

The FCC is supposed to regulate the spectrum as a public trust and in the public interest. We no longer have much educational programming and we certainly do not have diversity of opinion and music due in large part to the re-regulation of the Reagan Era, the Communications Act of 1996, and ongoing efforts by the current administrators (sic) of the FCC to remove further regulations to favor corporate interests over independent and non commercial stations.

I would like to have additional support for creating and fostering community and LPFM stations. Non-commercial broadcasting should be subsidized with commercial licensing fees rather than, for example, giving away the digital television spectrum to the same corporations who have largely failed to offer programming that is educational, that provides information that aids in enriching and uplifting our communities, our families and our rapidly deteriorating democracy.

The FCC needs to return to a model that limits the number of stations that can be owned by a single corporate entity both nationally and in each community and also limits the number of media outlets, including print, cable and electronic that one owner can operate. The previous changes in policy have done nothing to increase the educational and entertainment value of broadcasting in the United States. It has done nothing beyond establishing an environment for sanctioned media monopolies and driven lots of small, independently owned and operated broadcast stations out of business because they could no longer compete with companies that own hundreds or thousands of stations across the country. Under the Republican leadership (sic) the FCC is rapidly moving farther in the wrong directions concerning their stewardship of the public airwaves.