

[Search Strategy](#)

[1. AT ISSUE: MEDIA OWNERSHIP](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Search Strategy

Set#	Searched for	Databases	Results
S 8	(media consolidation) AND PUBID(45451)	ABI/INFORM Complete, Gannett Newsstand, Hoover's Company Profiles, ProQuest Entrepreneurship	74
S 7	(covert consolidation) AND PUBID(45451)	ABI/INFORM Complete, Gannett Newsstand, Hoover's Company Profiles, ProQuest Entrepreneurship	0
S 6	(covert consolidation) AND ftany(yes)	Gannett Newsstand	17°
S 5	(covert consolidation) AND ftany(yes)	Gannett Newsstand	17°
S 4	(media consolidation democrat chronicle) AND ftany(yes)	Gannett Newsstand	74°
S 3	(media consolidation "democrat & chronicle") AND ftany(yes)	Gannett Newsstand	0°
S 2	(media consolidation) AND ftany(yes)	Gannett Newsstand	2324°
S 1	(covert consolidation) AND ftany(yes)	Gannett Newsstand	17°

Document 1 of 1

AT ISSUE: MEDIA OWNERSHIP

Publication info: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle [Rochester, N.Y] 30 May 2003: A.15.

[ProQuest document link](#)

Abstract:

Why? [...] it is not in the best interests of the media.

Full text:

Elected lawmakers mustn't surrender control of airwaves to media moguls

DENNIS J. MORIARTY

GUEST ESSAYIST

You may have noticed that some familiar faces are missing from the 10 o'clock news on Channel 31.

Fox 31 is owned by Sinclair Broadcasting, a national media corporation that owns hundreds of media outlets. To reduce costs, Sinclair produces news content for its local affiliates. While this may sound like a wise business practice, it dilutes the value of locally produced and focused news.

This practice is the result of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that opened up the national airwaves to the major media corporations.

But that's only the beginning. It is expected that on Monday the Federal Communications Commission will vote along party lines (3-2 Republican) to allow media corporations to own several media outlets in the same city. This will further erode the media's responsibility to serve the public trust.

Consolidation and concentration of media ownership in the United States has resulted in the decrease from 50 national and multinational corporations in 1983 to fewer than 10 today.

The telecommunications giveaway, according to Kevin Phillips, author of *Wealth and Democracy: A Political History of the American Rich*, resembles how the railroads built their success on being awarded free government land.

If "we the people" have a valuable resource, isn't it the responsibility of those we elect to protect that resource and look out for our best interests? Unfortunately most politicians remain silent, well aware of the power that the major media conglomerates exercise over their careers.

Little information about this most important decision has been made available by the mainstream media to the public. Why? Because, it is not in the best interests of the media.

The media and democracy are inseparable. When our elected representatives allow private corporations to dominate and control our media, they are giving away our rights to freedom of expression and failing to live up to the trust we have invested in them.

We all, as responsible citizens, must remember that, as in the title of the book by Robert McChesney, John Nichols and Noam Chomsky, it's *Our Media, Not Theirs*.

Moriarty is a media and technology integration specialist at the Charter School of Science and Technology in Rochester.

Subject: Multinational corporations; Frequencies

Publication title: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

Pages: A.15

Publication year: 2003

Publication date: May 30, 2003

Year: 2003

Section: Speaking Out

Publisher: Gannett Co., Inc.

Place of publication: Rochester, N.Y.

Country of publication: United States

Source type: Newspapers

Language of publication: English

Document type: News

ProQuest document ID: 441579430

Document URL: <http://search.proquest.com/docview/441579430?accountid=47680>

Copyright: Copyright 2003 - Rochester Democrat and Chronicle NY - All Rights Reserved

Last updated: 2013-02-06

Database: Gannett Newsstand

Bibliography

Citation style: APA6

AT ISSUE: MEDIA OWNERSHIP. (2003, May 30). Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/441579430?accountid=47680>
