

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

2005-06 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings - Questions on Notice

Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

MONDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2005

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
1	5	Campbell	<p><u>Workers Compensation</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Can you tell me how many staff have taken leave for psychological injuries where there has been no workers compensation claim submitted? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that question on notice. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Can you also take on notice what the estimated cost has been of those staff absences? Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
2	5	Campbell	<p><u>Workers Compensation</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Where are the six psychological injury claims located? Mr Pendleton—The actual location? I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
3	6	Campbell	<p><u>Workers Compensation</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—In response to my question No. 34, you recommended against the acceptance of liability in one of the six cases. Was that the case involving the bullying? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Does no-one here have that information? Mr Pendleton—We do not know and will have to take it on notice. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—So you are not able to tell me offhand which of the six cases you recommended against acceptance of liability? Mr Pendleton—I do not have that information with me. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Would you take that on notice and provide us with an answer as soon as you can.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
4	6	Campbell	<p><u>Staff Training Workshops</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—.....Mr Pendleton, how many staff at the ABC in Western Australia have now undertaken the workshops you refer to in answer to question No. 22? Mr Pendleton—I am not certain on the WA number. I know that across the ABC about 50 per cent of our staff have completed the training so far. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Have all the ABC management in Western Australia undertaken the mandatory training? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
5	7	Campbell	<p><u>Staff Training</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—In your answer to question No. 26, you stated that 43, 58 and 19 health and safety representatives and management representatives were trained in 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05. How come only 19 health and safety representatives and management representatives trained in 2004-05, yet you spent \$50,000 more than you had budgeted for? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take the question on notice and find out what the program was for the year. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Are there any members of the occupational health and safety committees that operate within the ABC who remain untrained? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
6	7/8	Campbell	<p><u>Internal Audit of Training</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Is the ABC currently conducting</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>an internal audit of the delivery of training? Mr Pendleton—I am not sure where the internal auditors are; I would have to take that on notice. They may well be. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—You are not aware of whether there has been an internal audit conducted of the training section? Mr Pendleton—I am not 100 per cent certain. I think there was a review on their plan for the year, but whether they have completed it I would have to take on notice. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Is there anybody here with you that is aware of what is happening in the training section? Mr Pendleton—I do not think so. Can I take that on notice? Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—If you take it on notice, if there was an audit conducted, can you provide us with the key findings and recommendations of that audit? Mr Pendleton—Sorry, Senator. I think there was one conducted last year. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—That is probably the one I am talking about. Can you provide us with the key findings and the recommendations of that audit? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice.</p>		
7	8	Campbell	<p><u>Internal Audit of Training</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Was this matter referred to the full board? Mr Pendleton—I am not aware that it was. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—So it was only done by the normal process through the subcommittee of the board. Mr Pendleton—Yes. The subcommittee does update the board on its deliberations. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—I understand that, but there is a difference if it is done as a matter of course through the subcommittee or whether the subcommittee is concerned enough to refer the issue for consideration by the full board—and you say that did not happen. Mr Pendleton—I am not aware. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Can you take that on notice and confirm it, or otherwise, for us? Are you aware of whether or not the subcommittee that considered the report made any of its own recommendations in respect of training? Mr Pendleton—I would need to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
8	8	Campbell	<p><u>Internal Audit of Training</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Did the subcommittee determine that a further external inquiry had to be undertaken into the delivery of training at the ABC? Mr Pendleton—The ABC is in the process of undertaking a review of its learning initiatives and strategies throughout the organisation..... Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Have you put out terms of reference? Mr Pendleton—The terms of reference have been drawn for that review..... Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Can you make available to the committee the terms of reference for the inquiry? Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p>	ABC	07/02/06
9	9	Campbell	<p><u>Staff Training Unit</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—How many positions are held by the training unit? Mr Pendleton—I think there are about 19 or 20 positions in training. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Are all these positions filled at the moment? Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	06/02/06

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			[.....] Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Can you also take on notice how many of those positions are filled by temporary occupants? Mr Pendleton —Yes. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Where will you draw the temporary occupants from? Mr Pendleton —I would have to take that on notice.		
10	10	Campbell	<u>Placement of Staff Trainer</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Isn't one of your trainers working in Production Resources? Mr Palmer —Not that I can recall, no. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Can you take that on notice and check it out. Mr Palmer —I will.	ABC	06/02/06
11	10	Campbell	<u>Internal Audit Review</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —How did the review that was undertaken of the performance of the unit match up against the corporate plan? Mr Pendleton —The internal audit review? Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Yes. Mr Pendleton —I would have to take that on notice.	ABC	06/02/06
12	10	Campbell	<u>Placement of Staff Trainer</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —My advice is that this particular individual is working in Production Resources but not as a trainer. Mr Palmer —They are not necessarily trainers. They facilitate training and they advise on training plans. [.....] Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —The advice I have been given is that at least in one instance that is not Mr Palmer —That could be the case. I am not familiar with it. I cannot recall those circumstances at this point in time. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Can you take it on notice and check it out for me.	ABC	06/02/06
13	11	Campbell	<u>Staff Training</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Is it true that there was a group of senior managers from all the output divisions who met to consider the most effective means of delivering training and skills development, and that the head of training was excluded from their initial meetings? Mr Pendleton —I am not aware of the meeting. Mr Palmer —I am not aware. [.....] Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Can you take the question on notice and provide advice on that? Mr Pendleton —Yes. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —If the meetings did take place and if the head of training was excluded, what were the reasons for excluding the head of training from the meetings? Mr Pendleton —We will look into it.	ABC	06/02/06
14	11/12	Campbell	<u>Training of Radio Announcers</u> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Ms Howard, did you commission Valerie Geller of Geller Media International to provide training to ABC local radio announcers? Ms Howard —She provides training to presenters across all of radio. She has done that for the last five years. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Is that an ongoing contract? Ms Howard —No, it is a year-by-year contract depending on whether there are enough new presenters coming through for her to train. It is not ongoing. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —How much does that exercise	ABC	06/02/06

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			<p>cost the ABC?</p> <p>Ms Howard—Over the last five years I think it has cost us about six per cent of our training budget—or thereabouts. We can give you the figure for each calendar year if you wish.</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Can you give us that in dollar terms?</p> <p>Ms Howard—Yes, we can do that. [.....]</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Can you provide me with what she has been paid for training over the past five-year period?</p> <p>Ms Howard—Certainly. What we pay her also contains travel and accommodation costs.</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Yes, I understand that. You might separate the travel and accommodation costs out from what she is directly paid to perform the training.</p> <p>Ms Howard—If we are able to, we will.</p>		
15	15	Campbell	<p><u>Review of Bullying Policy</u></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Was this review put out to tender?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—We are taking quotes in relation to it.</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Have you set out a set of criteria?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Is that available? Can you make that public?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—I can get that for you.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
16	18	Campbell	<p><u>Workplace Issues in Tasmanian Office</u></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—I understand that the inquiry is still afoot. What constitutes the allegation that Mr Cox made those allegations public outside the ABC?</p> <p>Mr Palmer—I do not have those details.</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Who made that allegation against Mr Cox?</p> <p>Mr Palmer—I would have to go to the details; I do not have them with me today.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
17	28	Santoro	<p><u>ABC Style Guidelines</u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—I want to clarify the scope of the rule about 'our'. In the November 2003 written answer to question No. 189, the ABC stated: It is long accepted style that the ABC's News and Current Affairs programs do not use "our" in any of these instances. Is that still the rule, Mr Cameron or Mr Green?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Yes, it is.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Would those instances include any of the following, and I ask you to listen carefully to this list: our Vietnam involvement; our sailors in Vietnam; our Anzacs; our diggers; our Australian Federal Police helping in London; our forensic police in Bali after the bombings; our secret intelligence services; and our defence and intelligence services? Would it be correct that you do not use 'our' in any of these instances?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I would prefer not.....</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Can you explain why your journalists used all those expressions and let me know what, if any, action was taken?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I would have to look at the people who were responsible for these style guide breaches and then get back to you.....</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Would you undertake to answer each one of them specifically and perhaps address the issue of context, which your chairman and now Mr Green seem to raise as perhaps being a lapse on</p>	ABC	03/02/06

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			my part when I consider the use of the word 'our' and that maybe if I considered it in context I might not be complaining? Mr John Cameron —That is fine by me.		
