

New Joel McHale Show On Netflix Proves Why Cable TV's Cord-Cutting Woes Are Deepening And Highlighting Divergence With Netflix

- Joel McHale was encouraged to re-do his slam of cable TV reality shows on the Netflix web. His new production costs are simply a closet-sized room with a green backdrop and a free Netflix audience of Netflix staffers.

It is the audience shots that reveal the secret!

You can plainly see, in the on-camera angles, that the entire HR hiring program of Netflix is focused on SoyBoys, flagrant homosexuals, effeminate Buzzfeed-type males and side-buzzed haircut angry feminists. The audience is the core essence of the people that Netflix hires, and calls to, in their company mantra: the extremist dregs of modern leftist society.

Fat round little frozen faced males with overtly cliché goatees punctuate the Netflix staffed audience of Millennial losers and eager, angry, collegiate student-type ANTIFA-wannabe's.

CABLE TV: Meet your future!

Cable TV's previous audience is dead. Literally! They died of old age. The *Golden Girls* and *Happy Days*-loving "I-Wish-It-Was-Like-This-In-Real-Life crowd is dead and buried. The hipsters have inherited the future.

Granted, there is a huge potential audience of non-college riot-ready folks who will watch media on the internet but Netflix is not interested in them.

Netflix wants to feel cool to itself so it hires and programs its GUI front end to aim straight at the naive, young urban kid. The problem is: Netflix and those dumb kinds of people are too idiotic and self-centered to survive the future. Netflix is playing to fashion and hype when it should be playing to historical sociological process...

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By Shalini Ramachandran

Cable provider Charter Communications Inc.'s sour first-quarter results delivered further evidence for Wall Street that stepped-up cord-cutting and slower broadband customer growth are putting U.S. telecommunications companies at a meaningful disadvantage to tech giants like Netflix Inc.

The third-largest American pay-TV provider by subscribers said it lost 122,000 video customers in the first quarter, a far worse outcome than the roughly 40,000 subscriber losses Wall Street analysts expected. In the year-earlier period, Charter lost 100,000 customers.

The results triggered an investor selloff, with Charter shares down as much as 16% in late morning trading, the largest single-day percentage decline since 2009. Shares recovered slightly and were down 13% in early afternoon trading.

Charter's results follow similarly negative reports on subscriber cord-cutting from its bigger rivals, Comcast Corp. and AT&T Inc., this week. Comcast said Wednesday it lost cable TV customers for the fourth-straight quarter due to heightened competition from cheaper online TV services, and AT&T reported video revenue declines as growth to its

streaming service DirecTV Now didn't offset higher-value satellite TV customer defections.

The results have shaken investors' confidence that big telecom companies' broadband customer growth will offset declines from cord-cutting as time goes on. Charter reported Friday that its broadband customer growth decelerated, echoing a similar trend at Comcast and AT&T. Charter added 331,000 high-speed internet customers, compared with an addition of 428,000 a year ago.

Investors are concerned that the troubling subscriber trends and Comcast's recent bid for European pay-TV operator Sky PLC signal a more fundamental problem: That American cable and telecom giants don't have the assets and scale to hold their own against global tech giants.

Netflix, which is a prime draw for cord-cutters and has been expanding rapidly overseas, has been routinely beating Wall Street's expectations for subscriber growth. Its already pricey shares have soared 63% this year.

"Cable is currently out of favor, in large measure due to Comcast's extracurricular activities," wrote veteran Wall Street analyst Craig Moffett in a Friday research note.

The growing worries about cable and telecom firms have erased chunks from the market values of Comcast, Charter and AT&T. Since the beginning of February, Charter has lost more than \$30 billion in market value, and AT&T has shed nearly \$50 billion. Comcast's market value has declined nearly \$50 billion since late January. Meanwhile, Netflix has gained more than \$50 billion this year.

Charter's results Friday weighed down other industry stocks. Dish Network Corp. shares fell 3%, while Comcast and Liberty Global PLC each fell 4%.

On a call with analysts Friday morning, Charter Chief Executive Tom Rutledge said the company's optimistic vision for its future growth hasn't changed. Charter executives continue to point to the ongoing integration of Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks, both of which Charter bought in 2016, as a major source for much of the weakness in subscriber results.

Mr. Rutledge said the integration has some "lumpy aspects to it as we combine the companies in various ways," but he added "that integration is actually going quite well and pretty much as planned."

While subscriber results disappointed investors, Charter increased earnings 8% to \$168 million in the quarter, and overall revenue grew 5% to \$10.7 billion, helped by broadband revenue growth, cable bill increases and ad revenue growth. Earnings per share grew to 70 cents from 57 cents a year ago. Profit and revenue fell short of Wall Street estimates of 98 cents a share on \$10.8 billion in revenue, according to analysts polled by Thomson Reuters.