

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2001 1:57 PM
To: 'ecita.sen@aph.gov.au'
Subject: ABC Board Inquiry Submission.

Tuesday August 7, 2001.

Secretary
Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology & Arts References
Committee
S157, Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a brief submission to your inquiry.

The ABC, under its current charter is essential for the proper functioning of Australian society.

The current system of appointments to the ABC Board, however is totally unsatisfactory. Board appointments are political appointments and this needs to change. My understanding is that in Britain that a similar procedure has not resulted in the politicisation of BBC Boards, however in this country this is not the case and we need a new system to reassure the public that the board will be independent of political influence but committed to charter priorities.

Several members of the current Board do not have my confidence.

I call on your inquiry to recommend that Parliament introduces a system which ensures that members of the ABC Board are appointed on the basis of merit and a commitment to quality, independent and comprehensive national public broadcasting.

Yours sincerely

Clare Kinnane

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