

20/10/2000

15 Seaman Ave,
Warners Bay
NSW 2282

To whom it may concern

It seems most country and regional radio stations are owned by large local and international companies or should I say huge companies, like D.M.G.

Before networking young aspiring radio announcers honed their skills on the late night and mid-dawn shifts. This has vanished in country radio.

When you have stations like Gympie and many others only having local breakfast for 4 hours and then relayed programmes for the rest of the day and night, it's sad. Because of networking many good announcers are now unemployed. Many announcers are fearful of loss of employment because of increased networking.

Local people are not being serviced. People like to hear local announcers chatting about weather, and local issues etc..... What if there is a major emergency in the area? How will the townspeople be informed? Networking is used for one reason and one reason only, bigger profits at the expense of jobs.

I have heard that radio stations in the U.S. are going back to local programmes in large numbers. I hope Australia takes heed.

Listening to programmes, pre-recorded, coming out of a major city is unsatisfactory.

It is beyond belief that such giant monopolies, were allowed by the Australian Govt.

When one man like Bill Caralis can own in excess of 30 radio stations, then that is wrong.

It is fast approaching the time, when at the local radio station the light will be on, the music will be playing, but there will be nobody there.

Yours sincerely
R. Martin

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications, Transport and the Arts	
Submission No:	87
Date Received:	24/10/00
Secretary:	Jamiet W