

It is the right of every person that net neutrality stay  
—Brett Henggelerbrettheng, Overland Park, KS

Cable companies should not get to pick and choose what websites they want to give the best connection to. This gives them way too much power and the ability to hide away their adversaries  
—Laura Davis, oxnard, CA

To make the internet more available to the public is very important to me. I have lived in many places and have family and friends in many more places. The things that we all complain about are the bills, the increase of the bills and the seemingly one-sided service. I used to live in an area that was seemingly controlled by Time Warner Cable. This company would increase its rates without notice to the customers. If a customer did want to use their own equipment the company would be reluctant to provide support. The one thing that made me displeased with Time Warner was the fact that it seemed to not allow other companies like them into the area. I no longer live in that area now, but things don't change much.  
—Mary Roland, Elbert, WV

Keep Net Neutrality or human progress will be set back another hundred years!  
—Andrew Martin, Nashville, TN

Then end of the of a internet will bring an end to free speech  
—Christopher Edmunds, Naugatuck, CT

Net neutrality must be protected. The ability for small sites to afford fairly priced bandwidth to host text, audio, image and video media helps create jobs for content creators and advertisers. Allowing cable companies to impose pay to play prices on net speeds will neuter small net businesses and kill jobs. Don't let this happen.  
—Graig Graziosi, Boardman, OH

Net Neutrality is important because the internet is the exchange of information, and slowing down any part of that information is one more hurdle to human progress.  
—Sarah Langer, Tacoma, WA

As we are now in the Internet age, Net Neutrality is the main, if not only, way to protect the citizenry of the USA from having all of our communication / information / entertainment subject to the extortion of a corporate plutocracy--the very thing anti-trust legislation, and common carrier laws were designed to protect. Please do not sell us out.  
—Christopher Scollard, Austin, TX

"This is how the Roman Republic destroyed itself. The rich polluted the system with corruption so that it favored them at the expense of everyone else. The commoners endured generations of corruption until a revolutionary with a reformist agenda stood up against the existing power structure and the people willingly embraced his dictatorship." "Net Neutrality is one of those issues where the will of the people is so blatantly and fundamentally obvious, that failure on behalf of Congress to protect it would be, in my opinion, a valid reason not to pay taxes." "Net neutrality's demise would change the internet from a capitalist system into a totalitarian one. Larger websites could bribe the cable companies into denying new competing websites usable speeds while ensuring that their own websites will be much faster, making websites like Amazon impossible to compete with, as new competing websites would not be able to pay the cable companies as much money as Amazon could."  
—Em Rogers, huntsville, AL

Internet Service Providers are supposed to provide the means to connect subscribers (customers) to content providers (websites, Netflix, etc). Allowing ISPs to charge more for certain content is akin to allowing a State DOT to charge commuters more in tolls because they are going to a particular exit. And their professed need to introduce monthly data caps underscores their executives lack of understanding in the technology they deliver or are purposefully attempting to nickel and dime people more for the same use. Why is there a hard cap per month if ISPs complain about high utilization during peak times? Why would downloading 40 GBs worth of data off peak-times be worse than 20 GBs during prime usage? Again to use a highway analogy, that's like stating that drivers only get to drive 100 miles per month before overages kick in because of rush hour gridlock. If I drive 120 miles during the night, I'll get hit with overages and that still won't do anything about the rush hour gridlock.

—Jordan Larso, Waukesha, WI

As a future educator, net neutrality is extremely valuable to me. The internet is being used increasingly for educational use. If schools need to pay to have better access to certain websites, that will only increase tax dollars. Private companies are not the only ones using the internet. If net neutrality is struck down, this will cost everyone. Small businesses will struggle to get off the ground and the economy will slow down again. I'm not an idiot. I know people are spending a ton of money to lobby net neutrality out of existence. But it's not worth the economy being held hostage by a small number of ISP's. Stringing down net neutrality will help no one in the long run, not even the companies that advocate for it's demise. Please uphold net neutrality. Our future investors depend on it.

—Robert Lozank, San Antonio, TX

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Net Neutrality ensures I.S.P.'s are regulated to playing fair and ethically with a utility that is essential in today's day to day tasks undertaken by the public. As days pass by we see more and more companies, schools and Government services requiring their customers/applicants to apply or otherwise utilize their services on the internet. We live in a world were data can be sent in the blink of an eye and it falls to you to ensure that that all citizens(not just the wealthy) are given that capability. The decision to regulate the speed of data is a decision to hold back our nations citizens, to prove we are not all created equal and not given the same opportunities when we need to use what until now has been an unbiased utility.

—Steven, Freehold, NJ

In every single way that I can comprehend, not having net neutrality is tantamount to legalizing extortion, but only for certain groups. The large telecom and cable companies are hiding behind the lines that have been laid under titles II and IV and therefore are holding the benefits of that status above and beyond what any provider trying to break into the business but not wanting to compete on all levels, with federal support. They then use this advantageous line in order to conduct the business that falls both under and outside of these rules and restrictions. This essentially grants them all of the rights and benefits that pertain to such a business whether they are using the hardware for the originally intended and covered usage or something that falls outside such use. In essence, this stifles competition as any company who wishes to compete must not only provide internet services, but phone service as well, in order to have line access which can keep them competitive. In regards to net neutrality, this stifling of competition allows companies to promote and in essence choose companies they like our support to be the automatic winners in their area, which stifles competition in other fields. Or forces companies to pay for premium bandwidth, which raises the bar of entry and kills innovation from those who have great ideas but can't afford to pay high dollar amounts to break in. Additionally, lacking net neutrality has allowed things to begin which resemble nothing more than a protection racketeering operation, in that the companies with the lines are essentially demanding payment, or else bad things will happen and your business will be hurt. The fact that direct customers have already paid, for example, Netflix to provide content, AND Verizon to deliver it, literally already covers both the product and the method of receiving it. If someone receiving a package from Ups paid for shipping on it, and then when the sender went to drop it off, UPS charged them separately for the same things that had already been paid, it would be grounds for a lawsuit. Yet somehow we are supposed to accept that the same thing is completely different because there's an added "but on a computer". Which, if I remember correctly, is something the Supreme Court took a unanimous stance against just recently.

—Matt McVay, Fenton, MI

If the internet is not neutral, then essentially, the amount and type of information that a customer can get depends on either how much money they have, or the whims of a company who decides which sites are most important to them and their profits. Keeping the internet neutral is the only fair way to do things.

—Chontelle Waters, Austin, TX

If it is not obvious at this point, in the long procession of history in which corporations and people have come up against each other, why a unilaterally beneficial move to corporations is not in the best interest of those who will not be profiting from it, then there is willful ignorance at play. The people are never corrupted, but wicked forces can convince the people that what is contrary to their interests is good for them. If the corporate entities of the communications industry succeed in tricking another regulatory agency that there is a silver lining in their deep pockets for the people, there is no hope for the legend of the honest government man.

—Fernando Varela, Glendale, NY

Net Neutrality is important to anyone who doesn't already have billions of dollars. Students need access to resources that should have the same speed as everything else, and there's no need to give company's that are wealthy MORE chances to get even richer when it comes from exploiting the public. Lobbying with lies and false information should never be more important than NOT taking advantage of taxpayers and other members of the public.

—Jenna Hampton, Searcy, AR

Net neutrality is important to me because I do not want all the most well off companies able to pay for fast lane networking while smaller sites and businesses, or many even people, get throttled. I do not want the internet to be crippled.

—Christopher Adam Lowery, Bells, TN

Net Neutrality protects the freedom of speech of citizens, as opposed to repressing it for some corporations bottom line.

—Skyelar Fratus, Crestline, CA

Net Neutrality is important to me because it is a fail-safe to ensure that service providers cannot cherry-pick service based on their whims. Net Neutrality is important to me because it keeps everyone on an even footing, with the same tools available to everyone on which they can capitalize. It makes sure that EFFORT is compensated proportionately, rather than the acquisition and possession of WEALTH being rewarded. Net Neutrality is important to me because the Internet is a glorious thing. It is one of the greatest achievements of humankind; the most powerful tool with which to connect cultures, share ideas, propagate innovation, and cultivate creativity. While it retains its cons, its benefits outweigh them to such an overwhelming degree that the cons seem petty by comparison. Keeping the net neutral is the preservation of justice.

