

Net Neutrality is vital. Most small startups wouldn't be able to get their foot in the door if the internet became biased towards people with money being allowed to buy superior speed/bandwidth to others. Think about how Google, Facebook and Ebay would have fared had they had to pay for priority to stand equal when they began! There's no way they would have become the key places on the internet that they are now if they'd had to pay for faster/better internet from the start. Think of how many jobs have been created because these people were able to stand equally and grow! The telecoms companies providing internet are only interested in profit for their shareholders/CEO's. They seem to little care about fairness or equality as evidenced by their strong opposition to neutrality. They also seem to be misleading a lot of people with false figures and made up/skewed statistics, evidence of which can be found on a large number of websites out there. If the Internet is to survive as a resource everyone in the world can use, it needs to be equal. It's possibly the only resource in the world that allows people to find information, improve their knowledge and create with equal opportunity. The Internet, possibly Americas most valuable contribution to the world, should be equal for everyone.

—Jazz Hyde, Bridport,

For many people, the Internet is the only way they can stay in contact with family and lived ones.

—Jonah Miller, St. John's,

Basically anything that is a net positive for ISP's is a huge blow to everyone in america. They are already in a state of basically absolute power in MANY places around the world. I live in seattle, a hugely technological area, I had non functional internet for 11 months, and there was nothing I could do about it because no other providers would bring internet to my house. This is not out in the boondocks, this in the middle of a big city, and the story is the same all over. Of course that's just how terrible they are in general. for Net Neutrality specifically it's incredibly important that all data is treated equally, whether it's an incredibly popular site that everyones on, a new start up site, a site decrying the evils of ISP's, or a site that's shouting their glory.

—Alex Green, seattle, WA

Why should cable companies be allowed to violate our 1st amendment rights? It is disgusting that you think this is okay. The chairman of the FCC should resign for even considering this legislation.

—Stephen Papia, Buffalo, NY

The internet is possibly the best means of providing a voice to the voiceless in the history of mankind. It is the only venue where the minority opinion can not only exist, but it can flourish. And the fastest way to change all that is to eliminate net neutrality rules, and allow corporations to dictate choose winners and losers online. Please reconsider your internet rules, and continue to allow success online be based on merit rather than wealth. Thanks you.

—Henry Wyatt, Juneau, AK

Net neutrality allows for small business to work alongside bigger businesses, making money and giving consumers multiple options to choose from. Without net neutrality, these bigger online presences will over shadow and over power the smaller startups, effectively killing smaller businesses and their websites. In short, net neutrality protects the free market from a few wealthy corporations that don't want an even playing field.

—William A Pommerening, Arlington, VA

Protect net neutrality. Cable companies need to be restricted. You are a Dingo.

—Steve Cross, Charlotte, NC

Because a lack of net neutrality undermines the right to free speech.

—Jolene Lujan, Socorro, NM

Do not support anti-net neutrality laws. In fact remove them completely. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Tom, Kansas City, MO

The internet is rapidly becoming an integral part of the democratic process, and should be open to all individuals to ensure our right to free speech.

—Noah Weiner, Olympia, WA

It is against the purpose of the internet for any one person or corporation to have a faster speed. The internet was intended to be a place where everyone is treated freely and equally, but if you allow internet providers like AT&T, Comcast, and Verizon the chance to dictate who gets the "fast lane" and who gets the slow lane, almost everyone who is not famous or rich will be forced onto slow internet..and for what reason, exactly? The internet is a medium for EVERYONE, regardless of who they are, to be able to express themselves and get equal treatment. It would be a very dark day indeed for the internet to ever be stripped away of its integrity and equality.

—Melanie Dodds, Bridgewater, NJ

Net Neutrality protects small business and private journalism web interests. I thought you guys liked small business.

—Austin Andrews, Orono, ME

Dear FCC, The end of net neutrality means the end of the golden age of information. The internet was created as a resource for information and communications and allowing these corporations to try and monopolize "fast lanes" means they control (and will probably defile) this extremely important asset to mankind. This idea spits in the eye of those who developed and worked tirelessly to improve the technology we utilize everyday. Please put a stop to the idea of forfeiting net neutrality just so these guys can make an even more obscene amount of money. This is a critical moment in human history and I think we'd all like to come out on the other side feeling good about the result. Thanks for your time, Al

—Alessandro Castelli, Merced, CA

Because im pretty good at fucking myself currently , don't need any help thanks.

—Matthew M Radatz, brighton, CO

Net Neutrality is important because without it, there would be discrimination. For example, huge corporations would have the money to pay internet service providers for a fast lane to the internet and smaller companies or start-ups would not have the money to pay to any internet service provider for a fast lane to the internet. Therefore, the only way to resolve this issue is for the FCC to reclassify Internet Service Providers (ISPs) as Title II common carriers. We should not be having this discussion at all. We all receive our information from the internet and there should be no discrimination.

—Carolyn Camputaro, Tucson, AZ

From me to you on behalf of all Americans: the FCC must throw out these new rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers. Net Neutrality is not absolute - Google, Netflix, and others already keep servers inside cable companies, but this is unavoidable, fair, and a benefit to consumers. Without this, we could not stream 1980x1080 HD movies to our TVs. There are simply so many people piling on these sites that they need extra infrastructure to provide their product. But aside from ideally placed hardware, the setup provides equality and neutrality. We don't want AT&T and others to impose a tax and to treat those who pay a tax better than others. Protect Net Neutrality.

—Cody Race, Boise, ID

The internet should not be restricted in anyway, especially not by these ISP who only do it so they can have a bigger paycheck.

—Miguel Rodriguez, Maypearl, TX

Net Neutrality is the most basic tenant of the Internet. It is that which gives the Internet its power. Removing it, changing it, weakens the internet and thus it weakens humanity n

—Nathaniel R Bruce, Ridgecrest, CA

Dear Sir or Madam, We claim to be the land of the free and yet that freedom is currently at stake - on a battleground that didn't exist when our forefathers founded our country. The internet is a place that doesn't judge, prefer, censor... it's a place of freedom with all the good and bad things that come with it. It's up to you to preserve this freedom and let us keep net neutrality. The freedom of information is one of the most important resources of our time. Don't let it be taken away by companies, people, or the government itself. Sincerely, Alex M. Lehmann
—Alex M. Lehmann, Valencia, CA

Net neutrality is important to me because it is about as American an idea can be. Complete and equal freedom of expression and distribution of that information is so beautiful it brings a tear to my eye. It irritates me to no end to hear cable companies argue for a "fast-lane" when Americans already pay a premium for their sub-par internet service when compared to other developed countries. Striking down net-neutrality only allows cable companies to hamstring whomever they feel, whenever they feel like it. The internet is an ever-growing educational resource and needs to be equally available to everyone so that society can continue to grow.
—Nick Regenold, Memphis, TN

Net neutrality is essential to protecting free speech in America. Corporations (like cable companies, and ISP's should not be allowed to give preferential treatment to content with deeper pockets. Please do the right thing and protect the people on this most important topic.
—Nicholas Iovino, Chicago, IL

Net neutrality is important because net media are the primary form of media used in the country. Having the content of such media controlled by corporate interests serves no one but the interested corporations.
—Emily Herbst, Austin, TX

So the cable companies want to be able to control the speed of the internet. Who exactly thinks this is a good idea? Sure lets just hand over complete control of their primary income source to the company with absolutely no regulation, I'm sure they wouldn't jack up the prices to stimulate their profit margins, that's crazy talk. Just like those wonderful banks who collapsed the economy in the pursuit of profit. Or BP who created an environmental disaster with sub par cheap construction. I have been hearing a certain phrase a lot lately, "Corporations are people", and you would certainly believe it with things like freedom of speech in the form of unlimited spending in politics. Well I wish they were people, real actual flesh and blood people, because if they were they could be punished for their crimes. It might seem like I have gotten off topic, but that is not the case. Corporations screw up, a lot, and why should they not? After all a corporation is nothing but a collective of people, and people are imperfect flawed creatures. Even with the best of intentions people still screw up. That is why regulation exists in the first place. Individuals are subjected to the law, we can't just do whatever we want, so why should corporations think they are able to police themselves? Every time something like this has been allowed to happen it has inevitably led to disaster. Besides corporate regulation allows for the best thing in business, competition. Look at netflix it has become one of the top (if not the primary) places to watch your favorite tv shows. Instead of having cable and watching these shows on the television and sitting through commercials. We can instead pay a monthly subscription fee and watch these shows at our own pace without commercials. Competition makes business better because it forces the companies to make better products, to give better service, in short it means that we (the people who buy these products) are given a fair trade for our hard earned money. The internet is the primary source for this business competition. It allows little businesses to compete with the larger ones. These companies have a fair chance of success because of the internet. The internet with all of its flaws allows for this because of its impartiality. And now the companies that make this possible want to control the speed of it. If you hand it over them, you can kiss a fair and balanced business world goodbye. The corporate giants that exist today will be able to afford the new cost for better access, but what about the little guy? They wont be able to afford it. Its like running a race except that a majority of the runners have had their feet taped together. Its was one of the founding principles in this country, fairness. Everyone has fair chance, not a guarantee, but at least they have a chance. If you let the cable companies have control we will never get a new youtube, google, netflix, amazon, etc. Even more important than that fairness that america was founded will just become another lie. Maybe this isn't important to the people in Washington, maybe they think small businesses can take care of themselves. Fine than I still have one more group to advocate for, Us the american citizens. For us the internet is more than some entertainment tool, its an aspect of our everyday lives. For some its crucial to their jobs. For others its a form a creativity, expressing themselves to the world that they may have no other outlet for. For others its a way to connect to family over things like facebook and skype. For some its a chance at love with people connecting with others that they would have never had a chance to meet thanks to the internet. For others a way to learn, with millions of students who take online courses. All these groups and more depend on the internet. I want to repeat that again, its not that they like or want the internet, they need it they **DEPEND** on it. For all those groups I named up there and the others I have not, I am asking, no I am begging please do whatever it takes to ensure that net neutrality thrives.
—Justin Holliman, lehigh acres, FL

I'm sitting here, with excellent broadband connection, which I use to communicate with my friends, study, look for information, and, quite frankly, masturbate to pornography. What the ISP's of America are trying to do to their own country is nothing short of disgusting - as my pornography; but while I jerk it for myself and clean my own goddamn boxers, they spread that splooge all over their own consumers. Where's their compassion? Humanity? How the FUCK would great internet connection at reasonable prices be anything but great for them? Not increasing annual profits at quite the same pace is, if anything an insurance for stability, and to be quite honest, had I enough financial backing to start such a company myself, I'd go for as great connection as managable, at excellent prices; those fuckers wouldn't stand a chance. Greeting from Sweden, a country where even our most dickish ISP's charged a maximum of around \$60 for 100mb/s five years ago, and provide even faster connection now.

