

Dear Senate Inquiry

Let me start by saying it is our ABC not the managing Directors or the boards and I am flabbergasted why they would see fit to dismantle the most effective production house in the country and along the way leave a trail of destruction, ruin peoples careers and rob the Australian public of unique programs produced by the National Broadcaster which no outside production company could produce as well. The ABC is supposed to produce programs not out source to other production companies that cannot do it as effectively or as cheaply as the ABC can. Out sourcing does not work on the ABC business model from what I am led to believe and I would say goes against the ABC charter. Mark Scott constantly speaks of ABC values to his staff yet does not seem to value the ABC himself or the people that work for him. I was told of all the career opportunities open to me with in the ABC and have watched them all erode away while the current management have been in charge. I have been in the game for 28 years and have worked in commercial TV have been a freelancer for the last 18 years and am now permanent part time at the ABC. I decided to spend the last 12 or so years of my career with some security and then thought of moving into other areas within the organisation but like I said these opportunities are diminishing and I am left feeling very disenchanted with where my career may go now. I have many years of experience and skill that could be utilised by the ABC and I get the feeling they just don't care.

I have worked at the ABC as a casual and a permanent staffer for over 18 years and have watched the ABC become a ghost of its former self which has been extremely sad to watch and have come to see the place over managed and under staffed by the people that actually make the product ie TV programs, I have never understood how there could be so many chiefs and not enough Indians. Why would you keep putting people in offices and keep getting rid of the people that actually make the product. If the board wants to save money maybe they should look at how many people are in management and thin those ranks out and bring back the dedicated talented people that have been producing quality TV for the Australian Public for decades. I understand programs come and go but when one ends another should replace it, they are using this as an excuse to further diminish the capacity of the ABC to produce TV within its own ranks and I have not been able to rationalise this in my own mind there just does not seem to be a easy answer to that one.

So I would please ask this inquiry to help save the ABC and its talented pool of dedicated staff and save for the Australian public the unique shows we have come to love on the ABC. Our beloved ABC was once a powerhouse of TV production and has been a training ground for many of the industries finest practitioners, there is not even a proper training program in place anymore which is a travesty in itself. Please save our ABC from the current management practices, we don't want the ABC to be a facilitator/broadcaster but a producer/broadcaster.