

CONCURRING STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO
(DOCKET NO. 18110)

While I am in substantial agreement with the philosophy as well as the result of this Second Report and Order, and have voted to support it, I question whether it goes far enough in one important respect. The operational separation of commonly owned newspaper-television and newspaper-radio combinations is, in my opinion, a vital element in assuring the Commission's long-held policy of diversity of voices and equitable business competition without forcing the harsh remedy of requiring general divestiture. The Commission's views on this issue are expressed in paragraph 132 of this document and I subscribe to the language in that paragraph. However, I firmly believe that this view should be expressed as Commission policy, at the very least, and as a rule if First Amendment considerations permit it.

My own view is that, absent affirmative effort to assure operational separation on the part of "combination" licensees, the Commission must exercise extreme vigilance on a case-by-case basis and, should there be evidence of widespread abuse, re-visit this entire matter.

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