—Sam, Stockholm,

I legitimately cannot think of a better way for the already fantastically wealthy CEOs of some of the biggest companies in the world to infringe on the rights of everyday, honest Americans. Ending net neutrality utterly tramples on the rights of the people in order to make extra money for a very small people who have time and time again chosen to react to bigger profits by lining their pockets and exploiting the middle class. If the UN can declare internet access a human rights issue, I don't understand how there can even be an argument that access should be limited to those who are able to pay extra for it. The voice of the common people should not be limited simply because they lack the millions to bribe these companies to gain extra access to a basic service.

—Jon McCurdy, Milton, MA

Net Neutrality is vital the US. An Internet connection is no longer a luxury; easy access to data of all kinds is important. No private company should be allowed to decide what data I can access and the speed I can access it at.

—Michael Spencer, Lebanon, PA

Because it should be like a public utility, as there are so many people who rely on it for their work. Someone needs to keep the megacorporations in check.

—Stephanie Brock, Sanford, ME

Information is key to our vibrant democracy. Slowing down the speeds of any websites slows down the cogs of democracy.

—Sarah Iverson, Austin, TX

The internet is the modern, superman version of libraries, allowing poorer people access to now unlimited information. If you want to remain viable earning companies and corps I think allowing people to subscribe to cable channels like magazines. No one from my generation pays for cable because we want the few things that interest us enough to waste time watching them, not 600 channels of high def option paralysis

—Er, Slayton, MN

Net Neutrality is important to me because the internet is a place where everyone is equal, and that's fantastic. It doesn't matter if you're poor, or rich, or famous, or just some schmuck-- your voice has a chance to be heard. If we allow cable companies to charge websites more for fast internet, the poor and non-famous people (people like me) will have slower websites, and that equality will be gone. It's not fair. It's not fair that in America, if you're born rich you will keep getting richer, and that if you weren't, life will keep getting harder. At least right now, the internet is free from that poison. The loss of net neutrality threatens to take that away, and yet another thing will be ruined by the ever-growing monster that is corporate greed.

—Stacey Sasscer, Charlotte, NC

Cable companies can't be trusted. If they're willing to lie, cheat and steal their way to more money by investing in fake "Consumer groups" and speak for the people, they could actually use that money to invest in their infrastructure or paying every employee a living wage.

—Mr. PJ Anderson, Clinton, CT

Net neutrality is essential to this new digital world, you cannot let the cable companies undue what is a perfect system. Let's not forget what the Internet was in the first place it was designed to let users interact and share information in an environment that is free and open to do so. By eliminating net neutrality you are curbing free speech as well as giving those companies who already hold monopolies to grow even more powerful. It is a dangerous slope that you do not want to slide on...

—Steve, Leamington,

Believe it or not, the internet is used as a utility by the majority of Americans already. The widespread use of information for all people has had a beneficial effect on society at large. Despite the public perception of just wasting time looking at cat videos, the available access to any form of education, entertainment, and expressions of free speech has garnered positive results when it comes to foreign relations, creative production of ideas, improved education of even the more poverty stricken neighborhoods through public libraries, and a more informed populace. The younger generations, ones with more experience and readiness to the internet, have shown to be more tolerant and accepting of dissenting ideas. Demographic polls often show that more younger people are also more benevolent through the use of social media when it comes to charity or support. The internet has also indirectly provided many people the skills they could use in the real world through the use of gaming and/or blogging (i.e. managing a World of Warcraft Guild translates well to managing a business). People are more informed about the world at large now through feeds and sharing through social media. There are multiple websites that are dedicated to filtering through shared information to provide accuracy to the public. All of this is just a small portion of all the good the internet has done. The ISPs want all of that put at risk just so they could earn a short-term profit. The only thing they're offering in return are faster load times for those select websites that are able to pay for it. All this means is that there is already an artificial restriction occurring with all services if they can make the claim that any site could be faster now. What I and many other people have predicted will happen if Net Neutrality is shot down is that new and less financially stable websites will die down. Any variety for the ISPs already existing customer base will be limited, and the internet as a whole will eventually become an oligarchy, at best. And this is removing the possibility of the ISPs themselves owning their own series of websites with rival sites of their own. Comcast owns NBC. Would it really surprise anyone if suddenly the site for ABC slowed to a crawl? Also, keep in mind that it's only the ISPs that are desiring the removal of Net Neutrality. Nobody without serious ties to Comcast, Cox, Verizon, or AT&T is actually pushing for this. And these companies have the money to push other dissenting opinions away, just like what Net Neutrality is supposed to prevent. Just because you have more money doesn't mean you can just buy votes or silence your opposition. This has turned into a very lengthy letter, but I just hope that someone has read some of it and brings it up to anyone with influence. I understand that a company's intent is to make a profit through providing a service, but to diminish that service by abusing your customer's reliance on it and shaking down websites just so they don't get artificially slowed down is just low.

—Kyle Clark, Tucson, AZ

Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Adam Ross, Las Vegas, NV

Because it lets everyone be heard with just a few minutes of effort.

—Steven Brunner, Huntingtown, MD

Net neutrality is important to me because freedom of speech is important to me. How else can one speak truth to power if a few powerful people decide what anyone can or cannot see on the internet?

—Seanna Hunt, Silver Spring, MD

If the net retains neutrality, the potential for communication and community is endless. By taking that away - you take away the chance for the world benefitting from globalization and increase the division between classes. That division is already wide enough.

—Maya White, Lake Oswego, OR

Net neutrality is important to me because I don't feel I should have to pay to have faster pages. All it will help is the cable companies, and in turn have all of us who disagree with net neutrality stop using the internet.

—Ashleigh, Ford, VA

Dear FCC, I practically grew up on the internet. From the day my parents brought home our first computer, I was hooked. So much knowledge, and so many games to play when I was bored. I wasn't allowed to buy anything online, but I didn't mind that, the free stuff had to have advertisers and views, so it was usually quite nice. In time, I began to rely on my internet as a major source of all my information. Basic economics, sociology and psychology, technology and news... it was wonderful. I learned how to distinguish between the fake and biased, and realized that this internet was a beautiful thing. Stupid at times, but hey, it's people. For this reason, among others, I have come to cherish my internet. Here I can speak to people I would otherwise never know, access information on almost anything I can think of, and find things for sale that I would never have dreamed existed (gravity-powered lights, ferrofluids, etc.). I don't want to lose that. Please let us have equal access to equal sites. If growing up I had only been able to access sites that paid for decent access, I would never have known about all of this. My world while I was sick or otherwise stuck at home with nobody else my age to talk to, my teacher when I had no school (or the teachers were bad), my friend when the other children mocked me. Please help protect this creation. For the sake of it's inhabitants, all those who make livings off of it, the children who can use parts of it to learn or play when they can't otherwise...for us.

—Brittany VanTassel, Digby,

As someone intending to get a start in the game industry, I need to have my own blog, or outright website, on the internet, to house my portfolio and basically act as my resume, cover letter, and references all in one package for potential hires. And by striking down Net Neutrality, you would cause my site to plummet in speed, discouraging any company from wanting to take the time to do the half hour loading unheard of since the 1990's. By striking down Net Neutrality, you would be costing myself, so many others like me, our jobs.

—Spencer Williams, Victoria,

The internet should be free for all to use. We already have the 1% issue going on how do you think people will react if you kill net neutrality? The internet is the one last place where everyone is equal. If you kill net neutrality then you are letting big business win. We might as well be a Communist country if that happens but with Verizon and At&t instead of a dictator. I do not want to pay more for worst service than what I do now. If you give into their demands now there will be no stopping them. They will ask for more money and more restrictions from people like me till they are the ones controlling the internet and how we use it. We will end up with the kind of fake restricted internet China has come to use with their people. Let America and its internet stay free! Free internet for all!

—April, Arlington, VA

Keep Net Neutrality. Fair and free internet for all. Throw out your rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Alan J. Cooper, Sherman Oaks, CA

Because it is the only thing giving us some measure of freedom and equity. The internet is the only place we can all enjoy content and service relatively freely. We don't need more restrictions disguised as "features" by a bunch of greedy individuals whose sole job is to rip people off their money. The only thing they should be regulating and keeping a close eye on is cable companies themselves. which as we know, are already encroached in the highest echelons of US government.

—Xavier Barrios, Mexico,

Free and open access to ideas is what makes the Internet a revolution. It makes someone's website about cat pictures and one made by Nike the same, it's the truest form of a level playing field. Allowing companies to throttle bandwidth to people that don't pay them a ransom destroys that. Especially when there's already a lack of competition leading to the U.S. having some of the worst network infrastructure and speeds in the developed world.

—Ian Williams, Brownsville, PA

Net neutrality is important to me as the Internet isn't just a way for people with servers to make money it is a catalyst for free speech communication fun and general good will, and frankly I feel that a internet where some people are given priority goes against the fundamentals of the internet. I would also like to put a quote by Tim Berners lee a major figure in the creation of the internet "this is for everyone" -Sincerely an average internet user

—Average internet user, London,

Because without net neutrality I won't have the unfettered access to the internet that is needed for my schooling or my pornography habit. It will raise the prices of everything from schools charging more tuition to cover their costs for a "fast lane" to our favorite shopping going up in price for the same. This goes against the very foundation of what makes the internet awesome, Those companies are some of the worst rated in terms of satisfaction, why would we even entertain their ideas. We need common carriers. For once in our history I would like the federal government to make the right decision.

—David Murray, Nampa, ID

Abolishing net neutrality will do nothing to help the American public. They only people who will benefit are the cable companies. Allowing the cable companies to charge more for a 'fast lane' in internet traffic would be like allowing electric companies to charge extra so your can power your entire home instead of just the first floor.

—Carl A. Schulz IV, Somerville, NJ

Net neutrality is the only way new internet businesses are going to be able to get started. Cable companies shouldn't be allowed to ruin ita for the same reason that phone companies can't extort extra money out of businesses by threatening to make their customers wait an extra 10 minutes to connect unless the businesses pay up.

