

To the Senate Committee inquiry re: ABC programming decisions

I am opposed to the recent ABC TV decision to axe locally-produced programmes. The ABC is trying to resemble commercial stations more and more, by buying in commercial programs and reducing or closing down locally-produced programmes. This will work against the ABC's perceived uniqueness in delivering a diverse and varied menu of TV products of a quality and relevance seldom seen overseas. We are proud of the ABC for its uniqueness: its ability to cater to a large variety of viewers of different persuasions and interests. Of all TV networks, the ABC alone should be immune from the market-driven imperatives of the commercial channels, and the Federal Government should ensure this Australian icon continues in its unique role.