18	30	Santoro	<u>ABC Style Guidelines</u> Senator SANTORO —I would be grateful if you could inform the committee whether you spoke to Mr Dempster during October or September and whether it was before the 21st, when that further additional and, I am told, fairly blatant breach of the 'our' rule occurred on the New South Wales <i>Stateline</i> program. Mr John Cameron —I will have a look at that.	ABC	03/02/06
19	30	Santoro	Senator SANTORO —I will be coming back to that later, but in terms of the 'our' policy he [Walter Hamilton] produced a program about 'our servicemen in Japan during the post-war occupation'. In the synopsis of that program broadcast on <i>Foreign Correspondent</i> on 20 September there is the following comment: 'our servicemen'. You would expect a senior person like Mr Hamilton to be across the rule book, would you not? Mr John Cameron —Yes, I would. Senator SANTORO —Why have ABC journalists then breached the 'our' rule almost 500 times since March 2003, and what action have you personally taken in terms of those 500 breaches, bearing in mind that I want to stress that those breaches have been picked up in that small number of programs which I outlined before? Mr John Cameron —If and when I hear them I generally contact either the person involved or the program producers et cetera. To that extent, I take that much action. I point out that, in the scale of offences against the style guide, the use of the word 'our', as in 'our dollar' occasionally and that sort of thing, is in such common parlance that it cannot be ruled out altogether from our day-to-day operation. It is a word that I would prefer was not used most of the time but, as I say, there is an exception to every rule and there are occasions when it may be appropriate. I would have to have a look at the instances you are talking about to see whether they go over the top in the offence of usage category.	ABC	07/02/06
20	31	Santoro	<u>ABC Style Guidelines</u> Senator SANTORO —....I go back to the answer to Senate estimates question No. 189 of November 2003. The ABC also quoted a memo from 1960—we go back and try to learn from history—issued to journalists by the Controller of ABC News Services, Mr W.S. Hamilton, who I gather is the father of the Walter Hamilton I quoted earlier. Mr Hamilton's memo said that not just 'our' should be banned but also the word 'we'. Would this question from the ABC's <i>Stateline</i> Western Australia presenter, Rebecca Carmody, on 9 September to Mr Norman Moore—and I know that this will interest Senator Eggleston—be an example of that: 'Do we need to get rid of the federal Liberal government'? I repeat: 'Do we need to get rid of the federal Liberal government?' I also have that on file and I am happy to supply it to you. Assuming that I am quoting in context and I am quoting accurately, how would you interpret that question, Mr Cameron? Who is the 'we' here? Mr John Cameron —To be frank I do not like the sound of the question and I have not heard that example before. I would have to have a look at it again to see that it was actually said and in that context. [.....] Senator SANTORO —Mr Cameron, I am going to provide you with the transcript of that particular interview, and I would appreciate it if you could provide me with some very specific answers, including any disciplinary action that you might have taken or that somebody within the executive hierarchy might have taken or intends to take, given that it has now been brought to your attention.	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
21	33	Santoro	<p><u>Remembrance Day</u> Senator SANTORO—Given that Remembrance Day is very close, will you be able to give me an undertaking that you will urgently look into this matter and ensure that the national broadcaster does not again dishonour those Australian servicemen and women who gave their lives fighting for their country through some politically correct moral equivalence that says Remembrance Day is on par with World AIDS Day, as the directive seems to suggest the ABC condones? Mr John Cameron—I do not agree that it suggests that. There is certainly no intention to dishonour anyone. But you having raised it here, I will discuss it again as a matter of importance. Senator SANTORO—Will you investigate that as a matter of urgency and get back to the committee in reasonable time before Remembrance Day? Mr John Cameron—Yes, bearing in mind, as I said, there is no written policy or mandate on this issue. I will certainly undertake to discuss it again.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
22	33	Santoro	<p><u>ABC Style Guidelines</u> Senator SANTORO—Mr Cameron, I want to return to the ABC style guide and to your memo, particularly in relation to editorialisation and emotive language. I want to ask about the rule on using the expressions, 'forced to defend himself' and 'more than' at protest rallies. The words are 'forced to defend himself' and 'more than' at protest rallies. In March 2003, I gather you wrote in a memo, 'Do not use anything that could be construed as emotional language or editorialising—people or politicians being forced to defend their positions, for example'. Do you recall that? Mr John Cameron—I will take your word for it. I cannot recall having written it. Senator SANTORO—Thanks, Mr Cameron. What have we had since that memo? Let me just give you a couple of examples: Kerry O'Brien on the <i>7.30 Report</i> on 15 September 2003: But, for Australia, Iraq is the war John Howard is still forced to defend in the Parliament. That is a bit old you would probably say and maybe Mr O'Brien has learnt. Let us just go to a more recent example, in <i>The World Today</i> on 29 April 2004: The Prime Minister, John Howard, has been forced to defend his integrity ... We go to one that is a little bit more recent, Elizabeth Jackson on <i>Saturday AM</i> on 30 July this year: ... the Federal Government has been forced to again defend the way it runs Australia's detention centres. I think, Mr Cameron, you would agree with me that we have enough examples, although I do have many more. Can you explain why the rule that was laid down was breached in those three instances and on many other occasions that I could draw to your attention to? Again, could we have an answer that is respectful of this committee and not those earlier offerings like, 'The ABC believes each of these circumstances were appropriate,' or 'They are occasional lapses.' Mr John Cameron—They may well be defensible in the context of the story, but I will have a look at them. I undertake to do so.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
23	34	Santoro	<p><u>ABC Style Guidelines</u> Senator SANTORO—.....In a similar vein, you have a rule about covering protest rallies and demonstrations on page 38 of the style guide relating to news staff. If I may quote for the benefit of the committee and others listening: Don't say at least 1,000 turned up, or more than 1,000, or only 1,000, it may sound like we are impressed or otherwise with the numbers. It is best to say about and let others do the boasting or sneering if necessary. That is in your suggestions to them? Mr John Cameron—Yes.</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Senator SANTORO—Here is the ABC breaking that rule, boasting about the numbers and creating the impression they are impressed with opposition to the war in Iraq. Cindy Sheehan, whose son ... was killed in Iraq ... with more than 100 anti-war protestors travelling to Texas to join her. That was Eleanor Hall on <i>The World Today</i> on 18 August this year. That is a breach of that rule; would you agree with me?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Again, in context there, it may or may not be. If there were 150 people there, then 'more than' is not necessarily subjective; it is probably factual.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—[.....]</p> <p>Let us go to another one: Hamish Robertson, on <i>Saturday AM</i> back on 8 March 2003, was talking about a small group of so-called human shields—my qualification, not his, by the way—in Baghdad. He said there were 'more than 100 people' in that group. Let us go to ABC Newsline, 5 March 2003: 'More than 500 students have rallied through Brisbane to protest against war with Iraq' and 'More than 200 men have taken their clothes off for peace at Byron Bay' on 24 February 2003. On 3 February 2000: 'More than 3,000 people took part in the rally,' which was, of course, an anti-Iraq war rally. Again, Mr Cameron, I have more examples. Could you explain to us why reporters did this, or do you want to go and have a look at the context?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Let me have a look at the context again.</p>		
24	35/36	Santoro	<p><u>ABC Style Guidelines</u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—.....At the last estimates I asked why this rule was breached in respect of David Hicks and immigration detainees. Mr Balding wrote back and said, 'The ABC rejected the claim that there have been many repeated breaches.' Since then, could you explain why, on 28 July, reporter Karen Barlow on <i>The World Today</i> referred to an immigration detainee as Nazanin three times; and presenter Tanya Nolan once?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I will look at that one.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Tanya Nolan on <i>AM</i> on 26 August this year referred to Baxter detainees by their first names 10 times. Why on 15 July 2005 did reporter David Mark on the Radio National version of <i>AM</i> refer to Cornelia Rau as Cornelia? Why did Alison Caldwell on <i>The World Today</i> on 12 September refer to deported American activist Scott Parkin as Scott? Why did Karen Barlow on <i>The World Today</i> on the same program refer to an immigration detainee by their first name twice? Why did <i>Lateline</i> refer to immigration detainee Saada Masolwa as just Saada three times and a friend, Abang Othow, as Abang once? Why did Barry Cassidy on <i>Insiders</i> on 10 July 2005 refer to the Labor leader, Kim Beazley, as Kim but the head of the Cornelia Rau inquiry as Palmer? Why did Maxine McKew on 3 June 2005 refer to Cornelia Rau as Cornelia and Christine Rau, her sister, as Chris? These are fairly recent examples. I have raised this issue at two or three previous estimates hearings. I have asked Mr Balding to consult with you to see why those breaches are happening. I am not quoting 2003 examples as I have quoted, I think validly, in relation to some of the other breaches. We are talking about June, July and September. On Thursday, 26 May 2005, Paula Kruger on <i>The World Today</i> had immigration detainee, Mohammed Ali Mahmoud, become simply Mohammed. On Friday, 27 May 2005, and again on <i>The World Today</i>, in a story about the union campaign against workplace reforms we get 'Sam, a Qantas engineer'. Incidentally, why does <i>The World Today</i> come up so many times? Is the executive producer familiar with the guidelines? Does he read your memos? Can you assure this committee that he actually reads your memos?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Yes, I can in that case.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Then why is he breaching your mandatory</p>	ABC	03/02/06

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			<p>rules?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I would have to have a look at one or two cases you quoted there, and no doubt I will. Sam, the engineer' might be a scripting ploy, which is acceptable and quite proper. If you are speaking generically about someone, there are cases where people request confidentiality, where—</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—We are talking about people like David Hicks and Cornelia Rau. We are talking about people whose names are very much in the public domain. They have not requested anonymity, I am sure.</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—'Mr Hicks's son, David', in a sentence of that context might be acceptable, simply to avoid repetition.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—You will undoubtedly look at the context.</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I will look at the context of them.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—On <i>Stateline</i> Western Australia on 10 December 2004, Rebecca Carmody was interviewing an ALP candidate, Jaye Radisich, and a Liberal Party candidate, Dean Solly. The Liberal candidate was addressed as 'Dean Solly' but the ALP candidate was addressed simply as 'Jaye'. Do you think that that level of familiarity is acceptable during an election campaign? One party gets one treatment, another party gets a different treatment.</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—On the face of it, it does not seem acceptable, but I will have a look at the context again.</p>		
25	37	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Jon Faine on ABC Radio 774</u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Staying with how the ABC shows sympathy for certain people or causes, Mr Green, in respect of the Bakhtiari case, can you check with Mr Jon Faine on radio 774 in Melbourne and find out if he said the following, which is quoted in press reports of this month: Many of us here at the ABC also felt great sympathy towards the Bakhtiaris ... and to one extent or another it probably leaks through to the way we cover a story. Would you check that out?</p> <p>Mr Green—I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Would you also provide the committee with your opinion about that sort of statement and whether you think that is fair, balanced, unbiased and the sort of statement that you would want someone like Mr Jon Faine to be saying?</p> <p>Mr Green—Certainly.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
26	37	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by John Highfield on <i>The World Today</i></u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Mr Cameron, did John Highfield say the following on <i>The World Today</i> on 19 July 2002:</p> <p>... one can only imagine the confusion and anguish that Mr Bakhtiyari must be feeling at the moment given the revelations about things happening this morning. Doesn't that demonstrate Mr Faine's point about ABC sympathy for the Bakhtiaris?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I will have to have a look at that. It was four years ago.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
27	38	Santoro	<p><u>Conflict of Interest of Radio Announcer</u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Did Matthew Abraham of ABC 5AN, who frequently attacked Senator Vanstone over the Bakhtiari affair, have his children at the same school as the Bakhtiaris and was he involved in the campaign supporting them and campaigning for them?</p> <p>Mr Green—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—If he did, do you think that is a conflict of interest?</p> <p>Mr Green—I am not fit to make a comment until I look at the example.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—But if he did, would that have been a conflict of interest, assuming that he was involved in that campaign?</p> <p>Mr Green—I cannot assume anything until we look at the case.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Would you undertake to give a very specific</p>	ABC	03/02/06

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			<p>answer to those questions? Was he involved in the campaign supporting them and the campaigning for them and yet still attacking the minister of the day in relation to that issue?</p> <p>Mr Green—Most certainly.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Thank you. Just returning to Jon Faine and an interview with a Jemaah Islamiah supporter and apologist on 5 October this year, why did Faine refer to Mr Osama bin Laden and what was it about the conduct of interview that led the JI supporter to say to Mr Faine ‘Thanks for your support’?</p> <p>Mr Green—I am not aware of that interview. I do not know if the director of radio is. We would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Would you have a look at that and get back to us on that one.</p> <p>Mr Green—Most certainly.</p>		
28	39	Santoro	<p><u>Comments on AM broadcast 11 July</u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—..... I want to direct a couple of last questions in relation to the connection between Iraq and Bali. Could I ask about the report by Rafael Epstein on AM on 11 July this year, when he said: ‘And Britain like Australia after the Bali attacks is asking whether its role in Iraq is a reason it was attacked’? So the ABC’s self-described agenda set in current affairs had Australia being punished in Bali for an invasion of Iraq that had not even happened. Mr Cameron, that is the proposition I am putting to you. Who on the AM team checked Epstein’s script? Who would be the sort of person who would actually check that script?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—The executive producer of the program is responsible for program content. I think we are having a look at that one at the moment.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—Would you let us know how the associate producer or perhaps, as you put it, the executive producer and the network editor all missed this glaring error?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Yes. It was clearly a mistake and I will let you know.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
29	42	Nash	<p><u>Audience of ABC Asia-Pacific</u></p> <p>Senator NASH—According to your report, I believe that the current ABC Asia-Pacific service has an estimated monthly audience of 765,000 viewers, which indeed is a lot. Which nations are those 765,000 people in?</p> <p>Mr Green—The way in which the service has developed has been quite encouraging. If you can just bear with me, I will give you the precise countries.</p> <p>Senator NASH—Certainly.</p> <p>Mr Green—We are rebroadcasting in 41 countries on 158 different platforms—this is the service at present—reaching more than 10.2 million homes, with an average of 938,000 viewers a month, 98 per cent of whom are local residents.</p> <p>Senator NASH—If you could get that list of those specific nations to me, that would be good.</p> <p>Mr Green—Most certainly; I would be happy to do that.</p>	ABC	06/02/06 + 1 attach't
30	44	Ronaldson	<p><u>Funding for ABC Drama</u></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I will ask you a question. What are the funding levels from 2000 through to 2004 for drama production? Do you have those figures?</p> <p>Mr Green—Not in front of me.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Does someone else have them?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—They are not here. We can take that on notice.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
31	44	Ronaldson	<p>Senator RONALDSON—I do not want to hear from the chief financial officer about this. You have \$33 million. I want to hear from you whether the ABC is still committed to Australian drama</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>production.</p> <p>Mr Green—Yes, we are. We have a number of projects about to take place, in terms of the forthcoming months. If you would like to hear about those, I would be happy to ask my colleague Michael Ward to outline them.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—We are pressed for time so, if you are happy to send those details to me, I would be very grateful.</p>		
32	46	Ronaldson	<p><u>NewsRadio Rollout</u></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—When will the roll-out start after the tender process is closed?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—At this stage the plan is that we would see two services roll out a month. I think there are currently 21 identified services at this stage.</p> <p>CHAIR—Can the committee have on notice a list of those roll-outs—a schedule of the towns and locations of the roll-out?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Yes. There is certainly a list of sites that have been considered by ACMA.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I am speaking on behalf of the Strengthening Goldfields Community Radio, who have been waiting for some time. There was a bit of an issue, I gather, in Victoria, with not enough frequencies. They have been waiting for some time for this to be done. Is there someone who can tell me whether frequency allocated in Yarra Glen is likely to impact on someone in Maryborough? Does anyone know?</p> <p>Mr Green—.....No. We do not have an answer.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Could you get me one, please?.</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p>	ABC	07/02/06
33	50	Allison	<p><u>Programming Cutbacks</u></p> <p>Senator ALLISON—It would be useful to get some figures in some of those areas, particularly overseas journalists and the extent to which you have had to cut back on them.</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
34	51/52	Brown	<p><u>ABC program Counterpoint</u></p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN—On the matter of the <i>Counterpoint</i> program and its program on guns and forestry, why was no environmentalist—certainly no Green—invited onto that program to counter the accusations which came thick and fast against the environment movement on that program?</p> <p>Ms Howard—I am not aware of that, but I am very happy to take it up.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN—Would you? When you do, would you also find out how many complaints were made against the program and why there was no rectification of errors made on the program?</p> <p>Ms Howard—I am happy to take those questions on notice.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN—On the matter of <i>Counterpoint</i>, I heard Senator Santoro having quite a say earlier. Did that program begin one night this week with Mr Duffy, saying ‘two of my favourite senators tonight, Senator Santoro and Senator Joyce’? Could you tell me how many Greens have been on that program since its inception this year?</p> <p>Ms Howard—Certainly. That would have been Monday’s program that you are talking about?</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN—In fact it was.</p> <p>Ms Howard—The program goes to air once a week. I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN—Is it normal for a program to begin in that way, with a program presenter declaring favouritism for a political party—and, indeed, very conservative members of a political party out of the welter and diversity there is within the political arena?</p> <p>Ms Howard—<i>Counterpoint</i> is an opinion program, Senator. That is very much Mr Duffy’s style, but I am happy to have a look at that</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			program.		