—Adam Littman, Lake Balboa, CA

If America is truly about Freedom--of religion, of personal choice, of voice, of speech, of interest--then Net Neutrality is what is needed to keep the internet as a representation of everything citizens love and fight to maintain in the United States. Don't fall once more to lies from corporations. Don't pretend you (FCC) are not smart enough to see the false realities they (ATT, Verizon, Time Warner) are presenting. Don't take their bribes, be they monetary or complimentary America is built on the citizens, not the corporations--leave the internet to the citizens, to the free thinkers and to the innovators. For just once in this countries last fifty years act on motivations that are good for the country and its citizens not good for your wallets. I assure you they are not the same thing.

—Joseph Ackerman, SAINT LOUIS, MO

I'm on a fixed income and cannot afford a higher price just to have access to slightly faster internet. Please explain how a two tier system benefits me if I am stuck on the lower tier. Seems to me it would be similar to sitting in the cheap seats drinking stale ware beer at a Giants game and being able to look up at the VIP's in their boxes drinking scotch. A two tier system doesn't benefit me it only benefits cable companies bent and squeezing out what little money the public has left in their pockets. If you can change my mind using logic instead of lies, smoke or mirrors I will buy you dinner.

—Adam Taylor, London,

Continuing to allow internet providers the capability to selectively choose to charge companies a fee for connectivity that the consumer has already paid for will only cause our internet infrastructure to fall further and further behind other developed countries. We have already seen a very distinct attempt at utilizing their local monopolies to edge out a direct competitor - Netflix. Netflix directly conflicts with the interest of both Comcast and Verizon. Comcast significantly reduced Netflix's bandwidth, and paying customers were subjected to significantly diminished speeds for Netflix only - even though they had PAID for faster speeds. Comcast had the bandwidth to support it, as evidenced by the immediate response in streaming quality when Netflix did finally pay Comcast. This is absolutely, 100% the definition of a monopoly. This should be illegal. I propose that the FCC classify internet service under Title II, effectively ending net neutrality. They need to also look at Title II and ensure that it does not allow for violations of net neutrality at ANY stage of the transfer of data between the internet provider's paying customer and the website the customer is trying to reach.

—Aaron Chmelik, Cottage Grove, MN

Please work to protect Net Neutrality. I believe that ISPs should be reclassified as common carriers. The unrestrained freedom of the internet is too important to our society and culture for us to sacrifice it to a few corporations. Please keep the Internet neutral.

—Andrew Wickwire, Junction City, OR

I maintain a few small businesses which heavily rely on their websites. Being small, this attack on Net Neutrality could spell the end of our ability to function.

—Marten vanZwietering, Grand Island, NY

Any attempt to destroy Net Neutrality is simply a maneuver to pad the pockets of an already monopolistic industry, all at the expense of the consumer. DO NOT set this precedent!

—Brit, Joliet, IL

Because changes made in the USA can also affect other countries and it's legislation.

—Rodrigo Salazar, Merida,

There is no reason to rig the system in this circumstance.

—Robert Owen, Slidell, LA

Net neutrality means my consulting business has as much chance of being found as the big company down the street. Net neutrality supports small business!

—Chris Zeigler, Takoma Park, MD

I don't want some faceless corporation deciding which sites will load at nearly decent speeds and which ones won't based solely on their rampant greed and corporate politics.

—Daniel Rodriguez, North Chesterfield, VA

Please don't let mega corps like Comcast decide what I can or can't have access to. The internet has changed humanity for ever and it should continue to do so, unless net neutrality is killed.

—Jon Paul Sapsford, Geneva, IL

Net neutrality is a crucial component to the new internet society. Giving private companies influence over deciding what people can or cannot easily use is a clear injustice. Everyone should have the right to use the internet to browse as well as create content without having large conglomerates deciding what the public should have easy access to. Please, please treat net neutrality as the incredibly important idea that it is.

—Jeff Peterson, Erie, PA

You cannot ignore that the Internet IS a public utility. Consumers pay their ISPs for access and without net neutrality what would we be paying for? Fast Access to extremely wealthy sites but not to mom and pop businesses or anyone else who wants and needs the Internet to become successful or be discovered. Net neutrality fosters a good environment for economical growth. You would be robbing everyone if you did away with neutrality!

—Ryan Armstrong, Cordova, TN

Net Neutrality is important to me because it represents freedom of speech.

—Liz, Ithaca, NY

I homeschool my child using the internet. I need to be able to be sure his school will load in a reasonable amount of time for his education. My job is my blog, if my site doesn't work properly and quickly my readers will leave. My livelihood and sons future are greatly affected by net neutrality.

—Amanda, Rising sun, IN

As a poor and disabled person, I need Net Neutrality - true Net Neutrality, not the neutered form advocated by the likes of Comcast, AT&T and Verizon - in order to insure that I get the same internet access as the super-wealthy. I need Net Neutrality to insure that my blog is equally accessible to readers as one crafted and paid for by multi-billionaires, and that my readers will not see slowdowns accessing my site simply because I cannot afford to bribe Verizon, AT&T and Comcast.

—Gendou Knepper, Ames, IA

Net Neutrality is necessary for a well-functioning economy. Allowing Verizon and other ISPs to dictate the rules of how data is transmitted across the internet will hurt nearly every business except theirs and is bad for us all. Please scrap your current rules and classify ISPs as common carriers.

—Michael Mischnick, Lakeville, MN

Don't let private mega-corporations decide what the public can see and not see. Don't let fast lanes to BS become our only choice as consumers. Protect the neutrality of information!

—Taylor Bonar, Knoxville, TN

First world countries like U.S. try new things and countries like mine, a third world country follow cuz the fastest way we can catch up is take the steps that works.. Just wanted to say this won't be a step we'll be taking. This disastrous greed driven campaign to separate web sites and services based on favoritism is analogous to The Animal Farm's line: All animals are created equal, But some are more equal. Internet has been a congregation of information and to empower/enable any profit making organization to discriminate among that vastness of information is not only providing them with equally vast opportunity to produce profit but also to give up the valued American idea of freedom. freedom of choice. How will you choose when you'll know just those informations that is deemed important if they serves the interest of a greedy industry? Every industry is greedy, profit is how they survive. In a way they're cockroaches.. Someone said cock, lol. You'll be creating a new kind of discrimination. Discrimination on what mind is allowed to be aware of. This has to be Criminal, Un-human even. Anyway don't be stupid!! All information are created equal and there's no such thing as more equal. ^^Awesome T-shirt idea.^^ KBye

—Mr. Watermelon, kathmandu,

The end of net neutrality means awful mega-corporations like Comcast control the flow of information on the internet and browbeat any service that represents the slightest threat to their profits out of business. By killing net neutrality you are allowing these corporations to extort every American citizen for even the most basic net services. You have reduced possibly the most liberating development of the new millennium to a frustrating service people begrudgingly use which will only line the pockets of corporate CEOs.

—Dominick S Morris, Ellicott City, MD

In my opinion the freedom of the Internet: specifically Net Neutrality, is one of the last bastions for true expression in our global society. If corporations are allowed to regulate the rate at which specific information is available to the population online, the fallout will be monumental. Prioritization of information by those who will profit from it must be stonewalled here and now. As the generation paving the way for this future technological culture it is paramount that we safeguard the sovereignty of this new ideal. That information is not to be controlled, sold, or destroyed.

—Benjamin Thomas Parker, Redlands, CA

Maybe you should read this: <http://www.cracked.com/quick-fixes/5-absurd-cable-company-ex-cuses-killing-internet/> The arguments that internet providers are using are ridiculous, and only carry any weight at all due to millions of dollars worth of lobbying. I want my rights to be protected. Rejecting net neutrality would put my rights in jeopardy and seriously harm the future of the internet. Net neutrality is the only thing that prevents internet providers from extorting both content creators as well as content consumers.

—Matthew Marano, Chappaqua, NY

Net Neutrality is important to me because it represents everything that is best about the internet. the internet should be an equal playing field where knowledge can be freely transferred among people all over the world. it is because of the neutrality of the internet that small organizations can exist side by side with large corporations and not have to pay some arbitrary fee in order to be able to compete with them. the neutral internet is the greatest invention man has ever come up with and it represents everything that is good about humanity. please dont chain our greatest invention to the pocketbooks of a few major corporate entities. otherwise your children and grandchildren will never know how amazing the neutral internet was.

—Mark Irving, boise, ID

Letting cable companies decide what content is really available and who will get to view it expeditiously is one of the worst ideas I could think of. Anyone who could propose this plan with a straight face has eyes for only one thing. Money. That's it. They have no one's interests in mind but their own and the "services" they would provide would be nothing but a sham. Nothing but censorship of all but the rich. Don't let this happen. No good could come of this.

—Anthony Frost, Groton, CT

The death of net neutrality will be the single biggest blow to the First Amendments rights of the citizenry of this country ever delivered. The idea the Comcast, Verizon, Cox, etc., etc., have the consumer in mind while spearheading this concept is beyond ridiculous. To allow these companies to throttle speeds based on fees and content will allow them to arbitrarily silence those with which they do not agree. The net should remain neutral in order to encourage the growth of the online economy - for large businesses and small alike; regardless of the services they offer or the fees which they can afford to pay - and to allow for the dissemination of knowledge and free speech.

—Mr. Adam Wooten, Princeton, WV

I believe that using the internet, we all should have our thoughts heard, our ideas explored, and our innovations grown. By allowing companies to discriminate in who can use the internet at a good pace, all of these are compromised in favour of personal greed.

—Craig Hilborn, Guelph,

Net Neutrality allows for actual competition and free market more than your current rules.

—Derek Armstrong, Bloomington, IL

Seriously, knock it off. Cable companies have no business favoring some content over others via bandwidth/download speeds. It's unfair to start-up groups and will kill innovation online. Killing net neutrality would be blatantly classist, allowing only the rich to create accessible content, leaving the middle and lower class with substandard tools to reach their audience. Seriously. knock it off.

—Olivia Mercurio, West Hartford, CT

Net Neutrality harms small businesses, developers, entrepreneurs and average Americans. It helps big corporations while hurting America.

—Manuel Robles, Whittier, CA

I don't want corporate juggernauts to control how fast my internet is. Everyone needs the internet and the way that the internet is set up now is fair and balanced. No one wants an internet "fast lane" especially when that lane is controlled by corporations who are losing money on cable subscriptions and looking to make their money back through privatizing internet content. Net neutrality is perfect leave it be.

