

Please consider the impact the disastrous AT&T T Mobil merger would have on low-income rural communities and households and it will dis-proportionately affect people of color in pushing the National Broadband Plan and Connect America Fund. This merger will reduce competition and consumer choice, stunt innovation and kill jobs while concentrating more power in the hands of a few big corporations wanting to do away with Network Neutrality rules of nondiscrimination that guarantee an open internet for all Americans. Without the effective right to communicate with one's fellow human all other rights disappear. In opposing internet neutrality in return for corporate telecom money, the NAACP and other so-called civil rights groups have committed an unforgivable theft of the public's trust. Why has the NAACP sold us out to AT&T the telecom giant has to answer that question become a corporate sponsor of the group.

The battle for democracy in the 21st century is increasingly being waged on the internet to such a degree that a movement for people power in the United States seems inconceivable without free and unfettered access to the internet. Yet established civil rights organizations, whose relevance has long been under question, have sold out the people's internet rights in a bargain with telecommunications corporations.

AT&T promises to deploy mobile broadband to rural and remote areas unserved currently (which may also lose postal offices with some Republicans in Congress wanting to privatize the U.S. Postal Service a terrible idea) but worry adoption of mobile broadband would decline as it becomes more expensive and harder to access for people of color and minorities in general who are unable or unwilling to pay more for inferior and overpriced services.