—Stephen Campbell, Cedarburg, WI

I recently received a unexplained \$90 charge on my comcast bill, when I asked why, they couldn't explain, when I asked for a manager, I was told they were out, when I explained I won't pay for nothing, they shut me off in the middle of my billing cycle, when I went to change my service I learned it learned it's not cost effective for other companies serve our poor distant rural community, of millionaires five minutes north of Seattle. I'm afraid we might be giving these companies a little to much control and I felt I should share my concerns before it is to late. Please don't sell our future for so little, what ever their paying I'll double it!

—Chris Emery, Lake forest park, WA

Net Neutrality keeps anti-competetive cable corporations like Verizon and AT&T in check; without it, its a slippery slope to a huge range of underhanded business policies. Upholding net neutrality protects consumers from practices that benefit only the corporation, with no value being passed on to the customer.

—Jess Caskinette, oswego, NY

The government should have nothing to do with the WORLD WIDE INTERNET

—Deborah Tobin, Leander, TX

Do not allow a small minority fundamentally change the way we use the internet. Protect it as you would any other public utility. Defend Net Neutrality

—Macaulay Ivory, Everett, WA

It's important because the internet provides a universal forum the likes of which mankind has never previously achieved, and may never achieve again if it's allowed to be shackled to economic influence and profit margins.

—Christopher Tokaz, Kerrville, TX

It's ridiculous. Here are people that are making record profits and are still trying to find ways to taking any last dollar they can get from the working class. We already pay them for Internet access and now we have to shell out for faster load times? It's a disgrace. Instead of trying to use their vast wealth to improve people's lives (like Wi-fi everywhere) these greedy, arrogant jerks want to do away with one of the last remaining freedoms we have. Just look at their arguments. Their logic is so deeply flawed they think you guys, the FCC, are a bunch of idiots. That's how they see their loyal customers. That's how they see the world. They are sociopaths.

—JA Romo, CROWS LANDING, CA

Every person and business should be allowed the same access (and speed) to the internet. The Internet is no longer a luxury and cannot be treated as such. It has long since become a staple of our society, businesses, and personal use. It would effectively create the opportunity to oppress those that cannot afford higher premiums and negatively affect any small businesses.

—Stephen Barton, Escondido, CA

We all know cable companies don't care what is fair. If Comcast has a new video streaming site why not just slow hulu down killing real free market innovation. Don't bend to the highest bidder listen to the people for once damn it

—Stephanie powell, Anchorage, AK

I think internet should be a public area with limited regulation. Net neutrality being its first step.

—James Weng, lake forest, CA

I will absolutely give up hope in our government if Net Neutrality isn't protected. The vast majority of the average people WANT Net Neutrality. It's only the major cable providers that DON'T want it. Follow the will of the people, or expect no one to ever trust the government again.

—Adam Hemphill, Forgan, OK

Because we don't live in a fascist regime. This is a clear attempt to grab a monopoly of what is now a necessary item and then ridiculously overcharging. Gas companies did/do the same exact things. Whichever way they want to pose it, the basics of violating net neutrality remain the same: destroy a free market and stress out yet another area of life.

—Robert Bryant, Huntington Beach, CA

Don't cave to big corporations throwing money at the only thing left that allows an even playing field for everyone's voices to be heard.

—Keith Moore, killeen, TX

Does anyone even have to explain this? It's common sense that information should be spread as far and wide as possible with equal opportunities for everyone. The very idea of ending net neutrality is a crime against intelligence.

—Pablo Orozco, Bakersfield, CA

The Internet is one of the few things that Big Business hasn't entirely ruined yet, one of the last frontiers of freedom. Keep the Internet free. Don't let the ISPs bully us any more than they already do. Please prevent them from giving preferential treatment and instead give us equal access to any site we want to visit, big or small, independent or commercial. Thank you.

—Wesley Reed, Kennewick, WA

With out Net Neutrality start up companies on the internet will quickly die. The internet is the one place left that allows the underdog small businessman to grow and share the market with established brands. Facebook overcoming Myspace is an easy example of this. The internet needs this kind of protection, and I hope that Net Neutrality will stay in effect.

—John Schauf, Kingwood, TX

I self publish on the Internet and I want people to be able to find my work.

—A Dakota, San Angelo, TX

Just for once, please do something in the interests of the American public and not the billion dollar corporations throwing money at you to look in the other direction while they further strip away our rights and liberties in the name of profit. The internet, in all its glory and ugliness, is the ultimate embodiment of the first amendment. To strike down net neutrality and dispense levels of access to the internet based upon wealth is an egregious blow to the fundamental bedrock of this nation. Please help retain our democracy before we slip inescapably past the point of oligarchy.

—Blair Rowan, Dallas, TX

Net neutrality is not just important to me but to everyone. Each and every person who rights a letter to you is voicing their opinion that if Net Neutrality were lost we would all be in a world of hurt. The fan site dedicated to a particular book or movie franchise? Dead. No one can get it to load because it's speeds are slow. That tech start-up that just what's to get the word out about the next greatest piece of technology? Can't do it. Comcast has completely disabled their site because they can't pay the premiums that other companies can. Yet this new tech could potentially save lives. When it comes down to it, the major cable companies who are rallying against Net Neutrality are doing it solely to line their pockets. They already make millions a day. Why not more? Don't let them do to the internet what has been done in so many other countries.

—Martin Luna II, Amory, MS





Please keep the internet free from any and all types of control foreign and domestic. The future of global and interpersonal communication depends on you defending the internet from an owner.

—John B., Urbana, IL

Net Neutrality is incredibly important to our culture and nation at large. Maintaining free speech, in our modern world, is dependent on Net Neutrality.

—Dylan Whynot, kennesaw, GA

The internet should not be tampered with. It may not be perfect the way it is, but allowing the cable companies to force websites and other online companies to pay for a "fast lane" on the internet is hypocritical and wrong.

—Brandon Brashier, Irving, TX

I don't think cable companies should be allowed to control the internet by deciding which websites get preferential treatment in regard to speed and ease of access. That allows them to exert undue influence over the market.

—Michael Starks, orem, UT

Allowing the throttling of traffic will hurt the ability to spread information.

—Kelvin Yao, Livingston, NJ

I deserve to be able to visit whatever site I wish without my employee (the cable company I pay) telling me which are approved and which aren't.

—Phillip Schlegel, Stillwater, OK

It's merely an extension of the 1st Amendment applied to a newer technology than shouting in the town square. Everyone's message, no matter how moral or bigoted is given the same ability to be seen.

—Richard Deras, Carteret, NJ

We're American we should have the right to site equality. Also this site would have timed out..

—Sky Secrest, Iowa city, IA

The internet was made on the principals of sharing and neutrality. To go against this is to effectively begin the end of freedom from corporations with regards to daily internet usage.

—Brandon, Berea, OH

Net Neutrality is incredibly important to maintaining the inherent fairness of the internet and the free speech of those using it (i.e. practically \*everyone\* nowadays). It is one of the best, if not \*the\* best, sources of information and news that currently exists, the free accessibility of which is important to maintaining an informed and educated populace. In essence, I don't trust the cable companies to properly and fairly handle what is an \*incredibly\* important resource for our country, you shouldn't either, and it's ridiculous that this issue has even been around for so long and hasn't been dealt with already. I suppose that ridiculousness must only be matched by the ridiculous amount of money the cable companies have.

—Samuel Stewart Sher, Sunnyvale, CA

The internet has always been a level playing field for large and small entities alike, and it should remain a neutral territory. Companies and individuals with plenty of money can already buy their way to the forefront of our attention in so many ways; an internet fastlane should not be one of those ways. Otherwise, startups will never even get a fair chance to be viewed and judged on their own merit. Please support our core American values of equal opportunity, free speech, and free markets - by protecting net neutrality.

