this century, a free open Neutral Net.

Please FCC, Please Obama administration, step up. Stand with the people on this one and govern. Please Protect Net Neutrality.

The FCC can't cut private deals that would hand control over the Internet to a few massive phone and cable companies. Any compromise that allows Internet providers to build toll lanes online is not real Net Neutrality.

The agency must stand with the public and protect consumer access to the most important communications medium of our time. The FCC must regain its resolve to protect Net Neutrality on wired and wireless networks. Please reclassify broadband as a "telecommunications service" and keep the Internet open and free of corporate gatekeepers.