

I strongly believe LPFM would be harmful or disrupting for the general public. There are enough problems with interference on the air waves as it is. Having many small improperly run transmitter sites and frequencies would introduce a huge amount of static. The average person has neither the funding or experience and knowledge to properly maintain a station. Also, the FCC is understaffed in most markets as it is. With literally thousands more >independents= to govern, a virtual anarchy could rule the airways oblivious to regulation. It has been stated that there are no more minorities and women in radio. Hindsight is 20-20 after deregulation created mega-corporations (only 4 in the Boise market!!). I don't believe too many would reenter the business for the fun of it; money talked and they walked. To those few that may, I have a hard time justifying special benefits of ownership. That should depend on integrity, ability, and stability.

The technical ramifications of instigating broad, small stations in the market are huge. The formats proposed do not cater to IBOC digital broadcasts- the definite future of AM/FM radio. The digital standard WORKS and should be released as soon as the legalities are taken care of. Companies with their own agendas for LPFM are as greedy as the large owners are now! Many seek not serve the public, only their own pockets. Many, many music and radio lovers are out of work because of these same people. Interference with existing station signals could be so great the majority of radios in the country may not receive anything but static. Most radios are fairly cheap desktop types that are incapable of channel separation compatible with many channels. Also, SCA channel information, which provides for thousands of people would likely be greatly affected by a relative lack of sideband capability.

In conclusion, I think the FCC should review the dominance of companies in the current market and seek to amend some decisions it made long ago. Digital radio can enable some more frequency spots to become available with no interference at all. It is clearly a medium better in nearly every way. The FCC needs to implement this soon so the OEM and aftermarket can make it even better in practice. LPFM is NOT the answer! Learn from past mistakes and don't let any current ones control OUR future. Say no to guerrilla radio!

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