—Ellen Kowalski, Richmond, VA

Net Neutrality is one of the most important debates in today's society, and it is urgent that it be upheld. As corporations garner more and more special rights, the rights of the people of this country are categorically being infringed upon. Just as the great trust-busters of the twentieth century fought for the rights of private citizens, so, too, must our government fight for us now. Being required to pay for equal access for bandwidth is in direct conflict with the right to free speech in that those with the most money will be the ones whose opinion is loudest. Once the people are forced to pay to be heard on the internet, a dangerous precedent will be set that could see similar measures to curb the voice of the people in other areas. All of these arguments are fairly cerebral, so allow me to voice last the most compelling argument of all: The role of government is to defend the people from exploitation, and our current system seems to have forgotten that fact. Send a message to all public servants by scorning the influence of money and upholding the rights of the people. Preserve Net Neutrality at all costs, or none of us will ever be truly free again.

—Drew, Evansville, IN

The United States lags behind most other developed countries in terms of broadband speeds. The cable companies have too much control and too little accountability. Allowing them to further stifle connection speeds to increase their own profits is detrimental to consumers and businesses in the U.S. While I am a lifelong supporter of laissez-faire economic principles, the present situation is out of hand. It is necessary for Congress and the FCC to impose proper standards for cable companies and other ISPs. Please maintain net neutrality.

—Scott L Walker, Newton, KS

The fair and equal treatment of all traffic going through an internet connection is the backbone of a productive internet that not only gives equal access to information but equal opportunity in new businesses and intellectual properties. The abolition of Net Neutrality and creation of paid priority on traffic stands only to stifle the economic growth of all business outside broadband service providers.

—Dalton Matheson, Cedar Rapids, IA

The end of net neutrality means the beginning of massive corporate centralization of power and even more price gouging. Corporations cannot be allowed to control America any more than they already do. Their pockets are beyond sufficiently lined, and their reach past bloated. The American people don't owe a single pound of flesh more to the avaricious lobbyists in Washington. "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people" -the 10th Amendment

—Judson, Richland, WA

As a parent, my children rely on a number of educational sources online. To have these sources either create fees or outright disappear would be devastating to their intellectual growth. Why does the FCC hate childrens' education?

—Kenneth Blaha, Hudson, NH

The internet is a whole new medium that has great potential in the areas of information, education, the arts, and much more. To allow corporations to impede on our access to websites for their own personal profits is not only immoral and disgusting, but it is also unamerican. It would have high potential for abuse and loophole violation of constitutional rights. There needs to be limits set for these corporations trying to lay their claim on everything and anything and ruining the quality of life for people around the globe for their own selfish interests, or soon they will legally own everything...

—Stacy, Las Vegas, NV

If people can't afford to make their websites fast enough to be useable, then fewer and fewer people will be able to exercise their freedom of speech. Oppressive totalitarian regime, anyone? Other than that, it's just kind of dickish.

—Saber McConnell, Omaha, NE

We have 3 children and are low income, media companies like Comcast and Verizon have already priced us out of a reasonable cable package. We rely upon streaming services like Netflix and Hulu to entertain our family for a reasonable fee, eliminating net neutrality would threaten our ability to afford these services and negatively impact our quality of life.

—Robert Irwin, Grapevine, TX

Is there any reason why we should get rid of Net Neutrality beyond making a lot of stupid rich people even richer? Not to mention there seems to be no way this would do anything but specifically reduce poor people's access to information. Being pretty poor, this is rather important to me. Can there be nothing in this world that does not reward the rich more than the common man? Can nothing the downtrodden have be equal to what the rich easily possess? If knowledge is power, and we are empowered with the rights granted by our constitution, then what does it mean to charge us for that information? It means that the dollar is all, the dollar is rights, the dollar is freedom. And if you build a capitalist nation that creates vast wealth disparity between the common citizen and the higher classes, then punishes us for being on the wrong side of that divide, then what do we have to gain? What worth is there in capitalism if it benefits almost no one? What point is there in this democracy, in this grand experiment, if even it makes the powerful only more so? Tell me! Why should we not revolt? Why shouldn't we adopt communism, if this is what capitalism brings? I'm having a hard time seeing the difference between the two anymore. If our information can be held back, throttled, then how are we different from a nation with a censored web? Freedom delayed is freedom denied. The question isn't if we're on the slippery slope or not. The question is how are we gonna try and stop the slide into restricted police state from some dystopian nightmare. I hope you have a good answer.

—Chase Gray, Ogden, UT

Eliminating Net Neutrality would be like handing large established companies the keys to start blocking all public streets and walkways to smaller start-up businesses and reroute traffic back to the herd. Companies want to destroy the only level playing field small businesses ever had against large corporations. The internet has and always should be a blank canvas from which people can attract customers based on talent and creativity, not just how much land is bought up. More talented websites garner more traffic and therefore can continue growing. This is how capitalism should work. Ending Net Neutrality kills the process from step one, so that companies like Youtube and Amazon will not have to face any potential future competition. Imagine if back in the 70s, IBM was allowed to bribe office buildings and contractors from ever letting Apple have a place of business. That's exactly what will happen if Net Neutrality is killed; large companies will buy all the land they can just so nobody else, better or otherwise, will be allowed to have it

—Daniel Wagner, Lake Worth, FL

As the Internet has grown, it has transformed America, sometimes for the worse but mostly for the better. The freedom to access virtually any information you want to at any time fits right in with the American ideal of freedom. Allowing a few large corporations to control access, through a variety of means, to all of the information we can now freely access goes against that ideal. That's why I support Net Neutrality.

—Charles A. Fitzer, Center City, MN

We live in a world where the Internet is life now. We use it for jobs, to solve problems, to chat with others, etc. To kill Net Neutrality is to kill modern day life.

—Quinn Padgett, McCordsville, IN

Net Neutrality is important because it allows everyone equal footing regarding speech, not just those with lots of money.

—Robyn Webb, Portland, OR

Net neutrality allows for smaller blogs to download and be accessed at the same speed as larger more popular sites. This is important for free speech!

—Emily Adkins, Austin, TX

The internet is the new hub of personal & business communication. Allowing private interests to profit from manipulating transfer rates, including the ability to cripple businesses at their whim, is the literal opposite of a free market, and is antithetical to personal and private interests on a global scale (with the exception of a tiny number of profiteering corporations set to reap huge rewards). Please preserve net neutrality in no uncertain terms.

—Eric B Olsen, Clarkston, GA, GA

It allows a level playing field for creativity, education and speech.

—Yuri Albertao, Neptune, NJ

The Internet is free and open access to data. We pay the cable companies according to how fast we want to access that data, killing net neutrality will only allow them to gouge their customers by charging more for the most accessed data, when it doesn't even cost them a cent more to deliver that data.

—Neil Thompson, North Wales, PA

I want it to remain neutral for freedom of speech. Cable companies charge too much money As it is!!!

—Jeanette Nord, Bloomington, MN

Do not let citizens who need a basic service at the mercy of cable company greed.

—Braulio Rivera, Bayamon, PR

The internet is unique in that it is primarily average citizens who upload content. Destroying net neutrality will hamper the purpose of the internet itself which is to obtain information and to share knowledge. The cable companies just desire a way to get rich even though they are already wealthy from steady paying consumers. Please do not give in. Net neutrality is more important to all of us.

—Giles, Salem, IL

Too many times the leaders and policy makers have turned over the keys to the kingdom to Big Business. The internet should be free and available to everyone. Technology is the best way for us to avoid a terrible future ruled by despotic corporate overlords/corporate nation-states like Comcastia and Verizonton. SAVE US FCC, You're our only hope!!!

—Erik Mahlberg, Rockford, IL

Net neutrality, why is it important? Freedom and exposure. It's as simple as that. Without net neutrality, Cable companies and the like are allowed to charge individual companies, And even prominent individuals for traffic, or rather The speed at which their web data loads. This is a problem because the internet is a universal tool for both monetary and social gain (Via legal means, of course) De-throttling on a website can cause these gains to decrease or even cease to exist due to loss of potential customer interest.

—David M., Stockton, CA

Because letting the cable companies get rid of net neutrality is the first step to internet censorship and the end of internet privacy. It is not a large step from forcing both customers and websites to pay for loading speed, to forcing customers to also pay for "packages" aka company approved content.

—Whitney Davis, Hyattsville, MD

Net Neutrality is exactly that: Neutrality. I'm able to do what I want when I want, without a bias cable company deciding for me what is convenient for me to do/see at any given time.

