

Ladies and Gentleman of FCC Time Warner makes the following claim

F TIME WARNER DETERMINES THAT THE SUBSCRIBER HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE SERVICE'S STANDARDS OF CONDUCT OR LIMITS ON BANDWIDTH UTILIZATION, TIME WARNER MAY SUSPEND SUBSCRIBER'S ACCOUNT. TIME WARNER COMMUNICATIONS SHALL HAVE THE SOLE AND UNREVIEWABLE RIGHT TO DETERMINE WHETHER CONTENT VIOLATES THESE STANDARDS.

These statements presume they actually own the system itself. They do not actually own the network system they manage however. The value of their network system is dependent on the plentitude of individuals members of their system. A telephone network of 10 doesn't have the same value as a telephone network of 10 million. This implies each active node in the network has an intristic value to the network itself.

Let's pretend for a minute AOL actually owns their network. They would be able to regulate the speech for instance which they do. However it is not AOL employees who suspend user privileges. This power is used by other aol users not employees. How is it that AOL customers have the right to suspend some other customers access to the internet?

Since AOL has the ability to suspend user privileges since they own their network one would expect protection of value information such as credit card numbers would also be protected. But that is not the case. I personally had to get re-issued copies of my credit cards with new numbers due to poor AOL protection of their customers credit card information to hackers. My problem was far from the only one of that nature.

Many users of internet nodes such as USENET and IRC believe the merger will result in more biased restriction of free speech, yet a more exploitable environment for both corporate profit interests and unscrupulous criminals who take advantage of AOL's lack of fair protection for their customers.

Please esteemed Sirs and Ladies, even if you decide to allow this merger allow some protection for USENET and IRC users to make the company unable to eliminate these important nodes of the internet. And please, in your pledge for open access, make it open access to the person who actually uses, pays for and creates the internet not just the corporations and criminals who seek to exploit it.