(As the national broadcaster, the CBC must ensure that at least 60% of its program schedule consists of Canadian productions.) Such a system of regulations can be enforced because the channels through which broadcasters operate are a scarce resource requiring government allotment and licensing. If a broadcaster defied the content regulations, the broadcasting license could be revoked and the broadcaster would be unable to reach the audience.

In the Internet environment, however, there is no scarce resource equivalent to the broadcasting spectrum requiring allocation of channels. Channels are potentially limitless. Moreover, the audience comes to the "broadcaster" rather than the other way around. And "broadcasters" (meaning website owners) are located around the world, rather than within the jurisdiction of Canada. To extend television content regulations into the Internet environment would thus require a transformation of the Canadian state into a planetary totalitarian regime -- a remote possibility, however desirable the outcome might be for some.

In the meantime, however, the intent of the regulations are gradually undermined since anyone connected to the Internet can watch whatever television broadcasts are made available over the World-Wide Web. Today, the technology is relatively primitive, though vastly superior to what was available just a year or two ago. Dozens of sites offer choppy "realvideo" broadcasts that range from BBC and CNN news to pornography. It is not unrealistic to assume that current trends will continue to the point where thousands of