

**Subject:** senate inquiry  
**Date:** Sunday, 11 September 2011

To the Senate,

I hereby would like to express how concerned I am about some of the changes proposed in regards to the ABC. There has already been some “dumbing down” with the loss of specific programme areas and the floated loss of the Book show on Radio National. I find the ABC especially Radio National a lifeline as I enjoy learning and thinking. It is so convenient to be able to listen in the car or whilst I am doing other home chores. I love the detailed specialized expertise and rely on the station for information about the world and ideas. I am sad that so many drama series are being outsourced with “crownies” being like a glorified” Home and Away”. Is this a taste of what is to come with more outsourcing and appealing to a” broader audience”?

If we lose the specialist in depth knowledge and programmes from the ABC it has a knock on effect on the whole cultural and thinking life of the country.

I therefore appeal that we maintain the high and specialized standards of the ABC without the dumbing down and outsourcing being proposed and that Radio National be protected as a national treasure that it is.

Yours sincerely,  
Ruth Borenstein