35	52	Brown	<p><u>ABC Coverage of Australian Greens</u> Senator BOB BROWN—Would you care to find out what proportion of those packages coming out of the newsroom here have covered the Greens over each of the last several years? Mr John Cameron—I do not know what the degree of difficulty would be there, but I will certainly do my best to discover what you are asking. This is over several years the amount of coverage given in individual nightly news stories to— Senator BOB BROWN—In the package of parliamentary events coming out of the newsroom here. Mr John Cameron—There are sometimes two or three packages a day, but yes. Senator BOB BROWN—I am talking about the nightly one, the main— Mr John Cameron—Yes. Senator BOB BROWN—The one that goes on the 7 o'clock news. Mr John Cameron—That is right. Sometimes there can be two or three on the 7 o'clock news, but I understand your question. Senator BOB BROWN—The main one; thank you. Would you care to look at the interviewing of politicians by Kerry O'Brien and see how frequently the Greens, who play a prodigious role, considering our size, in political events here, have or have not been interviewed by Kerry O'Brien for <i>The 7.30 Report</i>. Mr John Cameron—Does that include what is in <i>The 7.30 Report</i> night after night and the sorts of packages you are talking about or just the O'Brien— Senator BOB BROWN—No, I am talking about interviews by Kerry himself. Mr John Cameron—I can do that.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
36	53	Brown	<p><u>Coverage of Former Member for Cunningham</u> Senator BOB BROWN—According to these figures, the sitting member in Cunningham, Michael Organ, a Green, had 11 minutes and 28 seconds of voice time; however, the coalition got 16 minutes and 53 seconds, and the ALP got 17 minutes and 21 seconds. Here you have a sitting member being cheated out of reasonable coverage in his own electorate. Can you explain that? Mr Green—The brief to the programmers was that Mr Organ should be treated the same as the other parties. Senator BOB BROWN—But he was not, was he? Mr Green—I do not have that information in front of me, but I am very happy to look at it. Senator BOB BROWN—This is your letter. Mr Green—We did publish that report. If I may, I will get back to you with any other matters that may be relevant to your question.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
37	54	Brown	<p><u>Funding cuts to Foreign Correspondent program</u> Senator BOB BROWN—I understand that in 2003 there was a \$2 million cut to <i>Foreign Correspondent</i>. Mr John Cameron—The program <i>Foreign Correspondent</i>? Senator BOB BROWN—Yes; an excellent program. What impact has that had on the program? Mr John Cameron—I would have to check the figures.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
38	56	Wortley	<p><u>Survey of ABC Fraud Prevention Practices</u> Senator WORTLEY—Is it true that the ABC has recently engaged Deloitte to undertake a survey about fraud prevention in the ABC? Mr Pendleton—Part of the annual work program for internal audit regularly includes an update of the fraud policies and procedures, and part of that is a survey. I think they did recently put something on the net seeking feedback from staff. I think that might have been over the last couple of months.</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Senator WORTLEY—Are you able to provide us with the cost of that consultancy?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Has the ABC undertaken any assessment of where it is vulnerable to fraud? If so, what was the result of the outcomes of that assessment? I understand there was something on that.</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Every two years the group audit undertake an assessment of the fraud risk of the organisation and update fraud control strategy. I think the last time that was done was about a year ago.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Do you have the results of that at the moment?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—I could get you a summary of the results of that.</p>		
39	57	Wortley	<p><u>ABC and Film Finance Corporation</u></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Further, does FFC policy prevent the ABC making full and effective use of these government funded facilities?</p> <p>Mr Green—I would have to take that on notice. I cannot give you an unequivocal answer about that at this point.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Take that on notice. Has the FFC expressed a view to the ABC that it would treat as double-dipping attempts by the ABC to supplement its existing appropriation by seeking additional funding for its programs from the FFC?</p> <p>Mr Green—I am not aware of any communication, but that does not mean to say it has not happened. Again, perhaps I may take that on notice.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
40	58	Wortley	<p><u>ABC Documentary Production</u></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—What documentaries did the ABC produce in house over the past three years?</p> <p>Mr Ward—It depends a bit on your definition. If you include the broadest definition of documentary programs, there is about 140 hours of documentary projects. I do not have the full list of those in front of me. Some of those would include independently and internally produced documentaries. Here is a figure of 136 hours in 2004. But I do not have a breakdown of titles or what was internal or what was produced by the independent sector. The independent sector would be around 20 hours of that.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Are you able to provide us with those?</p> <p>Mr Ward—Yes, we can get you the titles, if you would like them.</p>	ABC	09/02/06
41	58	Wortley	<p><u>Employment of ABC Journalists</u></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Can you provide details of the number of journalists employed at each band within major city newsrooms?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Yes.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—And also provide the number of journalists at each band in regional newsrooms as of, say, 1 October?</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—Over a period of?</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—1 October 2004 to 1 October 2005.</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I can do that.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
42	63	Conroy	<p><u>Funding for New ABC Services</u></p> <p>Senator CONROY—How many of these new or extended functions for the ABC have received supplementary funding?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—We have received supplementary or additional funding under the National Interest Initiative, which we have been receiving for about five years now. The number of services that we have extended have been funded from that. But we have funded the other services from within our own appropriation.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Do you have any calculation of what the additional cost to the ABC of providing these new or extended services has been? You have received some moneys, but it has cost you more than the moneys you have received, I am guessing.</p>	ABC	07/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Mr Pendleton—The National Interest Initiative funding was again quarantined very much towards those services. There has been a number of new services we have started—ABC2. We have grown new media. We have absorbed other costs. Captioning costs have grown substantially over that period. We could add those up.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Just so we can see.</p>		
43	65	Conroy	<p><u>ABC Asia Pacific Service</u></p> <p>Senator CONROY—Is the tender document not a public document?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—The tender document would be.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—I am asking you to comment on a public document and whether it is the same as—</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—I will have to take that on notice, I am afraid. [...]</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Could the ABC take that on notice and come back to us?</p>	ABC	06/02/06
44	70	Adams	<p><u>ABC Radio Programming WA</u></p> <p>Senator ADAMS—We can access the Liam Bartlett program from 8.30 to 10. If it is for Perth, why are we able to get it then?</p> <p>Ms Howard—Everywhere else in the country, I think you will find that the morning programs go from 8.30 to 10 or 8.30 until 11, and then the last hour is sometimes networked from the city. You seem to have a very unusual arrangement in Western Australia. I am happy to have a look at it.</p> <p>Senator ADAMS—I would be very happy if you could, and I am sure that most of rural Western Australia would be happy if you did.</p> <p>Ms Howard—I doubt that the Perth morning program is appropriate to be heard from 8.30.</p> <p>Senator ADAMS—It is.</p> <p>Ms Howard—I am happy to have a look at it. It appears as though the Perth morning program has strayed a long way from its brief, and perhaps I will start by looking at that.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
45	71/72	Boswell	<p><u>7.30 Report Item 19 July 2005</u></p> <p>Senator BOSWELL—I am referring to the one where Mr Corbett was televised at Tesco in the UK by, from what the minister has told me, the ABC. He was standing in Tesco, advocating all the benefits that would flow to the users if only the government would allow Woolworths and Coles to dispense drugs. I am sure that you did see it, because I wrote to the minister in protest and I have no doubt that if you were doing your job you would have had a look at it.</p> <p>[.....]</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—I know the case you are talking about.</p> <p>Senator BOSWELL—..... You are not there to promote one side of any argument; you have to balance it. That was the most unbalanced program I have ever seen on the <i>7.30 Report</i>. I hope I never see the like of another one.</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—We do not aim to do unbalanced reports. As you have raised it again, I will have another look at it and make sure that everyone is fully across the points you are making. [...]</p> <p>Senator BOSWELL—..... I would like you to look at this again, and I am sure that you would come up with the same observation that I have— that it was blatantly biased and not up to the standard of the <i>7.30 Report's</i> normal programming.</p> <p>Mr John Cameron—It is an excellent program. I will have another look.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
46	72	Joyce	<p><u>Audiences for ABC Radio Networks</u></p> <p>Senator JOYCE—... Within the portfolio of the ABC, can you give me a break-up between your listening audience for Classic FM, Triple J, Radio National, local radio and world news? If you call the whole lot 100 per cent, what is the percentage break-up between them? [...]</p> <p>Ms Howard—Are you talking about listening audiences?</p> <p>Senator JOYCE—Of the 100 per cent of the people who listen to the</p>	ABC	07/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			national broadcaster, what is the split-up between Classic FM, Triple J, Radio National, local radio and world news? Ms Howard —I am not sure if I have figures that could cut it for you that way. I am happy to take it on notice.		
