

Senate Inquiry into recent ABC program decisions

I expect the ABC as a public broadcaster to be focused on diversity and quality, not ratings. As such, I would like it to be:

- €a producer of innovative quality programming in all areas;
- €less dependent on outsourced programming; and
- €appropriated 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.

I am dismayed that the ABC management has axed programs like the 'New Inventors' and plans to reduce the arts and news (e.g. 'PM') programs on Radio National. Especially disturbing is the disrespectful treatment of broadcasters like Ramona Koval and Mark Colvin who have a proven track record in terms of producing successful programs, and in a less consumerist society might be accorded 'national treasure' status. Such decisions are short-sighted and regrettable, because they will ultimately stunt and drive away local talent. I believe there is a direct parallel between this situation and the erosion of the Australian manufacturing sector by outsourcing. It is tantamount to 'trashing' Australia.

Please do not let this happen.

Thank you
Anne Isaac