

<HTML>To Whom It May Concern:

The Time Warner/AOL Merger is soon to come to life. That much seems to be a given. However, as a result of this merger, if left unchecked, could be the undoing of the Internet, the very vehicle which made much of the merger a possibility, if not the singular cause.

Time Warner includes in its' broadband service the restrictions that the content of its' users traffic be deemed by Time Warner as appropriate and/or acceptable. I would question 'Acceptable to whom?' The very reason for the success and continuing growth and widespread use of the internet and the world wide web is that it provides a place, a forum, a sanctuary for free-thinking peoples to gather, exchange information, or simply find entertainment in an environment that neither restricts nor passes judgement on what is 'right' or 'acceptable'. We all know that what is acceptable by one my be offensive to another. This is why the 'net' is such a success. To be free of such strictures.

I would encourage you to act decisively to maintain the spirit of the Internet, if not ensuring its' continued success, by not allowing service providers to determine the acceptability of a user's content in whatever form it may take on the Internet. To allow such an intrusion would be similar if we allowed gas stations or the oil companies to dictate how we use our vehicles which consume gasoline or diesel fuel, simply because we put their product in our tanks. Seems ridiculous doesn't it?

It would be great if we could allow commerce to judge the success of this latest venture of Time Warner; I'm confident that in time, as more and more users become aware of this 'Content Nazi' policy of Time Warner, that they would abandon the service. Unfortunately, at this time, Time Warner is the sole provider of broadband technology. This definitely allows them to maintain a monopoly on this service, and with such restrictions as referred to above, would greatly inhibit the free speech of any that would wish to use better technology, if only they wish to subscribe to the price required. My freedom is worth more than that. And I would hope yours would be too.

Sincerely,

John Rouze</HTML>