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Thank you, Mr. Chairman and FTC staff, for this important workshop.

I'd like to talk about Cicero.

When Cicero was sent to the provinces ~~was~~ quite unhappy with the commercial news packets coming from Rome.

He wrote back complaining that what he ~~needed~~ ~~to~~ know were the votes of the senate but instead he was getting weird stories about Gladiators and ostriches.

A lot of people have had this kind of experience.

The Newspaper Association of America tells us that in 2007 there 1,422 daily newspapers. But at the same time ~~there~~ 3,248 counties, 19,000 incorporated places and 30,000 "minor civil divisions" like towns and villages.

All of that government is not being watched ~~by~~ the fourth estate. And it wasn't before the internet, either. A newspaper I edited, the Oakland Tribune, ~~got~~ awards for its watchdog coverage. But we thoroughly watched ~~perhaps~~ only 5 percent of the government within our region.

The point here is that the ~~market~~ has not suddenly failed to

For the most part, though, our nation's current media policies are just old and in the way.

That's the level playing field upon which everything depends.

Thank you.