

Senate Enquiry into the ABC

To whom it may concern,

I've been a loyal fan of the ABC for many years now and have been very aware of the continuous degradation and dumbing down of ABC programming.

Over the years we have watched as quality programs disappear only to be replaced by cheap often outsourced productions.

The ABC has lost its ability to make the unique quality programmes it was once famous for. It has retrenched some of the best programme makers in the country, moved away from a focus on quality programming and heavily slashed the budgets of the few that remain.

They now have a 24hr News operation and a multi platform operation which seems to have cut further into already squeezed programme budgets.

The ABC was struggling to match the commercial news bulletins before the 24hrs network came along. Now it looks like amateur hour, and seems only to be trading on what was its great heritage and reputation.

This continued watering down of the ABC output along with the outsourcing of TV programmes and the slashing of programme budgets has resulted in a downward shift in quality across the board and a failure to provide the Australian public with a quality service.

Is it truly cheaper to outsource its programmes?

The ABC management seems to be trying to do too much with too little, the result being that it doesn't do anything particularly well.

They are slowly destroying the once wonderful ABC. Please don't be fooled into the argument that the management is modernising and restructuring the ABC so it can compete in the 21st century. Just turn your Television on and judge for yourselves!

Brett Ramsay