

**From:** Heather D`cruz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 July 2001 1:24 PM  
**To:** ecita.sen@aph.gov.au  
**Subject:** ABC Board appointments

I am writing to express my strong support for this senate inquiry to recommend that the Parliament introduces a system of appointment to the ABC Board that is based on merit and commitment to an independent, comprehensive and properly funded national public broadcaster. I am strongly opposed to any appointments based on political association or allegiances to the government of the day or to members of political parties.

At present the antics of the Managing Director are cause for extreme concern, as he has presided over a decimation of the already poorly funded and staffed broadcaster. Nor do I have confidence in the present ABC Board who appear either to be toothless tigers or so overwhelmed by political allegiances that they have not sought to support the principles of independent public broadcasting that are essential to a liberal democracy.

Yours sincerely

Heather D'Cruz

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