

We are lucky to have the ABC which is taxpayer funded, balance, informative and often ground breaking. The BBC and similar taxpayer funded media in Canada, NZ and the SABC are vital for democracy.

Unfortunately we see bias government media propaganda in countries like Russia where independent TV has been closed down by Putin but it's worse in other countries like Egypt and Israel.

In the USA there is no public taxpayer funded broadcaster, only PBS via subscription, which we see on SBS too. The main stream media in the USA is often divided into republican and democratic camps and not balanced particularly the conservative media. Viewers and listeners only get half the story if they only tune into one station that they like. This is corporate propaganda and is not much different to Putin's Russia.

I don't want advertising on the ABC and would like it ceased or restricted on SBS to the beginning and end of a show as was originally promised.

There should be no moronic gambling advertising on any station.

While Channel 10 has good shows which I watch like "The Project" unfortunately there are too many TV stations in a country with a small population like Australia. Remember when we were content with the ABC and channels O (later 10), 9, 7 and later SBS but now we have 3 or 4 channels per network. As a consequence the commercial TV networks broadcast many cheap US junk sitcoms, US politics and US gun violence plus trashy reality shows which I never watch. After all these shows are mere fillers between the often repetitive, shouting and boring advertisements. Also as they are networks much of the content, even the ABC, is Sydney centric. Do we really need to know about a car crash in Sydney on the national news?

A number of newspapers were available in the Officers' Mess but after leaving 23 years in the Army in 1995 I started having two newspapers (1 Fairfax and 1 News Limited) home delivered for 7 days a week and despite a 300% price increase in 22 years I still get them and enjoy reading them. The other popular tabloids I read daily in an Armstrong St coffee shop plus I buy other weekly papers and serious magazines too. If readers want their print papers to read for free in coffee shops without buying any paper they better start buying papers as the coffee shops and libraries will not have them any more if newspapers close shop in the near future. Not only are newspapers good for coffee shop business but the electronic media often refer to their stories on their news and talk radio and TV shows.