

REMARKS

WILLIAM J. BRENNAN, JR.*

The introduction of a new scholarly law journal devoted to communications law is an occasion to cheer. Friends of free speech often remind us, as they should, that the First Amendment rests on a “marketplace of ideas” theory—the notion “that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market.”¹ Ideas regarding the First Amendment are, of course, not immune from testing in the marketplace, and *CommLaw Conspectus* will provide an important forum for “uninhibited, robust, and wide-open” debate about communications law issues.

“Those who won our independence believed,” as Justice Brandeis has written, “that public discussion is a political duty.”² *CommLaw Conspectus* will enable many to fulfill that duty. I wish it well.

* Associate Justice (Retired), United States Supreme Court.

¹ *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616, 630 (1919) (Holmes, J., dissenting).

² *Whitney v. California*, 274 U.S. 357, 375 (1927) (Brandeis, J., concurring).

