

**From:** Judith Quilter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 5 August 2001 9:33 PM  
**To:** ecita.sen@aph.gov.au  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Senate Inquiry on ABC Board Appointments

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

As long time listeners to the ABC and former members of the predecessor to Friends of the ABC, Auntie's nieces and nephews, we cannot recall a time when the confidence of the public in the ABC was so low. We think the present Chairman, being a friend of the Prime Minister, feels that he is in an unassailable position and can thumb his nose at supporters of the ABC. He is doing what he was appointed to, get rid of the ABC or weaken it to such an extent that it will wither and die. In fact we think it is now in a terminal condition. He and his Board are responsible for the appointment of the present Managing Director who is quite out of his depth in that position.

It is time that procedures were set up so that no Government can appoint their own friends and cronies to the Board.

The independence of the ABC must also mean that funds can be obtained for proper operation of the ABC without the intervention of the Government.

Thank you

Janet Quilter  
Judith A. Quilter