47	73	Conroy	<u>AFL Broadcast Rights</u> Senator CONROY —Are you considering being involved in a consortium to bid for the AFL rights? Mr Ward —I think I would like to take that question on notice. I am not sure where we stand at the moment.	ABC	03/02/06
48	77	Conroy	<u>AFL Broadcast Rights</u> Senator CONROY —..... We are asking you not in your capacity as Mr Green, we are asking you as the person who answers questions on behalf of the ABC. You have heard Mr Ward admit that the conversations have happened and you have admitted you are aware of an article that quotes the ABC, yet you keep saying, 'I am not aware.' Mr Green —That is right. Senator CONROY —I am intrigued how you cannot be aware, yet Mr Ward is aware and Mr Knight is in the papers. Mr Green —We are happy to get back to you. Senator CONROY —You said you are aware of this article? Mr Green —We are happy to get back to you, and clarify the situation.	ABC	03/02/06
49	77	Conroy	<u>AFL Broadcast Rights</u> Senator CONROY —What is the average Channel 9 Friday night ratings at the moment for the footy in Melbourne? Mr Ward —I would have to look that up.	ABC	03/02/06
50	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Use of 'our' rule by ABC</u> Please find enclosed a copy of the ABC transcripts of the almost 500 instances of NewsCaff journalists and presenters breaching the "our" rule. Please note the 74 instances involving Quentin Dempster and the 152 relating to the period between March 2003 when Mr Cameron banned journalists from referring to "our troops in Iraq" and November 2003 when Mr Balding denied outright my assertion that the rule was still being breached. Also find enclosed the transcript of the item regarding "do we need to get rid of the government?". Also please note the very high number of instances of the same reporter breaching the "our" rule including two references to "our Anzacs". Also please note the very high number of breaches relating to several other staff. Why did Mr Cameron take action in March 2003 in respect of the breach of the "our" rule relating to Iraq, but apparently do nothing, on the nearly 500 subsequent occasions? I do not accept Mr Cameron's proposition that he put to the committee that the rule actually related to the Olympics and that he cannot recall his March 2003 memo on this matter (copy enclosed). This memo was actually supplied by the ABC at a previous estimates hearing. Why did Mr Balding tell the committee that the "our" rule had not been breached between March and November 2003, or if it had it was only occasionally, particularly in light of the 152 examples provided? Did Mr Balding check? How did he check and who did he check with? Can I have the details please? If Mr Cameron believes that expressions such as "our dollar" are "in such common parlance"; why did he ban journalists referring to "our	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<i>troops</i> " which is also in common parlance?		
51	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Remembrance Day</u></p> <p>To clarify the lack of a complete answer to my question in relation to Remembrance Day: did ABC Sydney TV news presentation staff consult the relevant manager, Head, Local Coverage Ms Lisa Sweeney, about the wearing of poppies last Remembrance Day?</p> <p>Did she state words to the effect that "<i>we don't do World Aids Day so we won't do poppies on Remembrance Day</i>"?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
52	Tabled	Santoro	<p>Why did Mr Cameron dismiss my examples of breaches about ABC rules by referring to staff turnover and casualisation of the workforce when almost all of my examples relate to long term and often very senior staff (see the attached transcripts for details)?</p> <p>Further examples of breaches of "<i>forced to defend</i>" and "<i>more than</i>" are attached.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
53	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>References to David Hicks</u></p> <p>The first name issue relating to David Hicks was (reporter to Terry Hicks) "<i>What does this mean for David</i>". I would respectfully suggest the correct action by the reporter would have been: "<i>What does this mean for your son</i>". As with the other attached examples, can the ABC please provide an explanation as to why the various journalists have breached this rule in each instance?</p> <p>To aid these efforts, please find attached the 95 examples I referred to.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
54	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of First Names by Broadcasters</u></p> <p>Additionally I would like to know why it is that when anonymity is required an anonymous surname cannot be used instead? Wouldn't an anonymous surname be more in line with the spirit of the guidelines in relation to the use of first names and their empathy evoking effect?</p> <p>Why does a programme like Radio National breakfast not create an impression of empathy when using first name terms in the same way the practice is against the style guide in NewsCaff programmes? My question on this matter was not answered entirely to my satisfaction. The question is not about the style of the programme it is about the way an impression of empathy is created. Empathy is empathy. Many interviews (e.g. on <i>Lateline</i>) are very free-flowing and "<i>go for more than a few minutes.</i>"</p> <p>First names are able to be used to protect the confidentiality of the person, however this "<i>would be made clear in the script</i>" as per the ABC style guide. Can the ABC please indicate where this was the case in the examples where confidentiality was a concern?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
55	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Reference to War on Terror</u></p> <p>Regarding the answer about the War on Terror: If the ABC NewsCaff division "<i>has moved on from that memo</i>" why is the ban on the usage still in the style guide?</p> <p>Why do staff continue to refer to the "<i>so-called war on terror</i>"?</p> <p>What exactly is the current rule?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
56	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Lateline and Mark Latham Interview</u></p> <p>In relation to Mark Latham, Andrew Denton, Lateline, Maxine McKew and the ALP, and <i>The 7.30 Report</i>: could the ABC explain the process that led to the fiasco over the Denton broadcast supplanting <i>Lateline</i>?</p> <p>Did the ABC break its agreement with the publishers by bringing the</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>broadcast forward? There seems to be a disparity between the differing versions of events. Anita Jacobi from Enough Rope has one version and John Cameron another.</p> <p>Why didn't Mr Balding sit down with Sue Lester, the acting head of TV, and Mr Cameron and explain the two side's positions to each other?</p> <p>Where was the Managing Director's leadership? If I can quote an apparent comment from Mr Charley: <i>"I was very unhappy and dispirited with what happened."</i></p> <p>Why was Lateline then dropped? Evidently Mr Cameron decided 11.15pm was too late, but Lateline has gone to air in that slot three times this year.</p> <p>Why did Mark Latham tell Triple J on September 20 that he had to go to Tony Jones for a decent interview because Andrew Denton would be hopeless?</p> <p>Did Mr Jones who spent time beforehand with Mr Latham convince Mr Latham in advance of the interview with Mr Denton, that he would have to come on Lateline to get a proper interview?</p> <p>Did he set out to gazump Mr Denton by telling Mark Latham that he could do a better job? Mr Jones clearly arranged the interview before the Denton interview, therefore he would not have known the scope or quality of the interview before the arrangement was made.</p> <p>I make this point based on a quote from an interview Mr Latham gave with Triple J on September 20 (Latham to Chris and Craig): <i>"Well I know you are mates with Andrew Denton but you know he is not much of a political interviewer is he? I had to do the Tony Jones one to get a political professional as opposed to an amateur. Now Denton's been good at wit, The Chaser and funny ha ha stuff but he doesn't really cut the mustard as a political interviewer so we had to go to the professional Jones."</i></p>		
57	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview with Mark Latham on ABC AP</u></p> <p>Regarding the ABC's reputation in the Asia Pacific: why did ABC Asia Pacific TV broadcast an old Mark Latham interview from several years ago instead of the latest Andrew Denton version?</p> <p>Given that this happened on a Saturday and the Denton show was aired on the Thursday, what was the problem?</p> <p>In doing so, can I relate some feedback from an Australian viewer in Thailand, Rob Astbury, who had invited two British friends to join him for the Latham interview. Having been fed the tired old version, he writes: <i>"In a few minutes ABC Asia Pacific destroyed all the good work it has done recently in promoting its service and credibility."</i></p> <p>Why play the old Latham interview?</p> <p>Why not the new one?</p> <p>If for some sort of technical reason the ABC couldn't get the new one out in two days, why not put something else on instead? As Mr Astbury writes: <i>"Surely someone must be held accountable for what I feel was a bad programming mistake."</i></p>	ABC	03/02/06
58	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interviews with Labor Figures</u></p> <p>During the publicity for the Latham Diaries, the ABC interviewed the following senior Labor figures: Barry Jones and Kevin Rudd on <i>The 7.30 Report</i> with Kerry O'Brien; Julia Gillard on <i>Sunday Profile</i> with Monica Attard; Stephen Smith on <i>Lateline</i> with Maxine McKew and Bob Hawke on <i>The 7.30 Report</i> again with Maxine McKew.</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>I would like to suggest to the ABC the single most important question arising from the Latham episode is this: What does it say about the judgement of the Parliamentary Labor Party that decided to foist this person onto the Australian voters as an alternative prime minister? How can the voting public trust the judgement of the ALP defence spokesman Robert McClelland, who went into a shower a Beazley voter and came out as the casting vote for Latham? With that kind of wishy-washy thinking, that appalling lack of judgement, how can he be trusted with Australia's national security?</p> <p>I believe that these are very difficult, and blatantly obvious questions for the federal Labor Party to answer. But who at the ABC asked either of them in an interview?</p> <p>Kerry O'Brien had two chances, did he ask the question, or one of a similar nature?</p> <p>Maxine McKew had two chances, did she ask the question, or one of a similar nature?</p> <p>Monica Attard, did she ask the question, or one of similar nature?</p> <p>For questions 29 to 32, why not? My reading of those interviews suggests that the interviewers asked no questions like this, despite their obviousness and clear public interest. Is it a case of the journalists in question protecting their mates?</p> <p>Section 5.1.5 of the charter of editorial practice states that journalists should not be unquestioning. How does this section of the charter compare with the aforementioned interviewers' performance against that criteria?</p>		
59	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview with Kevin Rudd</u></p> <p>When Mr O'Brien interviewed Kevin Rudd, I would like to know why he didn't ask another obvious question and that is about Mr Latham's assertion in his book that he set up Mr Rudd to prove he was untrustworthy in leaking material to Laurie Oakes. It is an explosive allegation that goes to the heart of Mr Rudd's trustworthiness. The question wasn't asked. Why not?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
60	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Remarks by Maxine McKew</u></p> <p>7.30 Report presenter Maxine McKew on ABC Radio said: "Yesterday, for the first time, I got a real sense of the inevitability of the Latham ascension." I've also asked why Ms McKew went soft on Labor on the two previous occasions and didn't ask the most obvious hard questions. Was Maxine McKew considering standing for the ALP at the 2001 election in the seat of Fowler?</p> <p>According to Mr Latham, she did, but she backed out because she didn't want to leave Mosman and live in Liverpool or Cabramatta. Is that true?</p> <p>Has an ABC presenter - in this particular case Ms McKew - ever considered standing for Labor in an election while also covering the election as an ABC presenter and interviewer? If so, did she tell her bosses, as per section 5.5 on conflicts of interest, and was she negotiating with the ALP when also hosting Lateline and The 7.30 Report?</p> <p>I have other examples of Ms McKew quizzing government ministers over Tampa and so forth, with what most people would describe as aggressive questioning.</p> <p>Ms McKew interviewed Stephen Smith and Chris Pyne on Lateline on September the 23rd. Mr Pyne wanted to find out from Mr Smith what the election of Mark Latham as leader said about the party's</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>judgement and he was cut off by Ms McKew who said "I'll come to that" and then went on to another point. Ms McKew never did come back to that point. Why wasn't the hard question asked, and why didn't Ms McKew return back to the point that she'd earlier interrupted? To the typical viewer this scenario appeared as though Ms McKew cut off Mr Pyne to deny him his point and therefore protect Mr Smith and consequently the Labor Party</p> <p>Why did Tony Jones not ask Mr Latham about Maxine McKew's ALP ambitions when he interviewed him?</p> <p>Who is the prominent ABC TV presenter, who was according to Mr Latham, was drunk and driving the wrong way up Canberra Avenue?</p>		
