

**Subject:** Senate Inquiry into recent ABC programming decisions  
**Date:** Friday, 9 September 2011 12:02:08 PM

Senate Committee members,

In your important deliberations, could you please ensure that the ABC retains sufficient funding and the unfettered authority to provide quality programming in all areas. The ABC should be a public broadcaster that is allowed to provide diversity, balance and quality in its programming without political interference or becoming a slave to ratings.

On the subject of balance, the media these days is flooded with bias and we need the balance which is provided by the ABC. This is a serious issue. The actions of much of the commercial media in their selective editing of what goes out on the airwaves and the deletion of any opposing views (eg the *shock jocs*) is effectively a restriction on free speech in this country.  
**AUSTRALIA NEEDS AN INDEPENDENT ABC WITH PROPER FUNDING TO OPERATE.**

Yours faithfully

G Edwards