—Ian, Bowling Green, OH

To My Dearest FCC Which hath brought nothing to me Alas the fruit conspiracy brought The poison apple the lobby sought Singing songs in name of country Leaving us with not but sundries Exempt are you from laws of man Although those right do you demand Very clearly select few see Eerily you collect your fees' Minecraft lag and WoW shall not Young companies your wrath have wrought Never more innovation springs Execute the upstarts sing The FCC, a friend indeed Alone will stand colossal Few Leaches bleeding progress stalled Only if you'd hear our call Never would you stand so tall Even when I never called

—Kyle Robbins, Broken Arrow, OK

The Internet has become a public utility and is vital for operation of numerous day-to-day activities. It should be regulated as a public utility much as gas, water, sewer, and electricity, and it should most certainly not be subjected to the whims of CEOs whose interests only lie in their own profits. Capitalism can only work when the government acts as a barrier to protect its citizens from predatory practices. ISPs need to be reclassified as common carriers, period.

—Megan Dipo, Taylorsville, UT

Net neutrality is important to me because I'm in school and I need the internet to do pretty much anything school-related... if these greedy companies had their way, internet would be unnecessarily expensive, and have "fast and slow lanes" that would be good for their revenue streams, and bad for my education. Having ISPs be common carriers would be much better. I consider internet access to be something as crucial to living and working today as electricity. Thank you and good day.

—Todd Slouwar, Albuquerque, NM

Freedom of speech, freedom of press. Competition. Fair playing ground. How is this even a question. Government will be unpleasantly surprised if they mess with the publics only remaining venue of happiness and freedom

—Joe benton, Rancho Santa margarita, CA

One of my friends set up a small site to fund emergency surgery for her dog so she wouldn't have to put him down (he was hit by a car). Imagine if she, as an individual, had to deal with not having net neutrality: what might have happened to her dog had not her site had as much bandwidth as some corporation that could afford to pay millions to a cable company each year?

—Julie, Sudbury, MA

Because it's actually useful to have new companies able to exist, monopolies to at least have the possibility to be challenged and companies not literally extorting other companies. It's already at the point where Comcast can slow Netflix down to a crawl because they don't want to pay more money. That's extortion. If I agree to, say, \$50 a month for a service for 5 years, then in the second year I'm told that I must pay \$100 for the service retroactively to get the same service or I'll be getting no service, that is complete and utter bubkus. Net neutrality is important. We don't let PG&E jack up the prices on factories just to stay at the previous levels of operation. Internet access is just as important for companies.

—Jim Simpson, Petaluma, CA

It is bad enough that they throttle consumer traffic because of increased "demand" on their networks and charge data caps, but now they want to throttle the internet unless you can pay for the privilege. They are busy creating the situations in which they claim to have the solution. This is in addition to the monopolies they are busy making to reduce competition and putting their people in the places needed to confuse the narrative or create it themselves. It is disgusting to think the FCC would allow this shit to even reach a place of bargaining. They have the technology in place for the fastest speeds and to be leaders in the industry but have made it very clear that nothing else matters but the acquisition of profit. Everyone else be damned.

—Abe Nolen, Trenton, OH

This is the last thing America needs. The internet is the last bastion of equal rights. You seem to not understand the power of the people under you. You're asking for another American Revolution. The internet belongs to no one and everyone.

—James Mauldin, Tulsa, OK

The fall of net neutrality would result in a further increase in the divide between the haves and have-nots. Cable companies already make huge profits. Undermining reliable access to information benefits no one but the companies themselves.

—Jonathan Sundstrom, Vancouver, WA

Dear FCC, As you may know, there is a lot of information on the internet. The fall of net neutrality would mean only those with the money for "Fast lane" access would be able to effectively get information out. So, unless you want a huge chunk of you budget going to cable companies, shoot down these changes. Or, keep letting dollars equal free speech. Your choice.

—Alexander Wood, Woodlawn, TN

Dear FCC, As a current Comcast customer, I am forced to pay high rates for subpar speeds in Atlanta. Unfortunately, the only other carrier available to me is AT&T, which will give me slower speeds at the same prices over different technologies. As one company is a cable company, and the other a phone company, they are both monopolies. Due to the lack of choice, customers in my area are forced to pay incredibly expensive costs per meg, despite the cost of delivering that meg being incredibly inexpensive, and the companies delivering it are not required to deliver it reliably due to a lack of an SLA for residential accounts. It is plainly offensive that I have to pay the amount I pay for poor, unreliable quality of service. As a webmaster, I pay premium for performance bandwidth (7 carriers) so I can reliably publish my content. Then I pay for a Content Delivery Network so I can fill in the gaps. It is unreasonable to expect me to now pay every carrier in the country to ensure that all my other expenses weren't worthless. I should pay to get my content on the web. I shouldn't be charged for people getting it off of it because Comcast wants to double dip. Thank you for your time.

—Michael Burroughs, Marietta, GA

This attempt to end Net Neutrality shows such blatant contempt for consumers that it's not even funny. The FCC was formed to be a consumer advocacy agency and this plan runs completely counter to that. I also find it suspicious that this continues to be ignored by mainstream media - guess we know who controls them.

—Thomas McGrew, Tolland, CT

I believe that Net Neutrality is vital to the success of the economy, and to protect the most important exchange of information in human history. By not forcing companies to provide equal access to all customers and businesses, competition is restricted and the few current leaders in internet communication will dominate the information landscape and the future economy. I feel that the FCC should codify Net Neutrality as a fundamental law that all companies providing internet services to America should follow. Anything less is a strike against the American principles and freedom that made this country great.

—Michael Flannery, Henderson, NV

Because withholding net neutrality is basically allowing service providers to run an extortion racket and is a very easy road to corruption.

—Thomas, Jamaica, NY

The internet has become an indispensable utility to myself, my family, and my coworkers. Email is the primary means of communication between myself and my boss. I perform work-related online-research on a weekly basis. I do not like the idea of being dependent on a private monopoly for a service that is required for job. Even outside of my job, the internet has become fully integrated into my life. My family and I get our news and our entertainment through the internet. Most purchases we make are researched online, if not performed online entirely. Once again, I loathe being dependent on a private monopoly for this service. The broadband internet industry has already carved out private fiefdoms for themselves across the country. To allow them to abuse that position of power to tell their customers what they can and cannot consume in a timely manner is simply unconscionable. If these companies insist on retaining regional monopolies to an essential service, they should expect to be regulated as a public utility.

—Daniel Leighton, Pasadena, CA

Hey FCC net neutrality is a must because otherwise the Cable companies will monopolize and charge the websites what ever they want. How will some one make a successful blog or launch a great Internet comic. No one will want to go to a site that loads at pre dsl speeds. Internet start ups will decrease. Further slowing the economy. Even if this shit doesn't make sense. Here's the gist of it. FUCK YOU AND YOUR CABLE LOBBYISTS. NET NEUTRALITY FOR ALL YOU FYCKS

—Kevin Hansard, Fort Worth, TX

I am going to start producing and distributing video games through the Internet, but ISPs are going to restrict my consumer base by limiting access to my site unless I pay them money. They don't own the fucking Internet. This is nonsense.

—Ronald Kinard, Hutto, TX

ISPs should not be allowed to blackmail companies to give customers decent speeds to their websites. ISPs should be reclassified as common carries.

—Carol Dashiell, Pasaden, CA

Treat the internet as a utility. It is. If I don't have properly functioning internet, I can't do my job. I can't upload, send, or share video content I produce without driving a flashdrive across the country. There is no reason to get rid of net neutrality other than selfish, evil, consumerist reasons. No one will read what I've written here, or what hundreds and thousands and more will write, say, and scream at their own government with all the sincerity they have. This is wrong. The net should remain neutral.

—Scott Calvert, Seattle, WA

This is just another way to create more inequality and hostility between the working and middle classes.

—Andre Cabrera, San Francisco, CA

There is no situation in which the benefits (corporate profits) garnered from killing net neutrality outweighs the drawbacks of capitalizing the one remaining nearly-free speech avenue available to virtually every citizen. The loss of net neutrality would be a staggering loss not only to the United States and its innovative spirit, but to the worldwide advancement of knowledge. Please, I beg of you, do not allow this to happen.

—Ceara OConnell, West Chester, PA

Net Neutrality is important to me.

—Jacob, Washington dc, DC

To Whom it May Concern: The idea of cable companies (or anyone) dictating which sites on the Internet are more deserving of faster load times than others is reprehensible. Their lies and deceit have affected us enough. Please maintain net neutrality for the good of our country.

Sincerely, SSG Derrol Fulghum United States Army OIF/OEF

—SSG Derrol Fulghum, Panama City Beach, FL

entirely aside for issues that have undoubtedly been raised already, I don't see how this will help, since it will greatly encourage outright theft of internet service, specifically the so-called 'fast-lane' bands. further, as an avid gamer and someone who is both poor and a frequent user of online marketplaces in order to make what small amount of money I can, I can definitively say that if Net Neutrality is destroyed it WILL adversely affect many people who rely on fast internet to maintain their livelihood. honestly, I'm uncertain why this continues to be a problem, given the repeated MASSIVE outcry and condemnation that comes from EVERYONE with any real knowledge of the internet and its use every single time this kind of thing comes up. or are we forgetting the PR disasters that were SOPA and PIPA?

—Jordan Steeper, Santa Rosa, CA

Net neutrality ensures the freedom for businesses to offer consumers the lowest price for Internet delivered products. The Internet connects everyone to everything, and no one should have the power to say one website is more important than another. No company should ever be able to force another company to pay more money for Internet speeds, in turn driving our prices up.

—Jacob Johnson, Rochelle, IL

Because nearly everything I do has some online component - so much so that it is, for all intents and purposes, a utility - and having a third party with none of my interests in mind - only the contents of my wallet in mind - arbitrate what is a utility that is a basic foundation in my life is utter bullshit.

—Matthew Leigh, Elgin, IL

Dear FCC, If we allow the cable companies and their supporters (who all, with a little research, turn out to be the cable companies in disguise and their "friends") to smash net neutrality into existence, then we are allowing them to go the same way as the oil companies. If you have filled your vehicle in the last, oh, decade or so, you will understand what that means. I live in a province where the oil prices are the lowest in the country, but it still burns my wallet every time I fill up. I can only imagine what giving full control over the Internet, the largest depository of human knowledge and intelligence, something that should be a human right and not a company's money-maker, would do to the world. So, dear FCC, please don't allow a company to buy the Internet, because it's the only "free" thing we're allowed in this "free" world.

