



Captive Audience

By Susan P. Crawford



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Ten years ago, the United States stood at the forefront of the Internet revolution. With some of the fastest speeds and lowest prices in the world for high-speed Internet access, the nation was poised to be the global leader in the new knowledge-based economy. Today that global competitive advantage has all but vanished because of a series of government decisions and resulting monopolies that have allowed dozens of countries, including Japan and South Korea, to pass us in both speed and price of broadband. This steady slide backward not only deprives consumers of vital services needed in a competitive employment and business market—it also threatens the economic future of the nation.

This important book by leading telecommunications policy expert Susan Crawford explores why Americans are now paying much more but getting much less when it comes to high-speed Internet access. Using the 2011 merger between Comcast and NBC Universal as a lens, Crawford examines how we have created the biggest monopoly since the breakup of Standard Oil a century ago. In the clearest terms, this book explores how telecommunications monopolies have affected the daily lives of consumers and America's global economic standing.

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Captive Audience By Susan P. Crawford Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“Important and provocative.” —Sam Gustin, *Time.com*
(Sam Gustin *Time.com*)

“Federal regulatory agencies make definitional decisions in the lives of Americans. But they are little covered by our diminished media; and even when the stories are told, they tend to be told from the perspective of the powerful. That’s what makes Susan Crawford’s book . . . so remarkable. She gets the facts straight—I know, because I was there. But she also does something just as important: she puts the facts in perspective, providing readers with an analysis that is essential if we are ever going to forge communications policies that serve all Americans.” —Micheal J. Copps, Former FCC Chairman, *The Nation*
(Michael J. Copps *The Nation* 2013-04-12)

“With an appealing blend of earnestness and feistiness, Crawford is set on turning the sorry state of broadband and wireless services in the United States into the biggest populist outrage since Elizabeth Warren went after banks.” —John B. Judis, *The New Republic*
(John B. Judis *The New Republic*)

“Crawford shows us that the railroad barons of today run cable companies. These monopolies raise prices, stifle competition, and drag the U.S. further behind in global telecommunications revolution.”—Clay Shirky, author of *Here Comes Everybody: The Power of Organizing Without Organizations*
(Clay Shirky 2012-03-23)

“Crawford argues persuasively that the unchecked power of telecom giants has removed incentives for progress.”—Paul Krugman, *The New York Times*
(Paul Krugman *The New York Times*)

About the Author

Susan Crawford is a visiting professor at Harvard Law School and a fellow at the Roosevelt Institute. She lives in New York City.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Christopher Burnham:

The knowledge that you get from Captive Audience could be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get serious about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but Captive Audience giving you excitement feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in specific way that can be understood simply by anyone who read it because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this kind of Captive Audience instantly.

Laura Clark:

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Pedro Murray:

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Adam Cuyler:

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