61	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Description 'Terrorists'</u></p> <p>In relation to the ABC's justification for calling J-I "Terrorists" under the previous policy, even though they were not on the UN list, and the follow on implications for describing Hezbollah. The ABC has previously written to me stating that the reason journalists called J-I a terror group was because: "the group J-I has been shown to have had connections to the group Al Qaeda." Dr Sidney Jones, said by "Lateline" to be one of the best informed analysts of jihadist extremism in Indonesia, was asked about this specific point on the programme of Monday October 3. Tony Jones: "Do you think the links, maybe the ideology is similar to Al-Qaeda. Do you think the links are there?" Sidney Jones: "It's a question we can't answer at this stage." Will the ABC document the specific links between Al Qaeda and J-I that ABC journalists were aware of when they called J-I "Terrorists" before the UN listed them? Can the ABC ask those journalists what information they were aware of, especially Tony Jones, Mark Colvin and Nick Grimm?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
62	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Description 'Terrorists'</u></p> <p>The US bill of indictment against the Bin Laden Terrorists who went on trial in New York in 2001, stated that Bin Laden's Al Qaeda "forged alliances with the National Islamic Front in the Sudan, with representatives of the government of Iran, and its associated terrorist group Hezbollah." Ali Mohammed, a member of Al Qaeda who pleaded guilty to involvement in the 1998 attacks on American embassies in Africa, stated in his plea that "Hezbollah provided explosives training for Al Qaeda." US Senator Charles Grassly said after a briefing by senior law enforcement officers that "those officials believe Al Qaeda is very much involved with Hezbollah." According to the US 9/11 Commission Report: "While in Sudan senior managers of Al Qaeda maintained contacts with Iran and Hezbollah. Al Qaeda members received advice and training from Hezbollah." In light of those links, why doesn't the ABC apply the rule as explained in the written answer to question 61 from the May Estimates, to Hezbollah?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
63	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Policy on Labelling</u></p> <p>Can the ABC explain how the new policy on labelling operates in the context of Terrorism? Is it the case that the policy seeks to avoid the use of labels "as a general rule". But where labels have been clearly ascribed to an individual or organisation by a third party, this will be made clear within the broadcast, as explained in section 6.14.4.</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>To clarify: if a person or organisation refers to a person or group as “terrorists” or a “terror group” then the ABC would broadcast that reference.</p> <p>In the context of the latest Bali bombings, Tanya Nolan on The World Today of October 3 referred to “the terrorist organisation Jemaah Islamiah” and again on October 4, without attribution, why?</p> <p>Without attribution, Mark Colvin on “PM” of October 3 said “Blame is already being pointed at the regional terrorist outfit Jemaah Islamiah,” – again, why?</p> <p>Barry Cassidy on “Insiders” on October 2: “terrorists have again struck in Bali,” why did Mr Cassidy not provide an attribution, or was there not one?</p> <p>I asked a similar question at the last Estimates and received no meaningful or respectful answer, but I will ask again: What is the difference between a suicide bomber walking into a restaurant in Bali and killing and maiming dozens of innocent people, and a suicide bomber doing the same thing in a restaurant or night club in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem?</p> <p>According to ABC journalists, when J-I do it they are terrorists, when it’s Hamas they are militants. Why?</p>		
64	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Term ‘Terrorist’</u></p> <p>The new head editorial co-ordinator for news, Alan Sunderland, on the 30 June’s Radio National Media Report, said to Richard Adey: “We should give our audiences the facts and allow them to make the judgements. In other words if somebody has just been a suicide bomber, who’s just got onto a bus and blown up a bus full of people, do we call them a terrorist? Well, what we do is, we call them a suicide bomber. We call them somebody who has just killed 20 people.”</p> <p>That was a week before the London bombings. And that terrorist attack has exposed a major problem with the ABC logic as explained by Mr Sunderland.</p> <p>The ABC’s London correspondent Rafael Epstein on Monday July 11, four days after the attacks: “The police have almost certainly ruled out suicide bomb theories.”</p> <p>In the end that theory has proved wrong. But the point is, at the time of the attack and for several days after, we didn’t know whether it was a suicide attack and we didn’t know how many people died.</p> <p>The one thing we did know is that it was a terrorist attack, and the people to blame were terrorists.</p> <p>How are ABC journalists dealing with a major breaking story expected to follow Mr Sunderland’s policy?</p> <p>Must they make blind assumptions about the method of attack and the number of dead, but not state the blindingly obvious – these were terrorist attacks, carried out by terrorists?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
65	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Term ‘Terrorist’</u></p> <p>Despite the answer to question 72 of May Estimates where Mr Balding wrote: “Neither the recently added section of the Editorial Policies on labelling nor the Style Guide entry mean that the words terrorism or terrorist cannot be used. At times, these words will be the most appropriate to use in a report. The Style Guide says we won’t resile from using the word ‘terrorism’ in appropriate cases. These guidelines allow program staff to use their discretion and common sense.”</p> <p>Can the ABC please explain what common sense was being used by Emma Griffiths during coverage of the 1st anniversary of the Beslan</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>massacre when she called the butchers who murdered hundreds of innocent children “<i>militants</i>” instead of “<i>terrorists</i>”?</p> <p>Could the ABC please supply this committee with the original transcript of the interview between the reporter and one of the survivors of the Beslan massacre, Elena Kasumova , on “PM” September 1, 2005, which the programme translated as “<i>neither the federal forces nor the militants expected it.</i>”? The original Russian and the accurate English translation, please.</p> <p>If the ABC resiles from calling these callous killers in Beslan “<i>terrorists</i>”, under what circumstances would ABC journalists use the term “<i>terrorist</i>”?</p> <p>Why would it be inappropriate to call the Beslan killers “<i>terrorists</i>”?</p> <p>Is it the case that the reporter has become so confused by the ever-changing and inconsistently applied rule book that she has decided to play it safe and go for “<i>militant</i>”?</p> <p>Would the ABC be able to find out from the reporter why she opted for “<i>militant</i>” in her reports this year?</p>		
66	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Anti-Israel Bias</u></p> <p>I also want to ask why the ABC apparently shows anti-Israeli and pro-Palestinian bias by misrepresenting the Road Map peace agreement in a way that shows pro-Palestinian and anti-Israeli bias.</p> <p>Mark Willacy in his Correspondents Report on July 17: “<i>Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who’s demanding that the Palestinian leader crack down hard on militant groups.</i>”</p> <p>But as the ABC’s Middle East correspondent, Mr Willacy should know, the Road Map is an international agreement put forward by the US, EU, UN and Russia and signed by the Palestinian Authority. That agreement states the following: “<i>Palestinians declare an unequivocal end to violence and terrorism and undertake visible efforts on the ground to arrest, disrupt and restrain individuals and groups conducting and planning violent attacks on Israelis anywhere.</i>”</p> <p>Therefore a Palestinian crackdown on armed groups is not a demand of Israel, it is a requirement of the Road Map Agreement that the Palestinian Authority signed. Why does it seem that when the Palestinians renege on their agreement to dismantle terrorism, that the ABC portrays it as a negative against Israel?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
67	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Employment of Lindsay McDougall on Triple J</u></p> <p>In relation to the ABC’s employment of Lindsay McDougall, better known as one half of the Triple J morning team “<i>Jay and The Doctor.</i>”</p> <p>Mr McDougall attracted a certain amount of notoriety last year when he put together a rock music compilation called “<i>Rock Against Howard</i>”</p> <p>Mr McDougall gave various public interviews and made statements on his website about politics. Here is one quote from a website interview he gave last year:</p> <p>“<i>I’m well aware that the Australian Labor Party is by no means the perfect party to lead Australia, but it is leaps and bounds ahead of the Liberals in terms of reflecting the true heart and soul of Australia. “The Labor Party, as the name suggests, are the party for the worker, the employee, the people without all the money – the majority of Australians!</i>”</p> <p>”<i>As long as we have this enforced two-party system of Australian government I believe our preferences should go to the Labor Party.</i>”</p> <p>After the federal election in October 2004 Mr McDougall expressed</p>	ABC	07/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>the following personal views, on his band's web site: <i>"Yes we lost the election. So now the initial impulse of moving to New Zealand has passed, we get to work on making sure the c ___ or his treasurer mate don't get in in 2007."</i></p> <p>He also wrote the following in an "on-line" interview for <i>"Oz Music Project"</i> late last year: <i>"John Howard has got to go. Simple as that."</i></p> <p>According to the company running McDougall's band Frenzel Rhomb: <i>"The plugs for this release (Rock Against Howard) have been insane including numerous mentions on national broadcaster Triple J where Lindsay does a regular slot."</i></p> <p>Since Mr McDougall's appointment, I had been led to believe we have had had the following incidents: In January Mr McDougall wrote and produced a song, which was promoted by the ABC, called <i>"Tusami-Tsna-you"</i> which criticised the government for giving half of its aid to Indonesia in the form of a loan.</p> <p>The same Mr McDougall who had publicly stated his opposition to the Howard Government foreign policy last year, then gets hired by the ABC and continues his crusade.</p> <p>Was Mr McDougall the subject of a complaint in March this year regarding inappropriate comments about a current affairs item, and did the ABC apologise for the offence caused?</p> <p>Was Mr McDougall also reminded of the need to refrain from expressing his own personal opinion on contentious matters?</p>		
68	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Lindsay McDougall on Triple J</u></p> <p>Could the ABC please provide me with transcripts of the following please:</p> <p>On or before February 24, when comments were made about John Howard as the Devil Incarnate or words to that effect?</p> <p>On or about May 24, comments relating to the Attorney General Philip Ruddock?</p> <p>On or about May 25 this year, comments regarding the Prime Minister and the issue of a conscience vote on asylum seekers?</p> <p>On or about June 23, comments lampooning the Senator as <i>"Mandy sinking in a sea of devils"</i> or words to that affect?</p> <p>On or about June 30 this year, did Mr McDougall run a satirical crossword quiz where the clue was <i>"Howard Roots Murdoch?"</i> Could I be provided with the transcript please?</p> <p>On July 8 after the London bombings, did Mr McDougall make the following comment, a one similar: <i>"If 38 people had been killed in Africa would the media notice?"</i> And <i>"Anything that gets the Paparazzi's cameras off David Beckham's head can't be all bad."</i> The transcripts please?</p> <p>On July 11 did they lampoon Minister Vanstone as <i>"the next minister for extreme sports and immigration"?</i></p> <p>Did they interview a so-called <i>"militant vegan"</i> on July 19 and lampoon Mr Howard for going to church with Mr Bush, with comments about <i>"this horrible situation in Iraq"</i>, right wing Christians, Karl Rove and President Bush. Again, the transcript please?</p> <p>Immediately after the 7.30am news on that same day July 19, did they criticise the doctor retained by the Immigration Department to oversee the deportation of Vivian Solon?</p> <p>On or about July 24, did Mr McDougall nominate Immigration</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Minister Amanda Vanstone as the ABC's "Friday F...wit"?</p> <p>On July 26 did they make disparaging remarks about the Prime Minister "sneaking" around in Iraq and suggest the troops were not keen on his visit because he would use up valuable supplies?</p> <p>Did the newsreader Rhianna Patrick also make similar comments?</p>		