—Kim Elliott, Okotoks,

The FCC's proposed "solution" to Net Neutrality would run the possibility of ruining the freedom and potential of the internet. This could seriously destroy one of the modern world's greatest inventions. The internet is one of the most amazing inventions of our modern world. It allows us to instantly connect to anyone no matter where they are on the globe, never before have we all been so together and the FCC is opening up the possibility to limit it's potential to make cable companies more money. With communication technology growing at it's current rate there will soon be no need for fast and slow lanes, making this a permanent solution for a temporary "problem". So while the cable companies tote their position on Net Neutrality as good for the consumer, all they really want is to become even more of a gatekeeper than they already are. The beauty of the internet is that anyone can get online and gain indiscriminate access to any corner of the internet. Internet providers also claim that net Neutrality imposes on their freedom of speech while ignoring that this seriously limits the ability of the common man and small companies to use the internet for their own freedom of speech. This is simply a struggle for more power while these large communications corporations already hold too much power. Not only are they currently too powerful, but these companies are also unable to provide satisfactory service for their consumers. They simply have not earned the right to hold the keys to the internet.

—Clay, Dallas, TX

Allowing a few corporations to decide who gets fast Internet speeds and who gets slow Internet speeds is not a good idea. Allowing the foxes to guard the hen house, allowing them to charge companies extra dollars to ensure adequate speeds, meaning, I will get charged more for the same service I have now just frustrates me to no end. Net neutrality is one of the best regulations to ever come out of Washington. Please, please, please keep net neutrality in place and ignore the millions being spent by the cable companies to bilk us out of billions with no additional benefit, except to line their pockets. We already have some of the highest costs for the slowest speeds on the planet.

—James Wood, Tyndall AFB, FL

The movement to end net neutrality is a blatant grab at maximizing cable and internet provider profits while limiting consumer options. The American people do not want the FCC or cable companies deciding what our content should be, how fast or slow we should get it and how much it should cost. Ending net neutrality means eliminating a competitive market which benefits consumers. In reality, the existence of the FCC to begin with is highly unconstitutional. There should be no censorship of free speech for any reason at any time other than public safety. The days of the government deciding what is decent, moral or acceptable programming should have ended by now. That 1950's, Leave it to Beaver thinking is far too restrictive to exist in a "free" country. It should be up to the consumer as to what we watch and what we do not. If I receive 100 channels and 99 of them are pornographic and one of them is more wholesome and appropriate for my family to watch, then it's up to me, not the government, to block those other 99 channels. Ending net neutrality is a strike against freedom and an open market. Please stop this greedy scramble for more power, more money and more control. Let the power to choose remain with the consumer; with the people.

—Larry Schouder, Hattiesburg, MS

Net Neutrality is important because it protects our right to the exchange of information and services. Removing Net Neutrality destroys free market capitalism by giving internet service providers the ability to force websites to pay to play which will keep websites and companies that can't afford the ISP's fees from being able to adequately use the internet. Removing Net Neutrality is a travesty to American's right to free speech and a travesty to our rights as consumers. Keep Net Neutrality.

—Kyle Goguen, San Diego, CA

I like to visit websites that do not have the resources to pay for "fast lanes". Free websites that make just enough money to pay for the upkeep of the site would be inaccessible under the new rules because they would be too slow to operate. "Fast lanes" are a way for businesses to make money at the expense of the consumer without giving the consumer a choice, and would effectively be extortion. The whole "use our 'fast lanes' or your website will die" thing sounds a lot like blackmail and extortion to me.

—Samuel Liberty, Round Rock, TX

I implore you to reconsider your proposed Internet rules. This change will fundamentally shift the online marketplace of ideas in a direction that is contrary to the fundamental principals of free speech in the United States. This decision will resonate with the public for years to come and should not be taken lightly. I reiterate, DO NOT create a tiered internet!

—Matthew Osborne-Koch, Portland, OR

Where is the trust busting regulator willing to buck the industry lobbyist? Net neutrality makes business, leisure and worldwide communication possible. In the words of SNL: "Find the problem, and FIX IT"

—Isaac Prichard, Minneapolis, MN

it allows the small companies to become big players in all different fields of business, science and art. there also the fact the USA pretty much created what would become the internet but we pay more and have slower speeds then many many other countries

—Kyle Garner, Worth, IL

The internet is one of the last places where one can actually find success (be it in business, writing, art, etc) without the tacit or explicit support of large established investors or corporate interests. Losing Net Neutrality will ensure that small voices continue to be over-shouted by those that already have too much say in this country. Please stand up to the (painfully blatant) corporate lobbying in play here and serve the actual citizens!

—Kris Stenson, Springfield, IL

Today you need the internet to function as a normal member of society; when Internet is as efficient here as it is in South Korea (200 times faster at half the price), the maybe we can start thinking about the cable companies; until then, protect your people! Keep this tool neutral.

—Mr. Michael Faigenblum, Seattle, WA

It's obvious that the big service providers are trying to kill Net Neutrality simply because it would make them a whole lot more money. And they don't care who they step on to get that money. Please don't let their greed determine the future of the Internet.

—Kevin Engler, Dubuque, IA

Net neutrality is the basis of what the internet should be for - the internet is at its best when it us an equalizer, allowing equal opportunity for education and enjoyment. Large corporations should not be given free reign to intrude upon something that is so vital to my life and education. It is not their right to superimpose their wants over the average citizen purely for business purposes.

—Amber Gustafson, Ann Arbor, MI

Why is this even an issue? How can you possibly be entertaining the notion of allowing ISP's to provided two different teirs of speed to content providers? as someone who works IN the tele-coms industry, i can understand haveing different levels of End-User speed, but if you allow ISP's to charge for faster content speeds, it will basically signal the death knell of ANY independant content providers, and pave the way for big-industry to buy up all the web-space. and just imagine the field day the Government would have with this. it would make it far to easy to let them put up blatantly false information regarding improtant current events on a much faster speed, than what a True news-cast might be able to afford. dont think it could happen? look at china, and how THEY controll the internet with laws just like this one.

—Erik, waasis,

An open and equal internet is one of the last remaining checks the common person has against moneyed interests. If we lose net neutrality, this country will truly and wholly be at the whims of oligarchs.

—Evan Feeney, Washington, DC

Please classify ISPs as common carriers

—Matthew N Hansen, Bend, OR

I believe in far and equal usage of the internet for all.

—John Getz, Morgantown, WV

The internet is the great equality. Eliminating net neutrality will destroy small business.

—Camsmith, Canberra,

The consumers already pay for bandwidth and the providers should have no right to decide how that bandwidth gets used. Allowing for "fast lanes" would destroy the internet as we know it and only serve to further secure commercialized sites positions and traffic on the web. Eliminating neutrality would be extremely detrimental to smaller websites with less funding to pay for bandwidth which is again already being paid for by the consumer, no reason to allow the providers to double dip on profits.

—Josh Sempier, Parsippany, NJ

Most of my life takes place online. My friends are online. I socialize online. I play games online. I get my news online and not from newspapers or news shows. When you combine powerful introversion and social anxiety, it is a lot easier to connect with people when you're not face to face. Net Neutrality ensures that I can get my news from any source I please. It protects my ability to connect with my friends. It grants me a life beyond my home's wall with people all over the world..

—Mr. Rory Wilkins, Mays Landing, NJ

Dear Broadband of America and fellow internet companies, Suck a million dicks, lick a billion assholes you greedy scum-fucking jackals. When will your bloody greed and vanity finally be enough you fucking shit-eating vultures? Go kill yourselves and finally this world will be a better place because you goddamn filthy pieces of shit are finally dead.

—Tom Wheeler Sucks Shitty Assholes, Ceoscansuckdick, AL

The internet has allowed me unprecedented access to knowledge of all kinds. Not only has it provided access to knowledge I wouldn't have it brings about something I'm sure the cable companies fear greatly. The ability to watch shows streamed to my television. As it stands my family uses streaming services more than watching television. The only thing the rules and regulations would bring about is to shift the balance of power in favor of major corporations. allowing them to do as they please while the population suffers. The only benefit of removing net neutrality would be to increase revenue to the corporations and decrease the use of the internet as a whole. Multiple websites and businesses that rely on the internet would be forced to pay for better service and those amounts would be set by the corporations, allowing them to charge high fees against competitors and keep their stranglehold over entertainment. It wouldn't be just a horrendous mistake to remove net neutrality, it would destroy a technological advantage we have over other countries and would severely harm education. If schools wished to use the internet they'd be forced to pay more for better services, the websites would be forced to pay more. In an economy that is already unstable it would do nothing more than harm us. I don't know if my comment will be read or not but I sincerely thank you if you did and hope that information will remain untainted by corporations.

—Chris Arnold, MOORESVILLE, IN

Please ensure Net Neutrality. The internet is a rare instance where everyone with ideas, information, and any motivation to communicate can complete equally with multinational corporations. Letting those corporations dictate the rules for people with less say and power is not democratic. It's important, for the ideals of democracy and free speech this country is based on, to ensure Net Neutrality. Thank you!

—Alex Faber, Teaneck, NJ

RON PAUL 2012!!! RON PAUL 2012!!!

—Bob Baskins, Oligarchy Square, OR

We need net neutrality because we pay more for less content than other countries, and i think a two tier system would make that worse.

—Cody Case, Spokane valley, WA

Net neutrality is important because it greatly benefits those who do good works, but don't necessarily have much in the way of extra funds... charity programs, small businesses which rely on internet sales or advertisement, community groups, small-time journalists, schools, even small churches. Without net neutrality, their internet presence would be reduced or eliminated, and our society would become just a little worse for it. Net neutrality is also important because of the ways a LACK of net neutrality could be abused. As they say, power corrupts, and even if it is just power over the speed of internet one receives, such power could and would be used to repress rivals, to quiet critics, to inconvenience those who are disliked, and to discriminate. Such power, even in the hands of a smart, wise, and compassionate person, could accidentally cause negative effects, since no one can know the full extent of how their actions will affect the world. I hope that you understand the importance of net neutrality, and that you will work with us, for the betterment of society, to preserve it. I fear the consequences, if net neutrality is lost. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, David J.C. Hill.

—David Joseph Claude Hill, Regina,

I am a mother of two disabled teenage girls. My oldest is autistic and my youngest is mentally retarded. Both of them use computers with an astonishing degree of maturity and both of them communicate more effectively using same. I don't make a lot of money and my family relies heavily on the disability payments that come once a month for the girls, especially for internet access. We literally would not be able to afford it at all if I had not found a cheaper alternative to cable companies in my local telephone company. Comcast wanted over \$200.00 a month and AT&T does not extend coverage in my area and Verizon won't even talk to me without a \$500.00 upfront fee. The majority of my daughter's friends are online because they are both, for different reasons, socially awkward and unable to effectively communicate with people in a real world setting. If Net Neutrality were to cease, then my girls would suffer for it. Please, don't get rid of Net Neutrality. My girls need to be able to have some sort of friends, even if they are online. Please, don't take my girls' friends away from them.

