

Cunningham, Adam (REPS)

From: Barry Sylva [barryjs@midcoast.com.au]
Sent: Thursday, 26 October 2000 8:57 AM
To: cta.reps@aph.gov.au
Subject: Regional Radio Services

The Committee Secretary,
House Communications Committee,
Parliament House,
Canberra 2600

Re : Adequacy of Radio Services

The only radio station worth listening to in my area (Manning - midnorth coast of NSW) is ABC Radio National : no other radio service comes anywhere near it in the provision of information, education and entertainment. Programmes like Asia/Pacific, The Law Report, Background Briefing, The Science Show, Late Night Live, AM and PM (and many, many more) are unique in radio, and easily accessible to any person.

Over the past three years or so our ABC Regional Radio service has become far less interesting and informative with idle chat, quizzes, discussion of trivial issues and other such novelties predominating.

Apart from a very small fraction of local news and content, the commercial radio services are appalling - a mishmash of networked simplistic opinion, loud intrusive advertising and extremely shallow analysis/comment on any issue or subject that is discussed.

Radio National has no competition at all in the type of radio service that I value and also believe is essential for our society. I often see comments to the effect that only left-wing people with university degrees listen to RN. This is not at all valid in my case, and is not the case with the other ordinary working people of my acquaintance who also listen almost exclusively to this station.

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