

## Senate Inquiry into ABC Programming Decisions

A few thoughts for the Senate Committee from a listener and viewer with great respect for the ABC.

It appears that the reputation of the ABC is in jeopardy given the impacts of recently announced program cuts.

Of major concern is the closure of the ABC Arts Unit, and the growing tendency to undertake very little direct production of drama and other creative programs. It must never be forgotten that the strength of the ABC is its independence. Primarily independence from the prerogatives driving commercial radio and TV.

The ABC Charter must be retained and the spirit of it's intent pursued with creativity and vigour. A culture of outsourcing would project the ABC in the opposite direction.

Yours Respectfully,  
Ian Shepherd