

To the FCC Commissioners

Ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply concerned.

The AOL and Time Warner merger, is a worldwide problem, which causes serious concerns well beyond the borders of America. I know you as Americans know and recognize the importance of freedom of speech. When I as a citizen of a country that also embrace the concept of that right, hear voices that tells me that Time Warner, a company, is to be given the (sole) right to reduce the individual right of freedom of speech, it concerns me. Then there is no longer freedom of speech. Is America going to lead the way?

The internet, and its ability to get data from one place to another, from one user to another, is the biggest security we have today, that our voices will never be kept silent. Freedom of speech shall not be decided on how many cartoons you buy. The clause (in question) gives Time Warner the right to do what ever they please. But that cannot be a to anyone's interest but Time Warner.

I know that you ladies and gentlemen in FCC do not wish this.

I don't expect that Time Warner have any kind of attention to act in a bad manner. But there is always a chance. And is your constitution not worth so much that you do not want to gamble? Another, but even more dangerous hazard, is that Time Warner has customers to please, and can if pressure is turned on them be forced (in order to keep up reputation, and profit) to act on popular demand. A demand to shout up groups or minorities away from the net. It does not matter how evil and unpleasant those could be- you can not give up your freedom and protection in order to protect you self from a little group of people.

In Europe we had the Second World War at very close hand. We can still see the memory plates from fallen men and women on the walls of houses on every second street. This is a constant reminder on how much wrong can be done, if a one part is allowed to take one group out after another. There was complete control over communication. Every paper, even letters was censored. And there was no way to protest. I don't believe that anything like this will happen. But it has thought us a valuable lesson about the importance of free speech.

Today America is second to none, along with a little handful of other counties who have absolute freedom of speech. Tomorrow, you could end up being second to all western states, and many, many others.

Therefore I beg you to think long and hard before you let Time Warner control the future of your country and the future of free speech in the United States of America.

With the outmost respect,
Rasmus Havslund
Rantzausgade 11, 2, 2,
DK-2200 N – Copenhagen.
Denmark.