—SL Minton, Chickamauga, GA

I frequent many websites such as youtube or twitch that requires a lot of bandwidth usage, and loss of net neutrality would mean poorer service and more cost. Not only that, I also use Korean websites, which without net neutrality will be nigh impossible to use as no korean website will spend money for fast lanes in US. But even if this doesn't effect me, net neutrality is something that must be preserved for new, exciting ideas to get an equal chance to be successful and influential as other pre-established websites and services. For the sake of creativity and future prospertiy, we need net neutrality.

—Dongjun Yun, East Amherst, NY

Pay for preferential play is not what is needed. Throw out the rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Jonathan Hancock, Merritt Island, FL

The end of Net Neutrality would be the end of so very much of why the Internet is such a valuable resource going into the 21st century. By allowing for pay-to-play speed tiers, Mr. Wheeler's plan would quash so much of the free and equal forum for communication, transmission of ideas and notions, and independent thought that the internet has become. Please, reclassify ISPs as common carriers; it's common sense and history will thank you.

—Adam Schiappa, Massapequa, NY

No double dipping you greedy jerks

—Xavi Sema, Cs, TX

Net neutrality is important to me because it provides equal internet access to all websites, not just the ones that can afford to pay more.

—Melinda Race, Mansfield, MA

First it will be net neutrality, then it will be personal freedoms. This is the beginning of America's downfall and it is a shame people will destroy a country just for extra dollars. Go ahead and do this; people will riot eventually and then money will not mean a thing.

—Kitty Jay, Denver, CO

We don't need or want to lose Net Neutrality, everything is working just fine as it is. RKY U.S. Army Veteran

—Robert Korsakas-Ycaza, Fort Hood, TX

ISPs should be either reclassified as common carriers (for their ISP functions) or should be required to be split off from content creators, as this has created the current situation thanks to their extremely obvious conflicts of interest. Common carrier would do less to alleviate the issue in the long run than forcing them to split off, but I will acknowledge the various difficulties the split requirement creates. Perhaps a middle ground, of saying an ISP has to accept common carrier status if it belongs (even tangentially) to a content creator parent/sibling company.

—Mr. Cody Denver, Plymouth, MN

Please do not screw over the citizens of this planet in an attempt to make these corrupt cable companies more money.

—Michael Samms, Brick, NJ

I'm going to be blunt - people hate cable companies already. They already overcharge for services, and while I am at heart a capitalist, the idea that companies could be allowed to *charge more for specific websites to load more quickly* is atrocious. The Internet has been at the heart of many crucial events worldwide, and the idea that companies may pick and choose what websites work properly is abhorrent.

—Michael Joseph, Providence, RI

Money should not equal free speech. Additionally, the major cable companies did not create the internet, so they should not be given such an impressive level of control over our access to various websites. Like it or not, the internet has become a necessary resource in our day and age and the monopolies within the cable industry have already begun taking advantage of their customers. Please do not allow them further power over citizens of the United States.

—Jillian Andersen, Boise, ID

The fact that there are corporations trying to get rid of net neutrality is truly sad. At humanity's core, we are a greedy bunch. Greed is a useful survival instinct after all. No matter what we wish, greed will always be playing a major role in our society. That sucks, but it's the way things always will be so I can accept it. What I cannot accept, however, is a group of multi-billion dollar companies, who have about as close to a monopoly as one could legally get, letting their greed drive them to use their considerable influence to harm society just so they can fatten their pickets more. I could understand this push on their part, if net neutrality was actually hurting them: it isn't. They're still bringing in more money in a day than many businesses bring in over the course of a year. Verizon, Comcast, Time Warner... they're all doing pretty damn well. In an ideal world, our lawmakers would look at the absurdity of this plan, look at the clear and obvious damage it would do to their constituents then laugh uproariously at the cable companies for having the audacity to push for such a thing. But we're not in an ideal world, we're in a world filled with corporations using their massive resources to hire lobbyists who push an agenda that is only beneficial to those large corporations. At this point, I should stop and point out that I have no problems with corporations. I'm proud to live in a strong, capitalist society, and those corporations didn't get where they are today by sitting around twiddling their thumbs. They came up with business plans, and they pushed and pushed and pushed to take their companies to the top. While I certainly don't approve of all their methods they used to get there, I'm not going to sit here and condemn corporations, demanding they pay more and more because of their success. But again, I circle back to the fact that the cable corporations pushing for this do not need it for their survival. So that means that their push to end net neutrality is solely based out of their greed. This message is really starting to drone on, and I apologize for that. So I'll start bringing this to a close. Net neutrality takes the right to choose out of the hands of each and every American and puts it into the hands of an overly powerful cable corporation. History has taught us that this is rarely a good plan. Giving cable companies the right to choose which websites will load quickly, and which ones will not is hands-down the dumbest idea I have heard in my short 26 years of life. And believe me, I've heard some pretty dumb ideas. My final plea: use your common sense. Net neutrality was put in place to protect the people. In today's day and age, internet is becoming an essential part of every day life. Don't give a few corporations the power to choose what people can access. Don't give a few corporations the power to seriously harm the free speech and means of expression of 300+ million Americans. Greed is inescapable, but that doesn't mean you should hand it the keys to harm our society.

—Jeremy Fitch, Oakbrook Terrace, IL

While I hardly believe that government regulation is necessary in everything, net neutrality is just as important as ever. It will help prevent online monopolies created by the ever present ISP monopolies (i.e. Comcast, verizon, etc). The government should foster competition between companies and help upstarts. If the big companies are afraid that someone is doing it better, then they should challenge themselves to exceed expectations, rather than allow stagnation. Like the trust busters before us, let's keep the playing field level!

—Louis, Gloucester, VA

I'm a small business owner in southern California, trying to break into the hobby games industry by designing and publishing board and card games. Internet marketing and online sales are essential for a business like mine, and Net Neutrality is essential to being able to compete in the online market. With my business less than a year old, I can't afford to pay a premium to an oligopoly of cable companies to make sure my business website is as accessible as a large company like Amazon. Please show your support for small businesses in America by rejecting 'fast-lanes' and making ISPs common carriers.

—David Curry, La Habra, CA

There are many more people who have internet connections than landline phones. Would you let Verizon regulate who you can call by the amount they pay? Then why would you let the ISP do the same thing?

—Timothy Lindsay, Monroe, LA

The internet is the last place where anyone has a fair chance of making themselves heard without having massive amounts of wealth or connections.

—Annaleena Wade, Santa Cruz, CA

The most important thing about the internet is its accessibility. Everyone with an internet connection has a voice, no matter how much money or influence they have. Giving preference to companies that can afford to pay a premium for higher-speed data transmission threatens this freedom. Cable companies have enough control of our lives and our wallets as it is; their monopolies shouldn't extend to the internet. The internet represents the Marketplace of ideas, and that Market should be Free.

—Beth, Charlottesville, VA

The internet is a public resource, every part of it being interconnected. ISP's (internet service providers) have no claim to this resource, they only provide access to it. Net Neutrality means that the internet is like a vast library, every text is available to the user, giving a vast wealth of knowledge to the public. Just like a library much of the internet serves the public good. Without Net Neutrality, the internet would be like a library in which you can only check out the bestsellers, unless you wait several days. I believe it is obvious that a library functioning in that capacity would have a reduced benefit to the public. As another example, the suggestion to end net neutrality would be like suggesting that whichever radio station can afford the most powerful broadcast tower should be able to broadcast over the frequency of other less well equipped stations. The damage incurred to the public good, combined with the restriction of access to a public resource by a private interest, make me highly opposed to ending Net Neutrality. Net Neutrality is part of what makes the internet as valuable as it is, ending that would be a terrible loss.

—John Houk, Brattleboro, VT

I don't think it's necessary to defend why the internet should be free of regulation and open to free speech in every form. It's everything we stand for. If you oppose this, you probably believe that U.S. citizens should be ruled for their own safety, so this probably falls on deaf ears. Either way, chalk this up for another American wanting the government out of the internet.

—Derek Porter, Escondido, CA

A free and open internet is the single greatest technology of our time, and control should not be at the mercy of corporations. It stimulates ISP competition, prevents unfair pricing practices, promotes innovation, drives entrepreneurship and above all protects citizens rights to free speech. I'm not sure why we have to argue this considering the only people arguing to end this are the ones with an invested interest in seeing their profits soar. Corporations have proven again and again that they can not be trusted to put public welfare ahead of lining their own pockets.

—Patience Schoene, Seattle, WA

Online discrimination is just as bad as real life discrimination. Don't end net neutrality.

—Evan Fowler, Leavenworth, KS

Net neutrality is vitally important to the future of the internet as we know it. Striking down net neutrality would make it virtually impossible for start up internet companies to grow, thereby handicapping a large section of our economy.

—Jeff Hipchen, Palatine, IL

Verizon, Comcast and AT&T are heartless, money-grubbing bastards. They've done an excellent job of buying our congress. Welcome to plutocracy. Mmmmm, smells like Russia.

—Adam Lynch, Jackson, MS

Net neutrality is important now as ever before. With telecommunications becoming the primary ,or in some cases only, mean by which goods and services are exchanged , it becomes more and more akin to a public market. At that point it becomes a public's right to have access equally across all platforms to all venues and vendors(websites) . While charging an access fee(paying for internet access) makes sense to insure the upkeep of said marketplace(physical telecommunications maintenance), charging vendors different rates to enable their site faster access creates an unfair advantage and in essence renews "fair market" null. That kind of climate would only breed monopolies, which the effects on the consumer should be well understood.

—ben C, renfrew, PA

Net neutrality is important to me because I've chosen to do basic immunology research in an academic setting, rather than get a job in industry. As such I don't make very much money, but need the internet for work every day. Please keep people like me in mind.

—H Hartzler, Saint Louis, MO

Just once I would like to see the government do something to protect the average American instead of asshole corporations who are bleeding America dry. America has fallen behind the remainder of the industrialized world in every conceivable way. For once do something to protect the people instead of faceless corporations.

