

Today's FCC has consistently failed to protect the public interest whether it was through its weakly worded 2010 Net Neutrality order, its rubber stamping the disastrous Comcast NBCU merger and completely eliminating the Fairness Doctrine - media policy that protected competition for decades in the 20th century. The Fairness Doctrine despite what conservative talk radio hosts like Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck say were not censorship rules they were diversity rules requiring equal air time on the airwaves for differing viewpoints. In a way it certainly would be game over for Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck as they would not be allowed to dominate TV and/or radio 24/7. Instead we would have center left and center right voices prominently featured not the far right reactionary voices of Glenn Beck, Rush Limbaugh, Bill O' Reilly, Sean Hannity etc. All constitutionally designated rights have their limits. While the First Amendment guarantees free speech and the right of a free press to speak freely or publish information without government retaliation no one is guaranteed the right to have a TV or radio show and say whatever they want on air. Also responsibilities are important just like you can't yell fire in a movie theater as it could cause a panic the rights of individuals to own a gun under the 2nd Amendment are trumped by the rights of others to not be shot at. We have both noncommercial and commercial media outlets.