

Submission to the Senate Inquiry on proposed ABC program cuts

To the members of the Senate Inquiry into proposed cuts to ABC programming.

We are appalled at proposals to cut programs on the ABC. This government funded media is the lifeline for non commercial, free to air creative and innovative programming. We are seriously concerned that such excellent programs as Arts Nation and the New Inventors are being threatened. Where else can the TV viewing public gain access to the breadth and depth of quality these kinds of programs bring?

We are concerned too that many regional programs are threatened, local sports coverage has decreased, that there is a loss of programs already paid for, and what appears to be the abandonment of the ABC Charter and the general trend away from serious, in depth programming to a light entertainment trend when a balance of both is essential.

Outsourcing of programming is an expensive exercise especially considering the wonderful human and physical resources the ABC has and that are under-utilised -at great expense to the taxpayer!

We urge the members of the Inquiry to listen to the ABC viewing public all over Australia. Don't dumb down the ABC. Don't cut corners at the expense of quality. Listen to us!

Sincerely,  
Judy and David Ferguson.