69	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Political Comments by NewsCaff Staff</u></p> <p>Are NewsCaff staff free to make disparaging political comments and jokes with Radio broadcasters?</p> <p>On September 30 did they make disparaging comments about the Australian Government response to the War on Terror and in particular jokes about flour bombs and "Elder Qaeda"?</p> <p>On Monday October 3 in relation to the latest Bali bombings and other terrorist attacks did they ask: "Does anyone give a shit"?</p> <p>A comment left on the programme's guest book on September the 25th from Paul in Perth reads: "Oh boys, I was just thinking it would be great if you could refrain from profanities and negative references which are insulting to Christians.....such as blaspheming, talking negatively about the Pope etc."</p> <p>"Ex-Triple J listener as of today" from Melbourne posted on April 8 this year: "You guys are sick. I'm not a Catholic, nor practise any religion, but I was offended by your comments that the Pope looks like cheese."</p> <p>There is also a similar posting from Berin Duggan of Yamba, NSW on the April 7.</p> <p>Brigid in Adelaide on April 4: "Did Jay and The Doctor talk about turning the Pope into gelatine this morning. Did I hear this right, Please confirm I think it's bloody funny."</p> <p>ABC Moderator Comment: "They did indeed".</p> <p>Bunny Somers on February 24: "A couple of hippie nouveaux punk losers who crack lame jokes about being vegetarians or how John Howard is the devil incarnate."</p> <p>Can the ABC please undertake a very thorough examination of the tapes of "Jay and the Doctor" and report back on these and any other incidents of anti-Christian commentary?</p> <p>Can I also receive any transcripts in relation to each of the above alleged comments (for Questions 59-79) along with as much of the transcribed programme as would be appropriate to examine the context in which these apparently inappropriate comments were made?</p>	ABC	07/02/06
70	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Anti-Christian Comments by Lindsay McDougall</u></p> <p>I note from certain comments that Mr McDougall has made on a web-log that he is very anti-Christian: "Jesus is for losers" is one example. Can the ABC ask Mr McDougall if he has ever made that type of comment on a website or similar?</p> <p>After the Baghdad bridge stampede when almost one thousand Shiites were killed, did Mr McDougall say "at least they were going to church when it happened. They had spirituality on their side."?</p> <p>Did he also say "we are supposed to be bound by ethics and all that, what is it, some sort of dictionary or something. I don't know I don't bother with that stuff."?</p> <p>Did his side kick Jay Walley tell the Sydney Morning Herald: "the station has not laid down any rules they must follow". Is this</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>statement true?</p> <p>What discussions or information have they been given regarding ABC rules?</p> <p>Was Mr McDougall given a copy of the Editorial Policies and were the relevant sections explained to him?</p> <p>Are Jay and the Doctor promoting the work of their own band on Triple J and is this a breach of commercial conflicts of interest? To quote from the guest book again. Nikki from Brisbane on February 22: <i>"Having a band hosting their own radio show just crosses the line. Last Friday's constant plug of their new song 'No town like Snow Town' was just ridiculous."</i></p> <p>Linda in Newcastle on February 7: <i>"By the way is it possible for either of you to make it through a whole show without mentioning your band?"</i></p> <p>A person calling themselves "Adge" posted this on March 9: <i>"Your play-list is terribly biased towards rock, and you spend a ridiculous amount of time on self-promo's. I would hope that the Triple J management take notice of the listeners that are abandoning Triple J in droves and try to rectify this situation."</i></p> <p>Could the ABC report back to me on the number of times "Jay and The Doctor" have promoted their own band or music, and whether this breaches ABC rules or guidelines?</p> <p>"Bored" of WA in the Guest Book on January 19: <i>"I would like to hear less talk about drugs – it is really boring hearing 'bong jokes'".</i> What action was taken to investigate any jokes about drugs and what action was taken to stop them joking about and encouraging drug use?</p>		
71	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Ratings for Triple J</u></p> <p>I note the ratings for Triple J in the morning slot have fallen from 3.5 to 2.6% in Sydney (20% of the audience shed in six months) and 4.5% to 4% in Adelaide. Can the ABC supply the other major metropolitan city figures please?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
72	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Employment of Lindsay McDougall</u></p> <p>Who made the decision to hire Mr McDougall?</p> <p>Was Mr Russell Balding consulted?</p> <p>I understand employment procedures at the ABC normally involve an application period, a short-listing, a selection panel, a recommendation and then an approval by a delegate. Could the ABC provide me the full detail of that procedure in this instance please?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
73	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Anti-Christian Comments from "Jay and the Doctor"</u></p> <p>Is the ABC comfortable that someone with such an explicitly stated public opposition to the Howard Government, with a publicly stated intention to try and remove it in 2007, is making continuing attacks on that same government?</p> <p>Is the ABC happy with the anti-Christian and pro-drugs commentary from "Jay and the Doctor"?</p> <p>Is that what Triple J programme manager Linda Bracken meant when she told the Sydney Morning Herald in November 2004: <i>"What they are on about resonates with a lot of our listeners,"</i>?</p> <p>Will the ABC now revisit this appointment?</p> <p>Who appointed Linda Bracken to her position?</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Who were the other candidates?</p> <p>How did she meet the Selection Criteria?</p> <p>What discussions have ABC management had with her regarding her performance in terms of "<i>Jay and The Doctor</i>" and the overall ratings of Triple J?</p>		
74	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Anti-Christian comment by Felicity Davey</u></p> <p>On the issue of anti-Christian commentary and attitudes at the ABC, did ABC Sydney TV newsreader Felicity Davey, on the Thursday before Easter 2004, sign off by saying "<i>Have a Hell of a good weekend,</i>"?</p> <p>Was this some sort of cheap jibe at the Resurrection of Jesus?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
75	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Anti-Christian Comments on Perspective</u></p> <p>Why did "Perspective" on September 2, smear Christians with the following comments: "<i>The majority of Australians call themselves Christian – that is, the sorts of Christians who allow traumatised refugees to be imprisoned. Christians who stand by and watch the slow disintegration of these refugees into madness or suicide as they abandon all hope of being treated humanely. Christians who continue to ignore, mistreat and vilify our national shame, our indigenous population. Christians who hold up the banner of War and Invasion, assist in random imprisonment and torture, without charge or trial or even production of evidence,</i>"?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
76	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Anti-Christian comments on <i>The Glass House</i></u></p> <p>I also refer to a broadcast on <i>The Glass House</i> of, I believe, September 8 this year, in an item about the Catholic Church. Did the broadcast state the following, or words to the effect of: "<i>Any religion that says you're not allowed to masturbate, you're not allowed to use condoms and that touches kids, shouldn't be something that you really want to follow. Why do they always elect a pope who is so old? Why don't they start with a 20-year old pope? Imagine the pope's 21st birthday.</i>"?</p> <p>Did the presenter then make a drinking gesture and continue "<i>Aw more blood of Christ, come on. Wearing his hat backwards calling himself Snoop Popey Pope,</i>"?</p> <p>Did the presenter then continue "<i>When the pope comes to Australia take him to see what is sacred to us. Take him to see a footy game. I'm assuming he's a Saints supporter. Take him to see the Saints versus the Demons. And if the Demons win in the presence of the pope we can set him on fire,</i>"?</p> <p>Did the presenter then continue: "<i>Look at the way we celebrate Christmas in Australia. It's like Jesus is born f word it (again he said it but I won't), lets get pissed and eat ham. When Jesus held the chalice up and said this is my blood drink, do this in remembrance of me, as soon as he started drinking, you know the disciples in Australia are going skull, skull, skull,</i>"?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
77	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments on <i>Glass House</i> Website</u></p> <p>On September 28 this year, did the <i>Glass House</i> website have a promo headline entitled: "<i>Vatican Hushed Up Date of Pope's Death for Several Years,</i>"?</p> <p>Would the ABC make these kinds of jokes about the Prophet Mohammed?</p> <p>When has <i>The Glass House</i> ever mocked Bob Brown and The</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Greens?</p> <p>Immigration activists?</p> <p>Anti-war protestors?</p> <p>Buddhists? I have already asked similar questions at the last Senate Estimates in question number 80 (iv) and Mr Balding's written and verbal responses did not address the substance of my question.</p> <p>PM on August 26: <i>“Christianity is the majority religion in Australia, but one group of Christians claim they’re marginalised, and feel excluded in their workplaces because of their religion. They’re Christian media professionals.”</i></p> <p>The report goes on to quote Dominic Steele from the group <i>“It’s in the newsroom, in the office, it’s the little niggles, it’s being the butt of people’s jokes, it’s the little thing that just chips away.”</i></p> <p>In that context could the ABC come back to me on the ABC behaviour towards Christianity versus other religions? Perhaps the ABC could find examples of other religions being mocked and vilified on ABC programmes, or in its' newroom's or offices. Please start with Islam and Buddhism.</p>		
78	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Labelling Policy</u></p> <p>In relation to the ABC policy on labels the editorial policy 6.14 states: <i>“Labelling of groups and individuals.</i></p> <p>6.14.1 <i>“As a general rule the ABC does not label groups or individuals.”</i></p> <p>6.14.2 <i>“The ABC prefers clear thorough reporting rather than the use of labels to describe groups or individuals.”</i></p> <p><i>“If inappropriately applied, labels can be seen as subjective, over simplistic or as portraying stereotypes.”</i></p> <p>That is the ABC policy is it not?</p> <p>If I understand it correctly, that has been the new ABC policy since about March of this year. Is this correct?</p> <p>Could the ABC please provide an explanation as to what is meant by <i>“as a general rule”</i>?</p> <p>How are staff to interpret that, or is that a convenient <i>“out”</i> for the ABC to respond with words to the effect of: <i>“oh well the policy doesn’t apply in that case”</i>, whenever people complain?</p> <p>In what sense is <i>“terrorist”</i> a label but <i>“militant”</i> is not a label?</p> <p>How does, to quote the rule book, <i>“militant”</i> provide valuable information or context but <i>“terrorist”</i> does not?</p> <p>Why are endless memos issued banning the use of one but not the other?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
79	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Ne-Con</u></p> <p>Is "Neo-con" a label?</p> <p>Here’s Hamish Robertson on “PM” on March 28, 2003: <i>“Richard Pearle, one of the original neo-cons who crafted the Bush administration’s policy towards the Middle East and Iraq.”</i></p> <p>Jonathan Holmes on Four Corners in the lead up to the Iraq war, on February 17, 2003: <i>“How did the neo-cons as a group react to the defeat of George Bush senior”</i>.</p> <p>Mark Colvin on “PM” on the April 1, this year <i>“the arch neo-con Paul Wolfowitz”</i>.</p> <p>Other labels used by the ABC which start with “neo” in a political context include: "Neo-Nazi" and "neo-fascist"; "neo-colonialist" and "neo-imperialist"; "neo-paganism" and "neo-communist".</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Would the ABC support the proposition that these are terms with a pejorative connotation?</p> <p>If I suggest to the ABC that neo-con has a negative connotation – and as ABC policy states: <i>“Labels can be seen as applying stereotypes”</i> – then why didn't Mr Cameron issue any memos asking staff to refrain from using the term neo-con along the lines of this memo by Mr Cameron from July of this year: <i>“The ABC takes great care not to label groups and organisations as terrorist,”</i>?</p> <p>Has the ABC applied policy 6.14 on this occasion (i.e. with reference to the <i>“neo-cons”</i>)?</p> <p>Stephen Crittenden on the Religion Report 21 April, 2004: <i>“The neo-cons who run the White House are on the nose.”</i></p> <p>What does the label neo-con usefully describe to an audience?</p> <p>Why hasn't the ABC issued a memo stating words to the effect that: <i>“The ABC takes great care not to label any groups or individuals as neo-cons”</i>?</p>		
