

I have worked at the ABC for 24 years in the Adelaide branch, mainly in Radio. What I find impressive is that ABC program staff are aware that they are funded by taxpayers and are dedicated to producing creative programs for ABC Listeners and Viewers.

For Internal TV Production staff to be told that they cannot pitch ideas unless they leave the ABC has resulted in TV staff believing they are not valued by the TV Director, which seems a breach of the ABC Values Policy. Also it has seriously lowered morale in TV Production and the branch in general.

Creative ideas to make taxpayer funded programs should be sought from all sources internal and external. Where the ideas come from should not be the issue. If only external ideas are considered for production, it does not guarantee that funding is directed to the best creative ideas.

Erosion of internal TV production will have major negative long term effects on future ABC production with a diminished role for creative personnel and subsequent destruction of the production capacity and capability of the BAPH states. This will also result in marginalising local issues and distinctiveness of Qld, SA, WA and Tasmania.

TV Management have said that outsourcing is better value for money. An independent analysis of this claim is essential, including taking into account the copyright aspects and the lack of production staff to produce programs as an alternative option.

ABC internally made popular programs can continue to create revenue into perpetuity.