—Gregg Johnson, Duncansville, PA

Net neutrality is undoubtedly one of the main reasons why the internet has become what it is today. It is a great equalizer, giving equal importance to rich and poor alike. It is a critical aspect for new entrepreneurs. Its elimination would just set the ground for large scale discrimination and enable established players to become monopolistic... In the modern business arena, Internet is a vital component of any start-up, and net neutrality is one of the pillars holding up the fort. It is a vital and critical enabler of equality online.

—Hamish, DALY CITY, CA

While unbridled capitalism and advancement of special interests based on spending power appear to be cornerstones of American society, the people of our country rely on congress to occasionally consider the best interest of the American people rather than bending to the will of corporations (I.e. not people, regardless of what Mitt Romney believes). Especially now, as the Internet has been incorporated into our daily lives, we implore to powers at be to exercise their power to support Net Neutrality to preserve our freedom to continue using it in ways that contribute to the greater good and inspire ingenuity and support our first amendment right of freedom of expression.

—Rhea Blasdel, Escondido, CA

By keeping the internet neutral, you allow everyone a chance to create ideas and spread profitable information to improve the economy. By limiting it to only a few, those who have the money will only continue to profit if people can afford their goods. For services like the internet, if they aren't provided freely, you will see a decline. It's inevitable. I don't know a businessman that would control an asset unless it would bring him profit. That said, if you're the kid on the playground with all of the toys some people will play with you but everyone else is just going to shoot you dirty looks. Eventually the enmity growing is going to become socio-economic stress and people will begin to lash out. This unrest will most likely set us back economically about 10-20 years. Keep the internet free and tell the cable companies to play by the rules because it's our playground and we like it that way.

—James L Osborn, Fayetteville, AR

Net neutrality feeds the arts by providing it with a level playing field of reaching the masses. Removing it would hamper the expressive power of smaller artists.

—Aaron Black, Fort Wayne, IN

Internet access has become a basic cornerstone of modern life for the average American citizen. Everything from paying bills, purchasing basic goods, to checking on report cards and scheduling everyday activities and keeping up correspondence with family and friends requires internet access. Start-up and small businesses, long touted as the true strength of our economy, have no better tool for accessing national and global markets than fast, cheap, and reliable internet services. Specialist manufacturers and creative professionals alike rely on the internet as a basic building block of their enterprises. In the same way that electricity became integral to our way of life in the turn of the last century, so has internet at the turn of this one. Making internet into a public utility would ensure equality of access to a vital public resource, while allowing large trusts to control and manipulate this essential service for their own gain would suppress economic growth and freedom of expression.

—Nick Marrapode, Chicago, IL

Knowledge is love, love is knowledge.

—Marissa, Houston, TX

Restricting the flow of information to the public is dangerous. Whether it is done by corporations for greed or by the government for censorship.

—Jonathan Randolph, Baton Rouge, LA

Internet access is already expensive, and the customer support of Comcast and Verizon is abysmal. Taking away internet neutrality will mean that ordinary people won't be able to afford what has essentially become a necessity in America.

—Jeff Atkinson, Oxford, MS

Letting cable companies charge websites extra for faster speeds is like Jesus charging people for rain after one inch a month. Net neutrality will help to kill off small businesses, and create the cable equivalent of Lex Luther.

—Redmond Bandy, Apison, TN

Net Neutrality is about showing these maleficent cooperation that people's needs, not their way over sized bank accounts, matter most. It's despicable, it's shameful, and it should be illegal to kink the proverbial hose until you are paid enough. Using vomit-worthy techniques such as lobbying, fake consumer groups, and simply moronically false (but hilarious for those of us who can see past your bullshit) claims, like the stunt with the disabled people needing faster internet. That makes absolutely no logical sense; if handicap and disabled people want the same human rights as those who are not, then why grant them special favors they do not want? The fact is that these companies have a lot of money that they can literally swim in and they are going to use a tiny fraction of it to prove they have the power. Ronald Reagan deregulated the FCC in the 1980's, I say we use that lobbying money to build back up the FCC to protect everyone, especially kids. The way the European Union has regulations on their television is a great model to follow.

—Dalton Lee Colbert, TEMPE, AZ

The internet is as much a public utility as electricity. The net is a ubiquitous part of everyday life plus for all you uber capitalists out there it's a money making machine. Please don't destroy or even severely curtail this most amazing tool of growth an innovation of the 21st century and beyond.

—Benjamin Gonzalez, Jersey City, NJ

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—Benjamin Gonzalez, Jersey City, NJ

With the choice of (usually) no more than two options when it comes to ISPs, one must pick which of two evils controls what internet is delivered at what speed (entirely their decision). It hinders everyone's ability to support lesser-known websites, and places ISPs atop the throne of information. It has to be stopped and their position as middleman must not be abused any longer.

—Richard Savino, Buffalo, NY

The internet should be a tool available to the masses, not just the elite. If net neutrality ends the elite will have a strong upper hand in control seeing as the masses cannot afford to fight back with the net if neutrality disappears.

—Paula Bame, Northglenn, CO

Net neutrality is not only something that is wonderful but it is also necessary for growth and freedom of expression on the Internet. The Internet is a collection of information that should be allowed to be freely shared with no limitations of any kind. When limits start, it is hard to stop setting them or to draw a line. The Internet is a magical connection that brings people together in a way that is beyond amazing. To limit access or allow companies to restrict certain websites withers away how close people can become. The Internet brings people together but if net neutrality is taken away then people will drift apart

—Kyle Lamp, Greensburg, PA

To allow my startup Web company to have a voice and let people freely view my content without being subject to unregulated cable company bullshit.

—Sean, bozeman, MT

"Fast tracking" is the same as Payola! The internet is a method of self-expression, exploration, and communication. That should not be allowed to be subjected to a corporate filter, especially when that filter expects bribes. Please support internet as public domain.

—Joshua Steen, Binghamton, NY

The internet works fine under the existing rules. Allowing large service providers to determine which sites get preferential treatment is an outrage. Do not change the rules to allow corporations control of internet traffic. This is a further attack by large corporations on the freedom of individual Americans.

—Harold Beiler, Oswego, IL

No traffic should be deemed more important than any other. The idea in theory sounds good, until you realize that it's only a "good idea" when it is your traffic that gets the higher priority. There will never be a system where everyone (and not just big corporations) can agree on what is and isn't worthy of a higher priority. Net Neutrality has worked well for the past 45 years ever since the internet was a small government network called ARPANET. Please do not change what is an excellent public network, into a tiered network where only the wealthy and corporations control how fast you receive your information.

—Bob Johnson, Knoxville, TN

Net neutrality is undoubtedly one of the main reasons why the internet has become what it is today. It is a great equalizer, giving equal importance to rich and poor alike. It is a critical aspect for new entrepreneurs. Its elimination would just set the ground for large scale discrimination and enable established players to become monopolistic... In the modern business arena, Internet is a vital component of any start-up, and net neutrality is one of the pillars holding up the fort. It is a vital and critical enabler of equality online.

—Hamish, DALY CITY, CA

Without net neutrality, internet service providers would be a threat to anyone who disagrees with them or their stances. Consumers already have to deal with monopolies that hike up the prices whenever they feel like it, so stripping us of this would be the final nail in the coffin for consumer rights on the internet.

—Kyle Kellis, Portage, MI

Cable companies have been overcharging for slow & inconsistent Internet speeds for years and now they want the right to make things even worse while making more money. Leave the net neutral!

—Jordan Butterworth, PINELLAS PARK, FL

Please do not aid the cable companies in their attempt to damage the most important technological advancement of my generation.

—Isaac Venn, Franksville, WI

Freedom is being able to get all information at an equal pace allowing the individual to make unbiased decisions on their own.

—Aren, Lansing, MI

To me the Internet is one of the last truly free places left display an opinion and the best place to get funding for a start up, I think net neutrality would destroy that. I also think that cable companies are not regulated enough as it is.

