I am a DirecTV customer, not an AT&T customer, by intent. Now, because AT&T appears to have been allowed to purchase DirecTV, I am an involuntary customer of AT&T's.

My family and I do as little business as possible with the Baby Bells, because as a data connectivity (Network Support) specialist, for over 25 years, I've done business with the many phone companies, in their various configurations, for years. In those years I've learned that the proper amount of respect for most telecommunications connection providers is: none, or next to none.

These companies, including AT&T, have no use for customer service beyond getting money from us. Consolidation of these entities means we, who want connectivity, have even fewer options. Options were already limited by the fact that these companies very rarely compete against one another in wired services; try to crowd each other out of wireless bandwidth in regions they consider their own.

Please, focus on getting the connectivity we need, including municipal networks, to be competitive in a world that functions via phone, web, laptop, desktop, intelligent device, etc...

Please, also focus on keeping the Internet neutral; connection vendors should not be able to 'prioritize' content (especially their own) for customers.