

## Senate Inquiry into recent ABC programming decisions

My submission is a personal one and concerns primarily one decision: if indeed it is true that recent decisions include one to drastically alter the content, name, and in all likelihood the presenter, of *The Book Show*.

An on-site interpreter whose work involves a lot of time on the road between jobs, I consider myself blessed to be a regular listener to Ramona Koval and her guests on *The Book Show*. There are not that many quality programs left on the ABC. I won't name the ones I switch off but they would now represent a majority of time slots and I would otherwise be an all-working-hours listener. On the other hand, *The Book Show* never fails to enrich my day, broaden my horizons, stimulate my brain cells and draw forth chuckles and belly laughs aplenty from an otherwise lonesome driver down the highways and byways of metropolitan Melbourne.

A management which contemplates organising Ramona out of my day is a management beyond the pale in my opinion. If they have the right to tamper with *The Book Show* let them know that listeners also have their rights. The right to switch off, I am sure, is one which will be exercised by many. But I will be the first.

John Gare