—Tristan, Palo Alto, CA

As an educator, limiting the efficiency of this tool (the internet) will severely limit my students' potential. From diminished ability to find research sources - primary, secondary, and anecdotal - to limited opportunity to share what they've learned and express themselves as individual Americans, I am terrified and enraged at the idea of dismantling net neutrality and risking the loss of such great progressive freedoms for the current and future generations. As a citizen - beyond thinking about my role as a public servant - it saddens me that this is even a debate. The worldwide web is, in my opinion, one of mankind's greatest inventions and in its support of the first amendment, one of the most American. I believe that the internet is the biggest step toward world peace we've ever taken as a species and it is entirely because it gives any human being with access the instant ability to share, on a global scale, their hopes and fears, to relay news of corruption and of justice, and to participate in the common human struggle for freedom. It provides truth, justice, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness instantaneously. And a greedy handful want to limit that just to line their already bursting pockets with more money? I vote nay, sirs and madames, and implore you to do the same.

—Karl Maw, Auburn, WA

It's in the best interest of small businesses and startups!

—Lauren, St. Peters, MO

This shouldn't actually be as contentious as it is. If corporate CEOs and the lobbyists who service them didn't have undue influence that far outweighed that of our citizens, we wouldn't even need to have this discussion-- Net Neutrality would be a given. But no, instead I have to sit here on this website and state the obvious in the small hope that you do the right thing. So... Do the right thing. Protect Net Neutrality.

—Reed Sherrill, South Boston, MA

We need neutrality!

—Alex Ellis, west Harwich, MA

I don't want to have to pay extra to already over-inflated prices to get a poor connection. If anything, these companies need to be broken up so I can look for other options instead of Comcast.

—Robert Boesz, Vineland, NJ

Net neutrality is important because it prevents telecom corporate giants from gaining yet another leg up over a general population that they've already duped and exploited to begin with. It is in the best interest of the American people to support net neutrality and fight against any measure that provides deregulation for any corporation at all.

—John Howard, Baton Rouge, LA

Net Neutrality is freedom. you are once again allowing money to set the tone, while the people suffer.

—Tyron, Albuquerque, NM

How can we be talking about allowing a few influential companies to have privileged access to the internet? They did not invent the internet, yet they want to "buy" it. These companies have a captured audience! Their prices are already inflated. We need MORE competition, not less. NET NEUTRALITY!!! Thank you!

—Cindy Clint, Austin, TX

Net Neutrality is important because of the internet's value as a medium for information transfer. Allowing an oligopoly to control how quickly that information can be received is harmful to society as a whole.

—Tyler Matson, Mukwonago, WI

As a student I need to know that I can access data quickly and easily. My sources should not have to pay money to give me or anyone else information. As a human being I just want what is right: cheap, fast access to all of the advantages that the internet provides.

—Matthew, Woodland Hills, CA

Net Neutrality is vital to the continued functioning of the internet.

—David Burkett, West Chester, OH

The beauty of the internet is that everyone and everything is equal. Cable companies should not be able to regulate themselves, as they will screw over the consumers up make profits. The internet is one of mankind's greatest achievements, but only as it currently stands. By imposing limits on what can or cannot be viewed based on the provider's checkbook, America's internet could be as censored as China's. Please don't ruin the internet, I spend a lot of time there.

—Stephen Hall, Modesto, CA

I am truly worried about the future of the internet if the policy of Net Neutrality ends. This business of Comcast using a mafia style shakedown to force Netflix to pay up is at the very least unethical if not outright extortion! Please don't let Comcast and their cronies ruin the internet for future startup companies.

—Craig Kevorkian, NORFOLK, VA

The attempts to end Net Neutrality are basically ISPs wanting to run an extortion racket. "Nice web site. Be a shame if something happened to it." That really is the message they'll be sending too. Verizon has already forced Netflix to pay them large sums of cash to keep their website working. They've already shown that this is their true reason to oppose Net Neutrality. Don't let them keep getting away with extortion. Internet access is a utility and needs to be treated as such by the FCC.

—Dustin Hammett, Manhattan, KS

Net Neutrality is important because without it, the ISPs can extort whatever they want out of a company in order to make more money (which is all they really care about). Ignore every other reason the ISPs will give you for ending Net Neutrality. It's all about the money. I work for an ISP, and I think that is criminal.

—Christopher Hawkins, Overland Park, KS

Net Neutrality is important to me and everyone I know. By forcing companies small and large to pay for access to the internet cables it will alter the freedom we have now. The industry and the intranet will become monopolized by the cable companies and ruin the intranet as we know it.

—Breanne, Sacramento, CA

In order to be a truly fair and free Internet, all people should have equal access regardless of income. Think of it like a library card: having one allows you to access everything within said library FOR FREE (and the card is free too!), including computers that allow you to surf the Web. Imagine if you went to the library, and they told you to pay extra in order to look at certain books, or even to set foot in the library. Easy access to information should not be restricted to the rich and/or well-off. Keep Net Neutrality.

—Susan Hillwig, Saint Clair Shores, MI

The Internet, in many ways, is the last great hope of our civilization. It allows ideas to be shared and knowledge to be collected from all corners of the world. In a market flooded with the products of multinational corporations, many small businesses survive - and indeed thrive - in no small part thanks to the networking and business opportunities that a neutral internet provides.

—Raymond Moore, Evansville, IN

Net neutrality is vital to ensure ISPs are not allowed to hold customers ransom for acceptable service levels. One should not have to pay extra to simply not be penalized in one's internet performance. There is a difference in paying more for a faster service overall, instead of paying more because the ISPs will purposefully slow down sites that compete with their products.

—Jd, Kaneohe, HI

It's important to ensure that speech is not determined by how much money you have to promote it, but by the worth of what is being said.

—Rebecca West, Greenville, IN

Why is it important? Because I can't afford to pay extra to be in the "fast lanes." I am what is commonly known as "The working poor" or "The underprivileged." People like me will likely be left in the dust. I don't plan on being "the working poor" forever, but I need equal access to the internet to help me get out. I worry that having pay money I don't have to use internet will keep me down. It's bad enough that my computer is more than 10 years old.

—Jennifer Lambert, Greenville, NC

Corporate entities should not be able to control how we view the internet through a variable price tag.

—Shane Donaldson, hinesburg, VT

I write to express my support for a free and open internet. Over the past twenty years, American innovators have created countless Internet based applications, content offerings, and services that are used around the world. These innovations have created enormous value for Internet users, fueled economic growth, and made our Internet companies global leaders. The innovation we have seen to date happened in a world without discrimination. An open Internet has also been a platform for free speech and opportunity for billions of users. The Commission's longstanding commitment and actions undertaken to protect the open Internet are a central reason why the Internet remains an engine of entrepreneurship and economic growth. According to recent news reports, the Commission intends to propose rules that would enable phone and cable Internet service providers to discriminate both technically and financially against Internet companies and to impose new tolls on them. If these reports are correct, this represents a grave threat to the Internet. Instead of permitting individualized bargaining and discrimination, the Commission's rules should protect users and Internet companies on both fixed and mobile platforms against blocking, discrimination, and paid prioritization, and should make the market for Internet services more transparent. The rules should provide certainty to all market participants and keep the costs of regulation low. Such rules are essential for the future of the Internet. This Commission should take the necessary steps to ensure that the Internet remains an open platform for speech and commerce so that America continues to lead the world in technology markets.

—Steve Ross, Savannah, GA

Because these internet providers can only see dollar signs. Also, Comcast can eat a dick

—Anthony, Tacoma, WA

We need net neutrality for several reasons. We must protect the rights of individuals to access information online, regardless of its original source, without being extorted or placed in a 'slow-lane' while established corporations and conglomerates are able to bully their way into a fast-lane, hurting competition for all.

—Tom, miami, FL

I really believe that Net Neutrality is essential to the internet as a whole. It seems like its the only ones against it are those 1% who stand to make money from it.

—Norman Leeper, St. Louis, MO

Both America and the Internet are supposed to be all about everyone having an equal opportunity to be successful. If my ability to use the internet is hindered because some of my favorite sites can't afford to pay the fees for faster connections, it isn't really equal any more.

—Andrew Binder, Chicago, IL

The blatant grab for money by cable companies is threatening a public resource, and they simply cannot be trusted to not abuse the level of power they seek.

