I am a current customer of Time Warner Cable for Internet access in New York. They are the 2nd lowest rated consumer ISP in the country. I have Time Warner not because I chose them, but because they are the only provider in my area. If the merger is approved, I will be forced to switch to Comcast, which is the only Internet provider ranked lower than Time Warner.

I don't have access to DSL, Verizon FiOS, or their nominal competitor Cablevision, because they have split up the neighborhoods of New York to avoid competing. Internet is a necessity of modern life, a utility much like electricity or gas, and I don't have the option of not using the Internet.

Comcast claims this will not reduce competition and they are technically correct. But that is only because there is currently no competition for consumer internet. Unless Comcast agrees to provide equal access to their government subsidized infrastructure, this won't change.