

Subject: Please stop choking the ABC
Date: Saturday, 10 September 2011

To the senate standing committee on environment and communications.

The ABC has long provided an independent, voice of sanity in a world that is increasingly swayed by financial pressures put in it by multinational companies, particularly those which compete in delivery of media. I had hoped that the change of government in 2007 would have stopped the scurrelous decimation of the ABC and would put measures in place to ensure its independence and its financial security so that are so vital to insure that it can provide frank and fearless critiques of any government, organisation or corporation.

Without this independence the ABC remains vulnerable to attack.

For more than 50 years the ABC has set the pace for creative, innovative production of film, documentaries, comedy, quality drama and amplification of the arts. The subtle and crippling move to outsourcing programming can only lead to a loss of independence, integrity and quality.

I urge you to give the ABC the financial independence and creative integrity that it needs to continue as the voice of sanity and earnest critique that our country needs.

Regards,

Helen Askew