—Mr. Chris Dale, Hickory, NC

One of the best things about the internet is that it makes speech cheap. It dramatically lowers the cost of reaching millions (even billions) of people with a message. Internet technology has enlarged the marketplace of ideas far more than any innovation since the printing press. Allowing corporations with profit motive to impose 'pay to play' rules on speakers, for example, by charging websites for preferential speed for their content, the greatest advance in free speech is hamstrung, causing massive loss to speakers, listeners/readers, and the public square as a whole. Charities will now need to allocate funds to pay Comcast or Time Warner or AT&T so that donors and beneficiaries can see their site.

—Tim Johnston, Mundelein, IL

Net Neutrality is one of the primary things defending the free exchange of ideas over the internet, and the attempts by the ISP's to destroy it are incredibly troubling.

—Benjamin Lopatin, Savannah, GA

The ongoing corporate takeover of America is not healthy for this country. The FCC, as a GOVERNMENT agency, should support Net Neutrality for the citizens it is supposed to be working for—despite having been previously purchased by wealthy corporations with not-so-hidden agendas of their own. Do you seriously think we're all blind—and stupid? Do you seriously think we will continue to tolerate these revolving door scenarios that benefit a few at the expense of the rest? Dream on!

—Nancy McKeown, Santa Cruz, CA

Stop propping up monopolies. Comcast and Time Warner should not be doing what amounts to price fixing. Would we allow large self-interests to dictate who or how fast individuals could move goods and services along our interstate freeways? No, of course not. Why would we allow this for the internet? The internet is driving the current wave of economic growth, innovation and equality. Can we afford to allow a select few to control access?

—Michele, Seattle, WA

Internet access is a human right and should not be infringed upon by corporations purely for profit. This isn't North Korea or China where we can censor internet sites at the whim of some whiny politician or CEO. This is America goddamnit and we have the freedom to look at whatever the hell we please.

—Maxime Chamberland, Acworth, GA

Allowing communications companies to restrict internet speeds opens the door to extortionist policies that would strangle online commerce, and hamstring open and free communication.

—Scott Armstrong, Orlando, FL

Pretty obvious cable companies want nothing except to make profit. The internet is a precious commodity, it is sharing of information, breaking down of walls. Let's keep it that way.

—Kit Brice, Hove, NY

How is net neutrality not equal to open access to the highways. Both are public systems that need to be traversable equally by all in a first come first server manner.

—Chris Pfannkuch, Salem, OR

because this is outrageous

—Alexandre Jouan, New York, NY

My whole life me, my friends and my family have all mocked and laughed at the FCC, you should be disbanded. But since that isn't likely to happen I'll settle with you just keeping your dirty mitts off my internet. Stop catering to the corporate elite, and instead respect consensus of the majority of the planet earth's population and respect Net Neutrality.

—William Hignett, Grants Pass, OR

I currently manage a blog that reaches out to people all over the world. We have no budget but we are having thousands of people access our site on a weekly basis. An end to Net Neutrality would hinder our ability to reach our readers, because we have no budget. We can't pay for better load times. Our 20+ writers contribute not for any monetary gain, but because they believe in our vision.

—Dave Nalette, Fort Worth, TX

The internet is a gift to all who use it. It allows people who'd never have a chance in other circumstances to learn and grow. To try and tax that or decide who 'deserves' to have something is a basic human rights violation.

—Elizabeth Burr, Baltimore, MD

Net neutrality is important to me for the simple and vital reason that it is an extension of our First Amendment rights. Allowing any entity to have a means to control the flow of communication and expression of individuality that the internet is uniquely able to provide is unconstitutional. It must also be noted that the UN considers internet access to be a basic human right, akin to water and religious freedom. This is the same organization that has recently condemned Detroit for shutting off water access to tens of thousands of its residents for delinquent payments. As such, the prospect of handing over de facto control of this wonderful medium, the internet, to corporations that can restrict or deny access as well as charge astronomical fees for their services at will should be considered criminal by anyone with half a brain. But most importantly, it is un-American.

—William Demakis, South Hadley, MA

I support net neutrality because I shouldn't have to pay double the price for Netflix so Netflix can work on time warner cable (or any other use platform).

—Amy LaFleur, Waco, TX

Comcast, AT&T etc. have spent billions trying to remove net neutrality. They would not do this if they didn't know they would make billions more charging websites to get "premium" speeds while customers only get to see slower speeds from sites that don't pay protection money to these bullies.

—Ken Vojtik, Aurora, IL

Eliminate the corporate hegemony. Think what would happen if the internet disappeared tomorrow. Put the web under public utility protection or be the laughing stock of every future generation for all time...or do you enjoy being 'public servants' in title only while you are actually the cabana boys for corporate interest in hope that you can get a cushy lobbyist job when you get thrown out on you rear ends.

—Erik Gasper, Billings, MT

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—Erik Gasper, Billings, MT

Adding fast lanes, as proposed by the FCC for data, will not only artificially push up prices in a market where consumers are already paying the highest amount for internet access (for slower speeds) compared to any industrialized nation, but kill smaller startups without the resources to push their ideas and products out like the big companies that have the monetary funds required to do so. We will also see a curtailing effect on the flow of free speech and new ideas, with smaller blogs loading information much slower. It is well known that a site with slow load times will be abandoned within three to ten seconds. It goes without saying that the internet is used for everything now including research, medicine, schools, and even job searches among other things. With fast lanes, institutions that already don't have adequate funding will be left in the slow lane, further hurting our economy. By enacting the proposed changes we will see only the biggest and most established companies capable of affording a "fast lane" rule the internet. This will cause a cascading effect where we will see less new ideas and competition, and potentially drag our whole economy down as we end up pushing not only our digital industry, but every other, elsewhere. The proposed rules will also hurt me personally as a web designer for start-ups. Fewer businesses will opt to have a presence created, when they have to pay even more of their initial cost of operation to even get noticed online. Their lack of a return on investment, will hurt my business as well as many others when it is known that their profits will not be as high as the levels that we have grown accustomed to in the current digital age.

—Brendon Jones, Rochester, MA

Maintaining net neutrality is an absolute necessity to protect free speech on the internet.

—Austin Jackson, Los Alamos, NM

Broadband internet has become the main source of communication and commerce for an entire generation of Americans. Anything that diminishes the voice individuals in favor of corporations is inherently a detriment to a free society. Net neutrality is one of the last things that allows people to speak on an equal level. Anything that reduces net neutrality reduces free speech.

—Tim St.Cyr, Tucson, AZ

As a college student, Net Neutrality is extremely important to finding information to help me learn

—Nicholas Panourgias, Birmingham, MI

The end of Net Neutrality will look a lot like the fast food industry descending upon a mom n' pop Main Street. The blogs and online art stores of the world shouldn't suffer for the benefit of higher cable bills. They already charge too much for poor service!

—P Woodruff, Bronx, NY

Letting big companies monopolize an industry that has become as important in day to day life as any utility would be a disaster, your job is to protect the consumers from these greedy tyrants.

—David westmoreland, Santa Ana, CA

Net Neutrality is important to all of us, as it allows us to remain in touch with people around the world. Not just friends and family, also scientists, doctors, world leaders, as well as those that want the world to be better. Humanity now communicates nearly at the speed of light; ideas, designs, inventions, discoveries all being shared and advanced faster than imagined 20 years ago. Allowing companies to prune that flow to what they want, or what they are being paid for will have disastrous effect on all of us.

—Jenni Styf, Stevensville, MI

Universal and affordable Internet access for all!

—Cintha, CA, CA

Ending net neutrality is a joke.

—Ryan Stewart, Aurora, CO

Losing Net Neutrality will cause an unfair burden on new businesses and impede "the little people" from getting their voices heard through blogs, review sites, and various other forms of media. Much like some companies use artificial means of boosting their presence on search engines, wealthier companies will be able to attract more views simply by paying for a site that is easier to access. Eliminating Net Neutrality would be of benefit most of all to the cable providers, who already have a near-monopoly in most markets I've lived in, and already provide overpriced services with non-existent customer service. Losing Net Neutrality would be one of the worst things to happen to the internet, which is wonderful specifically because everyone has equal opportunity to put their information out there for any who are looking to find it.

