

Sustaining the value of the ABC

Recent revelations about the undesirable characteristics of some of the commercial companies (Murdoch's) that are powerful in the areas of news and broadcast entertainment serve to emphasise the great value of the ABC.

The ABC is not subject to the hidden influence of advertisers or the whims and prejudices of the super-rich. It is a wonderful asset, owned by the people of Australia. It should not be weakened any further but, instead, returned to its former strength.

Now, a note about the finance of TV and radio. It's true that the ABC is government-financed, that is, from tax. But we also pay for the private stations, The advertising dollars that keep them going are, indirectly, paid by all of us as part of the price of the products we buy.

Robert Corcoran