Media diversity in Australia Submission 2269

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Submission:

Blatant media bias is a major problem in modern Australia. Publications are not required to list their affiliations with companies, political parties or other entities. This creates an environment in which corruption and misinformation thrive as the media is more interested in getting it's next paycheck rather than supporting Australians by keeping them accurately informed. These media corporations see information as a tool that can be used to further their own agenda with no regard for any of the many consequences for everyday Australians. An example of this is the coverage of a recent report by scientists about the worsening coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef. No mention as to the leading cause of this bleaching(which was mentioned and has been mentioned in many of the scientific papers regarding this issue). Also the coverage presents scientific fact as if it was an opinion. They(specificly 10 news in a story about this event) then present a farmer who has no evidence/expertise at all in regards to reef life stating that "the report exaggerates the issue" and that "coral bleaching is not getting worse". The main 2 problems I have with the Australian media landscape is a clear bias due to greed and treating science like someone's opinion rather than knowledge acquired by observation and evidence.