—Jim Enderle, Champaign, IL

To whom it may concern, As a private citizen who came of age at the dawn of the internet era, I firmly believe in net neutrality, and that broadband internet access is a public utility, the same as water, electricity, and telephone service.

—Michael Donnelly, Pearland, TX

I pay extra money every month for "faster" internet. The day I was supposed to have my internet hooked up, the service technician went to apartment 1B instead of 1D. Rather than call me on my cell phone number which he no doubt had, he left. I then spent a week on the phone with multiple tech support representatives 8 calls in all before I reach someone competent enough to help me set it up. Now that it is "working" I reset my modem an average of 3 times every time I use the internet, not a day, every time I use the internet. If this were any business other than Time Warner, I would no longer be a customer. My alternative is DSL at slower speeds since Fios hasn't reach my remote and obscure Island of Manhattan. I urge you to protect Net Neutrality, not just because it's the right thing to do, but because the cable companies are quite simply Un-American. They offer no freedom of choice in options, channels, or provider and from an economic perspective they are quite frankly Anti-Capitalist. Without competition, there is no incentive for them invest in infrastructure, employment or innovation. Doing away with Net Neutrality encourages cable companies to make more money running bad business.

—Chris Dorre, New York, NY

History has proven time and time again that corporations can't be trusted to do the right thing. Net Neutrality is one way to insure information, which is the life blood of our democracy, is shared at a reasonably fair way. If you need any examples of how industry acts when unregulated I suggest a reading of The Jungle by Upton Sinclair. And a review of how consumers and workers a like were treated before we started making anti-trust legislation.

—Erica Mendez, NOTTINGHAM, PA

Net neutrality is important to me because the Internet is a vessel for open communication. There are many people out there whose voices are only able to be heard because of the ease of internet access. Cable companies and ISPs have no right to dictate how well American citizens can make their voices heard.

—Tristan Knight, Danbury, CT

Let's expose the large internet company's lies against net neutrality and show them that as their customers, we simply won't stand for monopolizing the market.

—Theoun Moen, Saint Paul, MN

The average individual utilizes the internet to inform him/herself, communicate, and organize among other things. To create faster access for some data as opposed to others threatens the individual's ability to have equal access to this information.

—Aislinn Murphy, Milwaukee, WI

I have created a site for consumers to better evaluate restaurants before they choose to dine, based on video. This would cripple my efforts and make things of this nature impossible.

—Tony Arce, Wheeling, IL

I feel that ISP's should not have the ability to pick and choose which websites load efficiently and which don't. I think it's safe to say that you can compare the Internet of today to the post office (and the general store, and the local saloon, and a variety of other enterprises) of yesteryear and I certainly hope that Congress wouldn't let USPS decide that my mail specifically should cost more than my neighbor's. That's how I view the dissolution of net neutrality.

—Jacob Short, KANSAS CITY, MO

The market is evolving but that doesn't profit cable companies enough so they want to cripple it so it grows in the direction they want. They are the only entities I have found who would benefit from compromising net neutrality. I am concerned that their regulation of internet access rates would only be a tool to attempt to force us to purchase their television services. They are already an oligopoly who show blatant predatory behavior with their pricing structures aimed to do the exact same thing. I don't want 100 reality tv channels but if I want to watch a single good show on cable I have to buy all of these and sit through advertisements. They advertise low prices, lock in contracts, and then inflate them tremendously. Entertainment is one thing but they do not need another tool to control our lives for their own profit.

—Jm, greencastle, PA

It violates freedom of speech. Websites that have different beliefs from the internet providers may be unable to be accessed.

—Arlo, Louisa, VA

The internet has become a vital part of daily life in America. Changing it would cripple the average American's ability to innovate and create.

—Alex Rich, Lancaster, PA

Net Neutrality provides equal access of the internet,... the worlds largest body of information, commerce, communication, creativity, organization, community, and digital livelihood,... to all individuals regardless of what background, income level, and ideology they follow, and limits the tools that would enable the abuse of powers by companies that provide a gateway to this massive library we all share as the People of the United States, and the world. ... Our historical state of connectivity and the freedom to view any site, without manually indoctrinated limits of speed and access, has been the universally adopted norm by all that use this grand library of mankind, and to tamper with this norm is a massive disservice to the public interest.

—Matthew Allan Olson, Brooklyn Center, MN

Because it would let huge cable companies basically extort websites to run properly. It would also make sure that the "small guy" blogs wouldn't be able to be heard unless they pay more money, which is the opposite of Free Speech.

—Will Evans, Arlington, TX

Don't let private interests destroy the internet, please uphold neutrality!

—Taylor J, New Brunswick, NJ

It allows all ideas to be broadcast to the public. Net neutrality prevents people with more wealth to voice their opinion over others with less. Clearly, this violates the freedom of speech, which the federal government is sworn to protect.

—Richard, Minneapolis, MN

Comcast has been the only ISP in the past 3 places I've lived. They consistently provided poor quality service at high rate, but there are no other options available to me. I feel helpless - Comcast can basically charge me whatever they want, provide poor connection, and no customer service and I'd have pay them. Please don't give ISP's more power than they already have.

—Steven Blass, Pittsburgh, PA

Without net neutrality, media and news is more easily controlled. News should be delivering unbiased truth, or we should atleast have the option to see many news articles from many sites. Without net neutrality we could be limited on which news articles we can look at.

—Kyle McCall, White House, TN

Net neutrality protects us and it protects internet companies. Not the providers who want to suck out the money of every American. Cable providers will lie and cheat about what the people want. It is only what their CEOs want. Companies don't run America it belongs to the people who live here

—Cody, boyne city, MI

The barriers to entry for any endeavor, be it creative, technical, philosophical, theoretical, etc., must remain as low as possible in order to maintain a truly free market economy. Destroying net neutrality would create insurmountable barriers for those who choose to do anything that does not include entry-level work at a major corporation. Telecom companies do not need the government to help them survive. If a multi-billion dollar company cannot keep itself afloat, it deserves to sink. Let it.

—Keith Minacci, Macon, GA

The internet allows people from around the globe to connect to each other instantly, to share ideas and thoughts. The barriers to entry for this communal gathering place, with net neutrality, are fairly low--you only need to own a device capable of connecting. Without net neutrality, we lose the guarantee that this communal gathering place will remain as open.

—Nadine Frassetto, Allston, MA

Cable companies only want to end net neutrality because it means more money and power for them. Their greed needs to stop.

—Ryan Hare, Cherry Hill, NJ

Unsurprisingly, the time it took this page to load (to submit this comment) on my Verizon service took quite a bit longer than pages usually take. My service in general has gone downhill at a time when the speeds should be better than ever and it's because like most consumers I'm trapped in that there are so few providers and they can already do just about whatever they please. Allowing them to create internet fast lanes would be allowing something we can't come back from, and it would be nothing but bad for the consumers who are stuck paying out the wazoo already for something that's only getting worse.

—Eva L Havens, garland, TX

America is gradually losing its economic influence globally, and its military strength is likewise of decreasing value in the new, multi-polar world. If our country can continue to command influence in the future, it will increasingly be by moral force. The one advantage that can not be taken away or outdone abroad is our ideal - the American Dream itself. The world still largely looks up to us as a model for freedom, admiring us in spite of our flaws. Only we have the power to take that away. We can choose to side with our oldest values and the most dynamic and progressive part of our economy. Or we can reject the freedom of the individual at the heart of our nation in favor of freedom for dated corporations to extort money. The Net must be neutral.

—Matthew Edward Perry, Mountville, PA

The internet is the way of the future, not the way of the past. Giving control of it over to a bunch of big wigs who only want money defeats the purpose of the most powerful and wonderful tool in the entire nation. It would ruin the freedom of speech and creativity so many people have, and that is a huge tragedy. Do not take away Net Neutrality.

—Kevin Young, Glendale, AZ

Net neutrality is extremely important to me as well as the rest of the sane world, millions of small businesses around, as well as the world economy because without it, those millions of small businesses would not be able to afford to pay to use the "fast" internet (which today, businesses use for everything such as marketing, conferences, customer service and many other things that are ESSENTIAL to their businesses) and without that internet speed and efficiency, they would not be able to properly run their business or would lose hundreds of thousands (maybe even millions?) of dollars to get "faster" internet. Net neutrality shouldn't even be a concept as there really is no other option for the internet in a FREE country.

