Internet Filtration and Internet Neutrality

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Abstract — *Internet filtration is the control or suppression of what can be accessed, published, or viewed on the Internet. Filtering can be based on relatively static blacklist or be determined more dynamically based on real-time examination of the information being exchanged. Internet neutrality is the principle that Internet service providers and governments should treat all data on the Internet same, without discriminating or charging differentially by user, content, site, platform, application, type of attached equipment or mode of communication. This paper deals with effect of Internet neutrality on Internet filtration. We will try to find out why Internet neutrality is considered as programmed censorship.*

Keywords — *Internet filtration, Internet neutrality, censorship.*

I. INTERNET FILTRATION

Internet filtration and content restrictions can be enacted through a number of different strategies. It may be carried out by governments or by private organizations at the behest of government, regulators or on their own initiative. Individuals and organizations may engage in self-censorship for moral, religious or business reasons, to conform to societal norms, due to intimidation or out of legal or other consequences.

II. INTERNET NUTRALITY

 Internet neutrality is the internet's guiding principle. It preserves our right to communicate freely online. It means that Internet service providers should provide us with open networks – and should not block or discriminate against any applications or content that ride over those networks.

III. INTERNET FILTRATION AND INTERNET NEUTRALITY

Internet service provider controls the pipeline that feeds devices and data connection. No matter what method is used to surf the internet, internet access is at the effective discretion, if not mercy; of a provider that allows an account for service.

If an Internet service provider will be able to charge varied rates or decide to vary internet speed, it is a very first step towards selective discrimination against sites based on content. Next, consider the implication that search engines will use this decision to re-work their algorithms lowering their spider bots selection of sites. Restrictive categorization used for years by Google, Yahoo and Bing can use this decision as cover to purge dissenting sites even more from their result rankings. It means that they could unfairly push sites out of the way of users if they didn't like them, acting as effective censors.

Conclusion

Without Internet neutrality, Internet service providers will be able to devise new schemes to charge users more for access and services, making it harder for us to communicate online – and easier for companies to censor our speech.

They will be able to block content they don't like, reject apps that compete with their own offerings, prioritize web traffic and control where you go and what you see.

Doing so prohibits

1) Free and open communication,

2) Free flow of information

and can be considered as a strategy to enact Internet filtration.

References

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