

Stop Privatisation of the ABC by Stealth

Dear Senators,

I write to express my dismay at what is happening to the ABC and television programming in particular.

As an almost exclusive ABC viewer (having tried to watch commercial television channels and given up in disgust), I want high quality, intelligent programs actually made by the ABC. I don't want the ABC to merely broadcast programs made by external production companies who also make programs for commercial stations. I object to the "dumbing down" of television content with most programs being aimed at the lowest common denominator.

The ABC should be allowed to continue in its role as an independent producer of innovative and quality programming. I want a quality alternative to the commercial television stations, not just copy-cat programs and certainly not "reality" programs. They are certainly not part of my reality, in any way.

As a person with a keen interest in the arts (and not remotely interested in sport), I am angered by the fact that Art Nation is to be discontinued.

I want the ABC to be less dependent on outsourced programming, to be funded and rebuilt so that it has strong specialist units to produce high levels of high quality and genuinely local in-house programming in all program genres on radio, TV and online, and to be a public broadcaster that is focused on diversity and quality, not ratings.

I request that adequate funding be provided to the ABC so that it can once make the intelligent and quality programs they made in the past in the area of drama and the arts.

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Murray