—Erinn Carey, Thunder Bay, Ontario, NE

The internet has become a fantastic tool, allowing us to share ideas, access information, and find like minds to connect with in a way that would have been impossible before the communication revolution. It's like the forum of ancient times, a place where all ideas can be voiced and heard, and it is the purest expression of free speech. The end of net neutrality threatens the freedom of speech the internet offers. By giving power to these companies over which sites receive priority and which are denied it, we are giving them power over what people see, think about, and - in turn - believe. Huge amounts of money stand to be made from the end of net neutrality, and huge amounts of money are being staked to make sure it happens, but I hope that our political system isn't so broken that freedom of speech can be bought.

—Timothy Salazar, Greeley, CO

Having a neutral internet is crucial to keeping its integrity intact. And keeping the internet's integrity intact is extremely important because it is the greatest database of information in the world. And that information is what gains us new knowledge and human understanding.

—Alexander Collins Pulliam, Lexington, KY

Without Net Neutrality, the economic powerhouse of investment that is The Internet would cease to exist. If the tech sector didn't exist, or at the very least, was not growing, then not only would the US instantly go into a recession, we would no longer be on the forefront of technological development worldwide, causing a further downward spiral. Long story short, Net Neutrality creates jobs and keeps America employed.

—Tom Anson, St. Louis, MO

Many of us low income families do not have the money to pay for each website, and by shooting down net neutrality you are allowing the cable companies to dictate prices on every website we go on. No company should allow or disallow someone right to go on ANY website.

keep the internet free

—Cory, Seminole, FL

Net neutrality or rather the absence of it, encourages consumer gouging monopolies. This is not good for the economy of the U.S. and as the global economy follows that if the U.S. they are bad for the global economy. I don't know why I bother with this though, I'm sure the individual in charge of the FCC will simply find a new, high paying position with with some corporation shortly after siding with them. I have a four month old son and I despair at the world he will be raised in. I guess I should teach I'm to be a selfish, greedy, shortsighted, heartless ass if I want him to be happy and successful.

—Steven, Draper, UT

Net neutrality protects not only free speech but free information.

—Christopher Pirrello, Grayslake, IL

Preserve net neutrality and do not allow ISPs to hold the internet hostage.

—Adam Harvey, Pueblo, CO

A free internet for a free people in a free country.

—Steven lee Lonie, Plymouth, IN

I, the consumer, would suffer from a loss of net neutrality. If not immediately, somewhere down the line I would be paying more for sites I once got free. I pay to receive a fast internet service. I pay for sites like Netflix. I, the consumer, should reasonably expect the sites I visit to be fast. Some have suggested that a loss of net neutrality would inhibit entrepreneurs from getting ahead. Still some say that companies would have the power to slow down certain websites because they disagree with the content, which completely overrides everything wonderful about the world wide web, where information is available for everyone.

—Andrew, Newberg, OR

All you're doing by striking deal with cable companies is proving that you lot are bought and paid for. Grow a pair and stay out of it. You don't own the internet. Quit acting like it.

—Joshua Akins, Lanett, AL

The internet is far too important to end up in the hands of your douchebag friends. Your making money can not take priority over the entire human race. Not out of any altruism you may have, (we harbor no illusions of you not being a band of mercenary pigfuckers working entirely as professional anal cleaners for the ISPs) but out of the fact that we are watching and guess what. We won't let you. You depend on your sinecure positions as boot-licks to the ISPs for your delicious bribe money. And those ISPs, much to their eternal chagrin, depend on us as customers. If you force the issue, we will take the internet from you, take the internet from the ISPs and make it free and public to all. So if your greedy little friends at comcast/timewarner/satan's stain t want to remain in business I highly suggest you tell them to back the fuck off before we take it out on their bottom line. You goddamned Dingo. sincerely, go fuck yourself -Stewart Dawson

—Stewart Dawson, pueblo, CO

I would like to browse all of my sites with the same speed without them having to shell out millions that will surely be passed to me in costs or overbearing ads.

—Joshua Daniels, Greenwood, IN

Net Neutrality is important to me because I, as an American, don't think its right that any company/companies should be able to limit or eliminate my, or any other American's, access to information.

—Dominic Hoffard, Sac City, IA

I believe in equality on the net because the internet provider's idea of 'fair' is despicable and greedy.

—Amy Myrick, Eureka, CA

to prevent cable company fuckery!!!

—Nathaniel, Redford, MI

Please keep Net Neutrality intact.

—Ben Frazier, Lyndeborough, NH

We are on a tight budget and my husband and I don't have cable TV and rely on the internet and Netflix and Hulu for our entertainment. If cable companies can increase costs to these companies, then that cost will most likely be passed to us, thereby tightening our budget even more. Please don't side with the cable companies!

—Nicole Filoso, Grove City, OH

I support net neutrality because the market of the future must be free, fair, and with equal opportunity for all!

—Ahri Almeida, San Diego, CA

Whether I'm watching netflix , shopping on amazon, or reading a friend's blog , their traffic should all be treated the same. The openness of the internet is what made is such a ubiquitous aspect of daily life in the first place. Removing net neutrality and allowing a select few companies free rein on determining what I can readily view is ridiculous and will stifle new ideas and innovations.

—Kevin smith, warren, MI

This is the Communication Age. Large corporations controlling our communication will make people very unhappy and ungovernable. Please protect Net Neutrality.

—Kristen Dakota, Louisa, VA

The internet has become vital to the operation of daily life, and to have companies block access to competitors will cause a loss of services such as web banking and education.

—Greg Neyman, NEWTOWN, PA

We, as a society, have a standard that one does not have to pay extra to be treated equally. Net Neutrality is equality in distribution and access to information. This inequality is artificial - the hardware of the internet does not distinguish between the kinds of bits that flow through its' pipes. By instituting artificial barriers to information cable companies grant control of information to media companies that they are affiliated with or that are willing to pay for access. It will leave behind anyone who is not affiliated with the cable companies or unable to pay the fees. By removing Net Neutrality we limit equality to those who can pay for it and artificially restrain those who can't.

—Pieter Spealman, Pittsburgh, PA

The internet should be a free open source! The companies that provide people with it should not be charging other companies! It is wrong to let them do so! It is not in their right and they are destroying competition! Because they just want to be greed and make two profits! Why!? Why isn't just having costumers pay enough? Why do they need to be greedy? Ridiculous, these companies like Netflix should not be treated like this. They are doing nothing wrong. This behavior isn't and should never be okay. The FCC should put a stop to this and reclassify the internet under telecommunications services. Having the internet under tv and radio as of right now does not make any sense! The internet provides so much more than tv shows and music!! It allows you to connect to people on a whole different level. Please put a stop to this and don't let it develop further!

—Jennifer Guzman, Bronx, NY

I work as a programmer and telecommute 100% of the time, if bandwidth is to be controlled by companies that pay for more, then many of the resources I use on a daily basis will cease to exist due to not being useful anymore because they cannot afford to compete financially for it.

—Mark A. Malo, Brevard, NC

I do not trust broadband companies to act in a manner protecting free speech and equal access to the internet. Please respect Net Neutrality.

—Aaron Chase, Brooklyn, NY

Cable companies should not have the "right" to discriminate against citizens for the profit of large corporations. The United States should not be focused on giving power, money, and prestige to the already powerful. Our nation deserves, and demands that the people; actual human people be protected and these companies be stopped.

—Heather Williams, Denton, TX

The only people that benefit from making the internet not as it is, would be to benefit ONLY the companies that already make billions of dollars off of us through their monopoly on the internet and lack of care for their customers.

—Carlo Martin, Fayetteville, NC

Net Neutrality is the only thing keeping the internet safe and unmolested by corporations. When has empowering corporations ever benefited the average citizen? This is a case of doing what is the best for the minority, and harming the majority. Please maintain net neutrality.

—Nick Long, Jacksonville, IL

Please preserve network neutrality on the internet. It's fundamental to America.

—Bob, Avondale Estates, GA

Net Neutrality protect freedom of speech and freedom of expression.

—John Whitney, Louisville, KY