—Matt Polley, Martinsville, IN

Dear FCC, Please do not end net neutrality. ISPs are already making money hand-over-fist for a product that is both slower and more expensive than ones available in most other first world nations. The fact that our nation first invented the Internet and now we are getting left behind is a sad state of affairs. Average tax-paying Americans, such as myself, need our government to stand up for our needs - not big businesses. This legislation is a terrible turn of events that will hurt the average consumer while padding the wallets of executives. Please do the right thing and stand for us. Thanks, Miles

—Miles Gibson, Doylestown, PA

You are fools if you're going to continue to let the fox guard the hen house. People pay dearly for the services they get, limiting them on prejudices for who lines their pockets is total crap, and goes completely against freedom of speech and expression. What's next? Burning books?

—Miss Jennifer Vincent, Palm Bay, FL

Cable giants make enough money as it is. They have virtual monopolies in their service areas, and basically act like they hate their customers. Please don't give them any more power to screw us over!

—Hugh L Eckert, Arlington, VA

The promise of the internet is that you can find any information you want almost instantly. Allowing companies to pay for which information you get faster will have the practical effect of restricting speech on the internet to only those who can afford the "fast lane" fee. Innovation will be stifled as new media startups will not be able to compete. Anything they do will be monumentally slower than the established companies. Net neutrality would be pay to play and crony capitalism at it's worst. Please rethink your position on this as it is of vital importance.

—Daniel Arflack, Union, MO

The future of nearly all research to advance society depends on Net Neutrality. Why stifle progress for the profit of cable companies? Will you be satisfied when scientists can no longer research new technologies to advance society?

—David Vizcaino, Miami, FL

Canadian politicians work like this: If the United States catch a cold, our politicians sneeze. That's the same with the FCC and our version, the CRTC! Only it's much worse because their mandate is to protect Canadians using communication service providers but instead, the CRTC protects the interests of oligopolies, the giants and seemingly unstoppable entities that think humans are mere imbeciles made out of money. It is imperative that the FCC understands that oligopolies have got to be controlled through vigorous oversight and not flinch at the sight & smell of money. It is high time that those in power comprehend that we are not farmers that produce money to feed the pigs on the 'stock' markets.

—Mario Marceau, Quebec,

I do not understand how this argument even made it to this point. I guess it goes to show you that common sense has been replaced by a large bank account. I am so embarrassed to be an American. To see that these companies can make such disgusting arguments that state disabled people need different internet speeds? Utterly ridiculous. Let me ask; when has deregulation led to a better functioning industry? When you let these ultra powerful organizations create their own rules it ALWAYS leads to disaster where ultimately the consumer loses and the top executives walking away richer without consequence.

—Nick, Rocky Hill, CT

Internet services already cost too much and it's barely affordable now for what we get. To break it into 2 tiers just so they can end up charging us even more to have the access needed for daily use.

—Kira, gainesville, TX

To eliminate net neutrality would drive up the already inflated internet prices. Also, it would be unfair to the smaller internet companies who wouldn't be able to 'play ball' like the larger ones can.

—Edward Hodakowski, Crocker, MO

Please keep net neutrality as the standard. Ending it would create internet monopolies and stunt small business growth.

—Gabby Moore, Beavercreek, OH

Net Neutrality is very important to not just me, but to everyone. No net neutrality = Chaos everywhere, and it's just another pathetic excuse for money. Many important services would take hours to load, and we're already in a recession. We need net neutrality, please, for all of us.

—William Kuang, Sacramento, CA

Please don't let greedy companies kill Net Neutrality. The internet is such a beautiful thing that has brought the whole world together and it has changed the world faster than any technological revolution. Don't allow the cable companies to introduce segregation to the internet! They are only the carriers of the internet, not the controller!

—Jökull Máni Skúlason, Hafnarfjörður,

Giving already-powerful cable and telecom companies more control to charge whatever they want is a horrendous idea. The idea that the elimination of net neutrality will benefit anyone (other than cable and telecom execs of course) is absurd. In the end, as is so, so often the case, the consumer will wind up paying more money for the same service or even slower service once the drooling cable and telecom companies get their way. Please, for the love of all that is good in this world, do not let net neutrality get killed. As a country we try not to discriminate against any one group of people. The death of net neutrality will mean we've accepted discrimination as a healthy way of doing business.

—David Friedel, Alexandria, VA

To ensure that democracy and the capitalist economical system remain intact, we need an open means of communicating ideas. The net is that means. Please don't allow the ISPs the ability to control our free speech or our economic systems.

—Chris Flannery, fishers, IN

If Comcast is allowed to make the rules, American innovation will suffer. Please write laws that protect net neutrality and save America from the cable companies.

—Charlie B. Beiser, Philadelphia, PA

To the men working at the FCC, you can not allow Tom Wheeler's plans to go through. This would help no one except the cable companies who have been spending millions and millions of dollars to take control over the internet. It would do nothing but allow free speech to be subdued based solely on one's bank account. This must not happen.

—Maxwell Leahy, Elmhurst, IL

As it is now almost impossible to be a productive member of society without access to the internet, it is crucial that Net Neutrality to remain intact. If the cable companies have their way, they can pick and choose who gets faster connections, which severely limits my freedom of speech. If I were to create a website that they did not like, or I did not pay enough money to keep the speeds I would like, they could slow my speeds, limiting my free speech. That is unacceptable.

—Matt, CINCINNATI, OH

Keep the internet free! It's the only place corporations haven't corrupted every part of it. Everyone should have equal access to the internet. The internet was created by the government and it should stay in government hands. I love capitalism and money is a fantastic motivator, but the government should step in when greedy CEOs overstep their bounds legally.

—Andrew Adams, San diego, CA

I mean come on. Your allowing big corporations the ability to force others to pay for things no one should have to pay for. This is a good idea to them because to corporations all they can comprehend is how much money they will make on something. This will eventually lead to the death of any sort of creativity on the internet. This will happen by new start up websites that might have invented some new amazing way to do something through the internet to not have the funds to pay for the faster speed, and no one will wait for the enormous loading times. All of the big, successful internet companies like Google, Yahoo, Facebook, etc. need to remember that they were once small projects that could have never flourished into the companies they are today, under the conditions that are currently being imposed. Not only this but these companies are also going to be paying way more money than they already are. One last thing, the big companies are the only ones that can survive through this. Things like kickstarter, twitch, reddit, among others might go bankrupt paying to not have crappy load times. Verizon and company should deliver internet just like how electricity is delivered to consumers. They give you access to the internet, and you can go to whatever websites you want with equal loading times. You never see a company offering to give your television more power than your computer or gaming system if you pay more. Why should they care what you use the internet for?

—Sean Houston, Colorado Springs, CO

I use the Internet daily. I help set up small startup businesses and websites. These small startups could not survive with the added cost or slower speeds.

—Will Turner, Los Angeles, CA

With society becoming more and more net dependent each day the internet should become a public utility akin to electric and water.

—Jeremy Abernethy, Fernandina, FL

I don't want someone else deciding what my priorities should be when it comes to my own entertainment or search for information.

—Hester Price, Summersville, WV

A free and open internet is the only way to fight the trend towards wealth concentration at the top of earners. Losing net neutrality has only two effects: increasing cable company revenues and reducing small businesses' competitiveness.

—Alan Tipert, Atlanta, GA

Please do not ruin the internet so rich CEOs can become richer.

—Lawrence Herskowitz, Bellaire, TX

I don't want non-profit knowledge-providing websites like Wikipedia to have to inundate users with advertisements in order to pay cable companies so that their site will load in a reasonable amount of time. Keep Net Neutrality, it's the most important aspect of the Internet; it lets the world share knowledge equally. ISPs MUST be reclassified as common carriers.

—Nate Klaus, Bend, OR

You can't let large companies destroy net neutrality. They're lying when they say that it's a bad thing. Don't let them trick you. Don't let them bribe you. Protect the people from capitalist greed.

—Paul Davis, Durant, OK

Net Neutrality is important for a few reasons, but the most important is simply the flow of information. It's funny that the big cable conglomerates think that they should be able to control a specific webpage's load speed when they are already doing that to customers. Did they not think of that? A customer right now has a choice of 10, 15, 30, 50 mb etc. So depending on the speed you pick, that is the speed a website is going to load at. The ISP is already restricting the load speeds of webpages. Why do they feel like they have the right to go further? They do not own the internet. Going back to the flow of information statement. If we are going to be a country based on the ideals of diversity then how is it right to restrict the free speech of those who will not be able to pay the ridiculous speed prices to these humongous cable giants? So if I made my own blog, I will be required to pay for my cable connection, then pay for my blog to actually load at a decent rate just so others will actually want to come read my blog? How does that sound right? As a Journalist major, the "big six" corporations of every Mass Media outlet need to take a step back and be happy with their millions of dollars a year profit. It is not right to restrict any person who feels like they want to share some part of their life or profession over the internet because they do not have the ability to pay. We've already killed the idea of small business, so what? You want to kill the idea of a place to find free flowing information too? Our Founding Fathers must be tossing in their graves. Remember, information is the key to educated people. The internet has helped greatly in the form of expression, business, the arts, and education. I was in the Military, I fought for this country. I did not fight for you to tread on these citizens. I did not fight because you think you have a right to this superficial garbage. I fought for OUR rights. And those cable companies are not in their right to dictate the internet.

—Fred Arnold, Clearwater, FL

What's all the fuss about? Allowing some of the greediest, most deceptive, least-liked corporations in America to write their own laws has historically worked out so well for the economy and for individual liberty. Hasn't it?

—Jacquelyn Crawford, Los Altos, CA

Without net neutrality I won't have the freedom to browse whichever sites I please at my own leisure. Instead, I will have to browse only quick loading sites when I only have 5 minutes to kill and only slower sites when I have ample time. This is bullshit.

—Robert Reinartz, Pasadena, TX

You're just monopolizing the internet cable companies. Please can't you just be happy with the billions you already make on the backs people who just wish to be entertained. Do this and you'll be setting the tone for America's forthcoming decent into an Ayn Rand wet dream. And sure it might work for a while, and you'll make all the money, but there are so many more of us than you and what happens when we come for you. Remember your armies, and security come the house of the poor. Look at it this way 99 percent of us are a horde of Softbank screamers, and the one percent left are swaggering soft fools hiding behind piles of paper and the rat cage of illogic that is the modern American bureaucracy. So take this freedom from us and we'll haunt you and yours with a ferocity that has never been attempted by the denizens of the web. Also why do you need all the money? Is most of the money okay? I mean come on all we have to do is stop payments and your entire structure crumbles. You need us more than we need you. Do this and nerds from every where will unite to throw free the shackles of greed.