80	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of So-Called War on Terror</u></p> <p>I would like to ask about the expression: <i>“so-called war on terror”</i>, an expression used repeatedly on “Lateline”.</p> <p>Tony Jones on Lateline on June 29, 2005 <i>“the so-called war on terror.”</i></p> <p>Mr Jones again on July 8 <i>“the so called war on terror”</i>.</p> <p>Jane Hutcheon on Lateline on July 5 said the same thing.</p> <p>Does Lateline have a special policy in relation to using the phrase <i>“the so-called war on terror”</i>? ABC Journalists and Management might also like to know who else uses the expression: <i>“the so called war on terror”</i>: Socialist Worker, Al Jazeera, John Pilger, Tariq Ali, the World Socialist Website, David Duke and the Raelian Movement.</p> <p>Should the ABC refer to <i>“the war on militancy”</i> or <i>“the so called war on alleged militancy”</i>? If not, why not?</p> <p>What instructions, if any, have been given by Mr Cameron, or other managerial or editorial staff, to journalists regarding the use of the expression <i>“so-called”</i>?</p> <p>Why has the ABC applied this apparent usage selectively? When Donna Mulhearn was on Australian Story she wasn't referred to as a <i>“so-called human shield”</i>.</p> <p>Nor have we had, to the best of my knowledge, <i>“the so called insurgency”</i> in Iraq. Why not?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
81	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Disclosure of Affiliations by Interviewees</u></p> <p>In regards to the Middle East, I want to ask about non-disclosure which I believe may have breached the ABC rules and in particular section 6 of the ABC editorial policies covering the use of guest commentators and the disclosure of information about them.</p> <p>I asked the ABC some questions on this at the May estimates and I would now like to take the opportunity to ask some supplementary questions.</p> <p>Section 6.7.2 of the policies states: <i>“If specific information about the commentator would alter the audience's perception of the view presented, that information must be disclosed.”</i> Emphasis added.</p> <p>Section 6.1.1: <i>“This section applies to all programs on radio, television and online produced by the News and Current Affairs Division of the ABC and other information programs that comprise both news and information relating to current events.”</i></p> <p>Would an in depth look at events in Lebanon presented by Geraldine Doogue on Saturday Breakfast be covered by section 6.7.2. Is this the</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>case?</p> <p>On Saturday March 12 2005 Geraldine Doogue interviewed two gentlemen from Lebanon, talking about Hezbollah. One was introduced as Hala Jaber an English Lebanese journalist with the Sunday Times and the author of the book "<i>Hezbollah</i>", and the other was introduced as Ibrahim Mousawi the manager of political programs from the TV station Al-Manar.</p> <p>In previous answers on this subject the ABC stated that it does not know who owns Al-Manar. Yet even Al Jazeera states that Hezbollah owns it.</p> <p>Given the apparent uncertainty about this why didn't the ABC programme host state that, or find another commentator?</p>		
82	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Disclosure of Affiliations by Interviewees</u></p> <p>Al-Manar regularly broadcasts programs glorifying suicide bomb attacks against Israeli civilians, calling them "<i>heroic martyrdom operations</i>".</p> <p>Its' broadcasts into France have been stopped by French authorities, and in 2004 the US government added Al-Manar to its list of terrorist organisations.</p> <p>Here are some of the statements made by the man from Al-Manar to Geraldine Doogue on that programme: "<i>I mean you are talking about a genuine political party</i>" and "<i>now you could say they are the saviour and guardian for the Lebanese State</i>".</p> <p>Does the ABC think that audience perception of the views of the man from Al-Manar would have been altered if Doogue had told her listeners that Al-Manar is owned and operated by Hezbollah?</p> <p>Is this a breach of ABC editorial policies?</p> <p>Is there someone at the ABC doing the bidding of Hezbollah?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
83	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Disclosure of Affiliations by Interviewees</u></p> <p>Staying with the issue of non-disclosure, I want to ask about an item broadcast on the radio programme "The World Today" on Friday May 27 2005.</p> <p>The ABC broadcast part of an interview with one Fran Tierney as part of coverage of reaction to the government's proposed workplace relations reforms.</p> <p>She was introduced by the ABC reporter in this way: "<i>Fran Tierney is a community worker in the not-for-profit sector.</i>"</p> <p>Fran Tierney is the New South Wales Deputy President of the Australian Services Union and the President of the Community and Social Services Sector. She was also an ALP candidate in North Sydney during the 2001 Federal Election.</p> <p>Why was this not disclosed? Clearly the audience perception of her views would have been altered had they known about her union and Labor Party affiliations.</p> <p>I do not accept the ABC's answer from previous correspondence. The reporter responsible, Liz Foschia, is a senior journalist responsible for reporting IR matters for ABC Radio News. She has operated in that role, either in a de facto or de jure fashion, for several years. Did the reporter know about Fran Tierney's union and ALP roles?</p> <p>If so why was it not disclosed and why did she choose to use the misleading description of "<i>community worker in the not for profit sector</i>"?</p> <p>Did she disclose any knowledge to the Executive Producer of The World Today?</p> <p>Would the ABC have been similarly complicit in allowing a Liberal</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Party candidate or an executive office holder in an employers' group, to present their commentary in such a dishonest way?</p> <p>How do the actions of the ABC conform with the Editorial policies requirement for: "<i>honesty, fairness and accuracy</i>"?</p>		
84	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Mark Dawson on ABC Radio 666</u></p> <p>Regarding inappropriate on-air comments - the day of the Ashes defeat - did Mark Dawson, the ABC newsreader on the radio in Canberra and a NewsCaff employee, state the following when asked if Ricky Ponting should resign: "<i>He's like someone I know who never apologises and never sacks anyone,</i>"?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
85	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>The Insiders 24 July</u></p> <p>Why did "Insiders" of July 24 lampoon Mrs Howard and Mrs Bush as racists referring to Condoleezza Rice as "<i>My, isn't that black girl pretty?</i>" in the talking pictures segment. What was meant by that? From the viewpoint of the average viewer, they were implying Mrs Bush and Mrs Howard were racists. What action was taken?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
86	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Broadcast by Libby Price on ABC 774 Melbourne</u></p> <p>On Monday October 3, did ABC 774 Melbourne broadcaster Libby Price ask listeners to provide terms for "<i>peace talks</i>" with Al Qaeda and the Bali bombers?</p> <p>Did she suggest that returning Spain and East Timor to Muslim rule could be a starting point for these talks?</p> <p>I understand she is a former senior journalist with The 7.30 Report and ABC radio current affairs. When she is not filling in on Radio 774 does she still work as a journalist?</p> <p>Did she take her cue from Virginia Trioli who suggested in 2001 that we should "<i>sit down with Osama bin Laden</i>" in order to "<i>understand his anger</i>"?</p> <p>Given that Islamic terrorists have, in the past three months alone, struck in 16 different countries, have stated an avowed determination to turn the whole world into an Islamic state, with the use of nuclear weapons if necessary, and to kill all infidels unless they convert to their rather extreme brand of Islam – is it not reasonable to suggest that these two broadcasters are deluded simpletons conning the audience?</p> <p>Are we not entitled to expect a lot better than this naïve tripe?</p> <p>Is the ABC really serious about terrorism?</p> <p>Could the ABC please provide me a transcript of the caller's comments and responses into that programme?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
87	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Alan Kohler on Inside Business</u></p> <p>Regarding "Inside Business", why is Mr Alan Kohler allowed an editorial segment which he used recently to attack the government and suggest corruption involving donations to the Liberal Party from an ethanol producer?</p> <p>Is Mr Kohler and "Inside Business" exempt from the following provision of the ABC Charter of Editorial Practice: "<i>5.1.1 The ABC takes no editorial stand in its programming</i>"?</p> <p>Was his attack on the Liberal party and the Prime Minister referred to Mr Cameron, given ABC Editorial Policy: 5.2.3 and: "<i>its controversial impact</i>"?</p> <p>Why was he allowed to use a news programme to express a personal</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			opinion?		
88	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Rhianna Patrick of Triple J</u></p> <p>Did Rhianna Patrick of Triple J news, another NewsCaff employee, say that the ABC should hire out its recording hall so terrorists can practice suicide bombings? Can I have a transcript of the statement, or her words to that effect? I believe that the comment was made just after the 7.30am news on September 21.</p> <p>To provide further context she ran an item in her 7.30 headlines that the London bombers had carried out a practice run. The morning crew of "<i>Jay and The Doctor</i>" then asked whether there were facilities around the world where terrorists practice. Ms Patrick then volunteered her suggestion. Is it appropriate for newsreaders to be making tasteless jokes about terrorism?</p> <p>Would the families of the Australian victims of the bombings think the ABC was funny?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
89	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview by Rod Quinn on Radio 666</u></p> <p>Going back to Canberra radio last year, did drive presenter Rod Quinn interview the Federal Director of the National Party?</p> <p>Did he ask about how that party has changed its name to "<i>The Nationals</i>" and some people shorten it to "<i>the Nats</i>". Did the ABC man say "<i>It's just as well you're not still called the Country Party</i>"?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
90	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Kerry O'Brien on 23 June 2005</u></p> <p>Did Kerry O'Brien in an item about Harry Potter say on June 23 2003: "I don't know how Harry scrubs up at 15 but Judith Torzillo isn't bad for 11"?</p> <p>What did he mean by this comment? I gather there have been some complaints about this especially as it was made on the same programme as an item about paedophiles.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
91	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview by Daniel Hoare on <i>The World Today</i></u></p> <p>When reporter Daniel Hoare interviewed left-wing activist and lawyer Julian Burnside about the Scott Parkin case on <i>The World Today</i> on September 13, why did he say "<i>What do you think the government are playing at here?</i>"</p> <p>Is that an appropriate way to address the issue and is this commentary in keeping with ABC rules?</p> <p>Staying with reporter Daniel Hoare who is, I gather, fairly new, is he familiar with the news style guide?</p> <p>On page 11 it says "<i>We do not use the term boat people,</i>" but on <i>The World Today</i> September 28 we find: "<i>The Baktiaris came as boat people.</i>" Mr Hoare may be new and unfamiliar, but the Executive Producer is not. I have documented a large number of breaches on the <i>World Today</i>, will the ABC now have a strong word to the Executive Producer? I would also appreciate it if I did not receive back a "perils of live radio" excuse, or similar. He editorial team would have been working on that story all morning. Aren't the Executive Producers supposed to check the scripts before they are recorded?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
92	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Peter Cave on <i>The 7.30 Report</i></u></p> <p>Why did Peter Cave reporting from Baghdad on <i>The 7.30 Report</i> on January 31, say of the incoming Iraqi government: "<i>I mean this government we're going to have here for the next year is not quite as Mickey Mouse as the last one.</i>" The ABC spends thousands of dollars flying Mr Cave to Iraq, paying for a satellite link to Sydney, and we</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			get the political insight of Michael Mouse. Why? Is this comment appropriate?		
