

**MILINGIMBI COMMUNITY INC**

**9/10/2K**

**Radio Industry Inquiry**

**Attention:- Janet Holmes**

Dear Madam,

**Quality Content** is the principal issue, confronting broadcast media, in rural/remote indigenous communities.

**Visual Images** dominate where English is scant. The images are of unremitting affluence, occasionally punctuated by sex & violence.

**BRACS** provides four channels into this community. Many Yolngu (locals) have TV's. 90% of broadcast TV is ratings based for commercial income or ratings funding. It is targeted at the lowest common denominator of western society – a million miles from Yolngu reality.

**Unrealistic Expectation** inevitably accrues to Yolngu people who get their expectations from the television and their reality from a career on CDEP. A critical determinant of rural youth suicide?

**What do Yolngu watch**, what would they like to watch? Yolngu are naturally fascinated by **images** of themselves but especially other indigenous peoples. Such footage is available from satellite downlinks such as Austar. BRACS is able to retransmit such feeds. It is illegal to get caught doing so.

**Could the committee:-**

- Survey Yolngu viewing habits & preferences.
- Review the retransmission of Discovery, NGE0 & BBC channels.
- Cost Benefit Analyse an Open University Channel & super fast modem satellite links for Internet Café/Open Learning facilities.
- Provide news grabs in simple English for retransmission in Yolngu language.

Kind Regards

Michael B. Owen  
A/Town Clown