

It is my understanding that certain Internet Service Providers, of which Time-Warner's Road Runner Service is one, who have made it a practice to monitor postings to Usenet discussion groups, IRC chat groups, and so forth, unilaterally cancelling service for material they consider objectionable. As the Internet at large is a public communications medium, and since individuals must rely upon a commercial Internet service provider for access, it is important that First Amendment rights to express opinions or post other material, excepting that which directly advocates or incites immediate violence or constitutes conspiracy. By imposing restraints upon ISPs to assure individual rights to communicate without censorship, the FCC would be acting consistent with the regulations long in force with respect to broadcast media, wherein "opposing" viewpoints must be aired, in order to prevent corporate broadcast interests from censoring this important media.

Please consider such measures prior to approving any merger which concentrates power to the extent the Time-Warner/AOL union will.