—Michael Innocente, Chicago, IL

Please keep the internet a meaningful and thought-provoking place as it once was, and not an agenda-driven, money-making monster that the broadband providers want to turn it into. Keep the Internet fair, open and competitive for the multitude of soon-coming, fresh ideas that have shaped and continue to shape the world to this day. But my main reason...for my daughter.

—Brian Nmezi, Salt Lake City, UT

The internet is, at its core, communication. It takes the form of sharing information and data, which is circular, since that is what communicating is. The FCC is meant to regulate communications. I imagine this involves insuring that the rights of citizens who are using broad forms of communication are protected. So, I posit this query: if an ISP is allowed to effectively block or otherwise inhibit communication, and I try to use the internet to post some kind of factual information that places an ISP in a negative light, or even an opinion that maligns an ISP, they could prevent me from distributing my information or opinion via the internet. The internet is communication, so shouldn't I be able to communicate as freely as anyone else, regardless of my economy? Or is my ability to have my voice heard so completely tied to my economic status that even this note to you, from a 28 year old with an income of 20-30,000 a year, should only be heard if I am able to afford the fees? There are already price tags (food, shelter, transportation, clothing, hygiene, health) that prevent me from visiting congress myself and lobbying effectively for dramatic change. Without the internet I could write a letter (cheap but not timely, and, much like this comment, probably going to be read by an underpaid and disinterested employee with no power of their own to create change) or make a phone call (if I have access to a phone or can afford one of my own, another price tag, and again most likely to be answered by someone with little to no ability, voice, or power to do anything meaningful). That sounds cynical, and perhaps I am. I look at our system and all I see are chains and bindings preventing me from making any meaningful difference, and I see ten or twenty individuals who either don't care, care only about themselves, or care so much that they find themselves limited by the fact that they simply can't do everything for everyone, or listen to everything from everyone, or do both of those things and still have time to meet with and influence the people who no longer care or gave up caring because they saw exactly what I see and their spirits broke or they tried and failed and now they can't bring themselves to throw any more of their life away battering themselves against a system consumed with money and itself. I understand that ISPs provide the internet to us for a fee, but considering how ubiquitous the internet has become as a means of communicating, allowing corporations/ISPs the means to inhibit communication seems counter to the actual purpose of the internet, which is to communicate. Speech is a form of communication, and is protected under the first amendment, but maybe we should look at that amendment and consider that it probably meant communication as a whole. The internet is communication. It should be regulated not by those who care about money or power, but by those who value the right of our citizens to communicate freely.

—Jared Baumgart, Minneapolis, MN

Dear FCC, Net neutrality is incredibly important to me, as I believe it is the last medium to offer an uncorrupted vantage point for any business, regardless of how wealthy. This is so important for any creative person that could offer a new good or service, because they would be incredibly discouraged by the large payments they would need to make to cable companies for an ordinary connection speed for their customers.

—Jeremy Leick, Louisville, KY

The internet is a vital resource for all people, and should not be under the control of corporations.

—Kyle Adams, Manchester, NY

Please don't do this, you lobbying POS's ;-;

—Luis Daniel Ookie Arriaga, Laredo, TX

Net neutrality will enable me to learn about future jobs, other cultures, and an endless myriad of other things I need to know later in life.

—Katie Minton, Chickamauga, GA

It's about basic human and civil rights around access to communication; like equality in free speech, not more or less access to speech depending on how much money you have. You are like attempting to market air for profit.

—Stephanie Miyashiro, Berkeley, CA

As a consumer, watching the drama between Netflix and Comcast unfold; is sad to say the least. Being a customer of both, feeling like I've already paid both to deliver services; and watching one essentially ransom the other to pay for access to their customers... access that should already be present by virtue of my paying exorbitant fees to Comcast in the first place. Now Netflix will be forced to charge me more for the same service. This sort of manipulation should be deemed extortion. As a professional in the IT field, watching the argument over Network Neutrality is at once shameful and ludicrous. Competition, albeit marginal, at best; has shown that the same or much improved services could be delivered for much less, and company profits would continue unabated. Thanks to Google Fiber, we have this example in several cities around the US. The industry must be regulated as a utility. To do less is granting a kind of gold rush and land baron, or better put, a wild west attitude. Where the biggest pockets/guns win, and everyone else pays/loses. Our information systems are critical to daily life. One need only look at laws created to protect information and information systems to see this. Why can we lock up a 'script kiddie' who illegally accesses a network, but not similarly punish a corporation for stifling or ransoming access to the same systems and networks. The internet is the telephone of this century. Not to have equal and unfettered access is akin to not having the ability to dial 911 for help, particularly when telephone services often travel on the same networks as Voice over IP. Please stop the parade of BS, and get to some real regulation. Thanks!

—David Elkin-Bram, Portland, OR

I'm not saying the current system is perfect, but we'd be bloody fools to go along with what the providers (Comcast, Verizon, etc.) are proposing. I don't entirely blame them for trying to represent their interests (except for the hilarious amount of money they're throwing into side organizations and lobbying groups to be all "oh yeah that's totally legit guys also where can I buy a gold-plated Ferrari?", that's just sad), but what is being proposed goes *way* too far against the interests of citizens and the government. I know that there are temptations to going along with these companies; I mean at the end of the day they have money they can offer you, whereas I just have taxes. But please don't do this, it's blatantly silly, to put it mildly. Toss these ridiculous rules and put these guys in their place: reclassify them as common carriers. Or they're gonna spend the next fifty years walking all over us *and* you more than they already are.

—Kelsey Alexander, Bloomington, IN

Why is it that you insist on letting companies like Time Warner and Verizon charge everyone up the @\$\$ while the service they provide keeps going to hell!?!? And now you want to let them rake in even more money to provide a "hyper lane" to companies that can afford to pay for it while other companies are left behind in the "fast lane"? This is obviously all about money and so aggravating that the people chosen to protect us from these corporations are sitting there smiling and telling us that its in our best interest.

—Jose Contreras, Fontana, CA

Net neutrality is the only thing that allows for internet-era creativity. Had net neutrality been nixed a decade ago, the world would have gone without Facebook, snapchat, eBay, and every other site that wasn't started by people with cartoonishly large money bags and the right connections. Save ingenuity; keep the net neutral.

—Alana, Washington, DC

Net Neutrality serves an important social function. Just like when the government stepped in and broke up monopolies, so to should the government put the greed of corporate businesses behind the desires of the people. Never has a company been given the ability to control who's content reaches more people based on the amount of money they pay worked out for anyone but that company. For instance, take Google. They run an ad service where you can advertise on their website. Pay a small amount and you will be advertised wherever they can find space, increase that amount, however, and you get the top of the front page. This is what ruins small businesses, who cannot financially compete with conglomerates. Little business, little entertainment, little information, these things run America, not Verizon or Comcast. Please, keep net Neutrality for the people, tell the Cable companies they already make enough with.

—Brian Wagon, Springfield, MO

ISPs must be reclassified as common carriers. The Internet has been the most significant form of social and economic advancement since the invention of written language. And greed is about to destroy it. The cable companies who have more money to throw around than I do, or anyone who relies on equal internet speeds, are probably making it sound very convincing that what they want is good for America. But please listen to the public outcry. Nobody besides the cable companies supports it. Internet and tech companies like Google and Microsoft abhor the idea. It is not because we all misunderstand the situation, and the cable companies know something we do not. I am a freelance animator. My small business depends on steady internet speeds. Without them, my business literally could not exist. High speed, reliable, fair use of broadband internet is as vital to the advancement of Western Civilization as running water. Don't let the powerful cable companies kill us with thirst just because they want to become richer. Please use your heads. And if the only side of the issue you've heard so far is from the cable companies, do even a little bit of research on the opposing side and there is no way you can logically agree with them. Unless you really want them to pay you a lot of money, in which case, absolutely collect your fat check and screw over everyone who built their lives with the way the Internet used to be regulated. Because striking down Net Neutrality will ensure that the brilliance of the Internet be choked out.

—James Bowman, Sherman Oaks, CA

Dear FCC, I ask that you please retain net neutrality. The Internet has long been a place of freedom, where its inherent anonymity provides a sort of equality. To take that away would take away the spirit of the Internet, and if you take away the spirit of the Internet, then undoubtedly they will step outside once more and plague us with stunted opinions formed by years of forum posting and biased media outlets. Do you wish to unleash a plague of self-righteous, racist, sexist, socially awkward, overgrown children on the American public? These people were raised on the Internet, molded by it. They didn't see the outdoors until they were well past puberty, and by then they only find it beneath their educated opinions. Please, FCC, I implore you. Retain net neutrality and keep these monsters where they belong: On forum posts, anonymously posting inflammatory opinions while watching television shows meant for children far, far younger than they.

—Taylor Rehkop, Henderson, NV

Net neutrality is the only way information can be shared quickly at a global level. I want information to grow and thrive. Sharing ideas is the only way humans have advanced as a species. There is more money to be made by playing the long game with the internet than short sightedly implementing these proposed controls.

—Meghan, Texarkana, TX

Dear FCC, We have all heard the hyperbole and the spin by the telecom (and cable) giants. You and all us know the reality, their wish to exploit the Internet solely for their profit. It is a lie that they built it, it is a lie that they alone provide it, it is a lie that they alone maintain it. Don't destroy what should be a public right-of-way. Maintain Net Neutrality. Any thing that allows the telecom's to discriminate between to traffic on the Internet will result in the decimation of majority of the users access to the Internet. The telecom companies already have the mechanism to be paid for higher rates for larger bandwidth. So the likes of NetFlix pay significantly more for the huge bandwidth in to their premieres. So don't believe their lies and stay with Net Neutrality.

—Peter Dominey, Southlake, TX

Net neutrality is important to me because my band The Phantom Sensation couldn't afford to pay for faster service to our website effectively killing our ability to spread our music. thephantomsensation.com

—Zach Zanetich, Crowley, TX

This may be the biggest question you'll ever have to answer. Is the FCC more concerned about unregulated capitalism or Constitutional rights? If the cable companies get what they want, then the FCC has effectively decided that Freedom of Speech is simply meant for those who can afford it (YAY CAPITALISM!!!) I already know what you're going to decide and that makes it all the more sad. For you, the almighty dollar is always more important than the protection of Constitutional rights.

—Matthew Gregory, Mesquite, TX

Net Neutrality is important to me because if this all goes through and I want to stop using Comcast because they're throttling the life out of me, my current options are getting satellite internet and paying four dollars a gigabyte, or doing all of my schoolwork in Starbucks from now on.

—Daniel Holmes, North Little Rock, AR