

Where's the Competition?

If we had actual competition for mobile phone services in America, AT&T's latest arbitrary excuse for you to pay more for less would never fly. You'd simply take your business elsewhere.

But we don't have any competition. We have a market dominated by AT&T and its [partner in crime](#) Verizon, which force consumers into ridiculous service plans that will now make you pay for the same data twice.

Indeed, Verizon just [dispensed with the niceties](#) and is simply making all new and upgrading users sign up for its own pricey "family share" plans. And it's only going to get worse, unless policymakers in Washington recognize these companies are ripping off Americans without restraint.

Think there oughta be a law against these kinds of shenanigans? Well, we do have decades of communications case law, statutes and regulations that have prevented this kind of anti-consumer behavior on traditional phone networks. That's why the old Ma Bell

couldn't push their voicemail service by preventing customers from using answering machines.