93	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview with Internet Activist Group <i>GetUp</i></u></p> <p>When did it become a policy of ABC News to treat the left-wing internet activist group "GetUp" (which appears to be a clone of the anti-Bush, pro-Democrats, American group "MoveOn.org") as experts on the Australian Constitution?</p> <p>In a story from September 25 this year, headlined "<i>Tasmania urged to refuse to implement terrorism laws</i>" it quotes Lachlan Harris, described by the ABC as "<i>from the newly formed progressive group <i>GetUp</i></i>". Harris then has a whinge about how anti-terrorism laws amount to "<i>throwing out the constitution.</i>" What is his expertise on the constitution?</p> <p>I understand that Lachlan Harris was until recently a Federal Labor Party advisor and has worked for Mr Robert McClelland MP. Is this more camouflaged left-wing bias peddled by the ABC? Can we expect more of this involving "GetUp" and ABC News?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
94	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Linda Mottram on AM – Dec 2001</u></p> <p>Why on "AM" on December 3, 2001, did Linda Mottram, reply to the statement of pro-republic Bill Peach "<i>I would have thought that the Monarchy was a lot closer to being an elite</i>" with: "<i>hear hear.</i>" Is this a ringing endorsement of a partisan position? Is this type of editorialisation or on-air commentary appropriate or within the rules?</p> <p>Was a complaint received about this, how did the ABC reply, and what action was taken?</p> <p>Was Ms Mottram warned about making inappropriate on-air comments, especially in light of the huge trouble she brought upon herself and "AM" a little over a year later during the Iraq War?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
95	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments on AM about Queen Mother</u></p> <p>Speaking of the monarchy and still going back a couple of years, can the ABC explain why it was when the Queen Mother passed away the best that the reporters on "AM" on April 2, 2001, could find to say about her was the following:</p> <p>Reporter Rafael Epstein: "<i>She maintained a lifestyle in which price was not considered a subject of polite concern. She drank vintage champagne, entertained every guest as though they were royalty themselves and preferred helicopters to chauffeur driven cars. She spent a fortune maintaining her passion for clothes, spending more than any royal other than the Queen. She maintained a staff of 50 people who travelled with her everywhere, including butlers, footmen, ladies in waiting and a maid who would wake her each morning with tea in a bone china cup, pink roses and a copy of the Racing Post. Other servants were summoned with a Faberge bell. The two cherubs on her four-poster bed had their angels' clothes starched and washed every month. In more than 100 years, it's said she never washed a dish, made a bed or drew a curtain.</i>"</p> <p>No "AM" reporter praised her stoicism in the face of the Nazis. Nor did they even mention it. One passing comment from a British journalist they interviewed was all we received. And ironically, which paper was that journalist from:- The Independent. The most left-wing newspaper in Britain. Can the ABC comment on the appropriateness of this story, particularly in the context of the Queen Mother's funeral?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
96	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview with Peter Debnam on <i>Stateline</i></u></p> <p>Staying with the issue of left-wing slants, Quentin Dempster</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>interviewed the new Liberal opposition leader in New South Wales, Peter Debnam, on <i>Stateline</i> of September 9. Having elucidated that Mr Debnam supports the status-quo position on abortion, believes legislating in the area of voluntary euthanasia is too hard, opposes lowering the homosexual age of consent and also opposes same sex marriage, is an Anglican, is concerned about the environment and especially pollution of the seas, but supports the Prime Minister's decision not to sign the Kyoto Protocol, Mr Dempster then volunteers the following: "<i>So you're doing pretty well on the hard right agenda, aren't you?</i>"</p> <p>Is that fair and balanced?</p> <p>If a politician doesn't measure up to Mr Dempster's moral ruler, are they hard right? And what exactly does "<i>hard right agenda</i>" mean?</p> <p>Is that a label? Or is it more stereotyping from a left-wing perspective?</p>		
97	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Lateline Report on Comments by President Bush</u></p> <p>Did <i>Lateline</i> in a broadcast of September 1 this year, misrepresent the comments of US President George W Bush in a way that made him look dumb. Tony Jones said of Hurricane Katrina: "<i>he (President Bush) called this one of America's worst natural disasters this century</i>". Indeed that would be a pretty unintelligent thing to say as the century is just a few years old. But according to the text I have of the President's speech that Mr Jones was referring to, the President actually said: "<i>we are dealing with one of the worst natural disasters in our nation's history.</i>" Where did Mr Jones get that quote from? Could the ABC provide me with the relevant transcript please?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
98	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Transcript of AM on 31 August 2005</u></p> <p>Back to "AM" and why does the transcript of Alexandra Kirk's report on the Forbes CEO forum in Sydney, from August 31 this year, have next to comments by the Prime Minister a qualification in brackets which says (sarcastically). Can I please be provided with other examples where ABC transcripts provide a bracketed reference to the speaker's tone of voice? Specific examples of other similar applications please, not a "<i>we reviewed it and considered the usage appropriate</i>" style of response.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
99	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Leigh Sales on <i>The World Today</i> 26 August</u></p> <p><i>The World Today</i> on August 26; reporter Leigh Sales said "<i>Mrs Sheehan lost her son Casey in Iraq and that made her staunchly anti-war.</i>" It has been clearly documented that Mrs Sheehan was against the war in Iraq and against President Bush long before her son died. She even pleaded with her son not to go. Could the ABC provide the committee with the evidence to support Leigh Sales' assertion?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
100	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Edmond Roy - <i>The World Today</i> 25 August</u></p> <p>Still with <i>The World Today</i> and a report of August 25 about the Education Minister and Australian values. Why did Edmond Roy end his report by saying "<i>And come to think of it, it's only fitting that when talking about Australian values, the Federal Education Minister chose to use a story with a donkey in it?</i>" What is that a reference to?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
101	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by Philip Adams on ABC Radio</u></p> <p>Staying with ABC Radio, why did Philip Adams characterise the tragic victim of the shoot-to-kill incident in London, as "<i>that young Brazilian boy</i>" when he was a 27 year old man? Was it done to distort what happened to make the British anti-terror services seem bad. Why is a 27-year-old-man called a young boy?</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
102	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Request for Transcript – ABC News 20 September</u></p> <p>Staying with the war on terror. There was a closer on ABC TV news in Sydney on, I believe, September 20, which spoke of the looming civil war or “Iraq’s descent into Civil War” or words to that affect. Could I please have a transcript?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
103	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Statement by Tony Eastley on AM – 22 September</u></p> <p>On “AM” on September 22 Tony Eastley said “There are claims that Iraq is already in the midst of a civil war” but provided not a skerrick of evidence to support the statement except a vague reference to some of the British media coverage of Iraq.</p> <p>Would the ABC please be good enough to provide the evidence used to support Mr Eastley’s assertion.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
104	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>References to David Hicks on AM</u></p> <p>Staying with the War on Terror, one of the “cause celebre” of The Left is, of course, David Hicks. Why is it that almost every time David Hicks is mentioned on the ABC, and in particular on “AM”, it’s always couched as “Guantanamo Bay detainee David Hicks” and not “alleged war criminal David Hicks” for example? Is it done deliberately to couch the story in terms of the Australian and American government’s treatment of his judicial rights, rather than the alleged serious war crimes he has been charged with? Could the ABC please let me know if there have been any instances of ABC journalists using the reference “alleged war criminal”. I know there are very occasional references to “terror suspect” but I’m interested in the description “alleged war criminal”. Some statistics would be helpful.</p>	ABC	03/02/06
105	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments by David Mark on AM - 4 August 2005</u></p> <p>In regards to how ABC journalists are apparently all too ready to believe the stories of accused terrorists, and present their claims as facts in contravention of ABC rules, can I refer you to page 82 of the news division style guide which says “take care not to run accusations or opinions as matters of fact”. On “AM” on August 4 this year, reporter David Mark, who had been speaking to Amnesty International over accusations the USA has been complicit in the torture and detention of terrorism suspects in Jordan, said: “In a report to be released later today, Amnesty details the stories of two Yemeni men who were both tortured for four days in Jordan.” I believe this is an instance of an accusation becoming fact. The only evidence for the accusation is the word of two terrorist suspects from Yemen. Could the ABC please explain why this accusation was run as an apparent fact in contravention of the rules?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
106	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments on Triple J News – 4 August 2005</u></p> <p>I believe Triple J news may also have breached the rule in its 7.30am bulletin on August 4: “Amnesty International says the experiences of two Yemeni men....” This is an allegation, not a fact and yet it seems to have become fact on Triple J. Where was the word “alleged”, as in “alleged experiences” or does the ABC, or ABC journalists, take as the gospel truth everything a Yemeni terrorist suspect tells Amnesty International?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
107	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Comments on PM – 5 - 6 May 2005</u></p> <p>On “PM” on May 5 and 6 there was a two part story about a Malaysian girl in detention at Villawood. In part one the reporter says the following: “One refugee advocate who’d visited the mother and daughter told the Investigative Unit she’d seen bruises consistent with</p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p><i>Naomi banging her head against the floor and wall.</i>" Yet during part two the next day Mark Colvin has turned that allegation, the head banging, into a fact: "<i>Now sullen and withdrawn, she started banging her head in distress against the wall.</i>"</p> <p>Does the ABC automatically believe the claims put forward by so-called refugee advocates and present them as facts?</p>		
108	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Item on Foreign Correspondent 20 September 2005</u></p> <p>Staying with unsubstantiated claims, a story on <i>Foreign Correspondent</i> by the Sydney based BBC reporter Michael Peschard on September 20 this year purported to show that people, especially Americans, were flocking to New Zealand since the Iraq War because Helen Clark's government had stayed out of the war and how safe New Zealand was since 9/11 compared with elsewhere. The sub-text of this story was, I believe, a surreptitious attack on the Howard Government's foreign policy by association. The story was long on urban myth and short on facts.</p> <p>Since 2001 NZ's net migration rate has fallen 22%. People, especially Europeans, are leaving faster than they arrive. The European population of NZ will actually fall by 5,000 in 2005. The predicted migration rate for 2005 is 3.83 per 1,000 people. Australia's is 3.98. In the year ended October 2003, the year of the Liberation of Iraq, 3,631 Americans came to NZ as permanent or long term residents. In the year ended August 2005 - which are the most recent figures available from the New Zealand Government - the number is 3,647. 16 extra Americans were freaked out by George W Bush, the Liberation of Iraq and enamoured of Helen Clark's Brave New World. Is this sound factual basis for a story?</p> <p>I would suggest not. Indeed it sounds like a case of "never let a fact stand in the way of a good story."</p> <p>Would the ABC care to comment?</p>	ABC	07/02/06
109	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Website "The Museum of Hoaxes"</u></p> <p>Would the ABC care to explain the production process that led to reporter Rachel Carbonell using fictitious vision from a website called "The Museum of Hoaxes" to illustrate a story about Hurricane Rita on Lateline on September the 22nd?</p> <p>What disciplinary action was taken against her?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
110	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Alleged Use of Incorrect Vision on ABC TV News</u></p> <p>How did ABC TV news on June the eighth come to use pictures to illustrate a story about the sinking of SIEV X that were not pictures of that boat?</p> <p>Does this constitute a breach of ABC rules about not using vision of one tragedy to illustrate a story about another tragedy?</p> <p>Who at the ABC produced that news item, and can the ABC please explain the processes in the newsroom that led to that shonky vision being used?</p> <p>Was the Network Editor or Supervising Producer in Sydney informed of the decision and did they approve it? If not, why not?</p> <p>Given the ABC rules regarding sensitive stories, was this upwardly referred and to whom?</p> <p>What action was taken against the staff involved?</p> <p>What action has been taken to stop this sort of thing happening again?</p>	ABC	03/02/06
111	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Interview by Kate Sieper on ABC Radio Central Australia</u></p>	ABC	03/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Regarding an item broadcast on ABC radio Central Australia on August 26. The ABC local broadcaster Kate Sieper interviewed a woman who claimed to be Azaria Chamberlain. As <i>Media Watch</i> pointed out, the media exploited the delusions of a vulnerable young woman to keep this bogus story running for days. The Northern Territory Police told <i>Media Watch</i> “<i>It is disappointing that it received so much media attention given that we had advised the media that she was a vulnerable person.</i>”</p> <p>Who got it right here? ABC radio Central Australia or ABC <i>Media Watch</i>?</p> <p>What action has been taken over this? What lessons have been learned?</p>		
112	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Coverage of Schapell Corby case</u></p> <p>Regarding <i>Media Watch's</i> attack on the commercial media over the coverage of the Schapelle Corby case. In summary, over a two week period in May and June <i>Media Watch</i> attacked the likes of News Limited, Alan Jones, John Laws and Channel Nine for sloppy work. Liz Jackson then used her findings to mount a case against commercial interests taking over ABC Asia Pacific Television. <i>Media Watch</i> accused Channel Nine of falsely alleging that Indonesian justice has a presumption of guilt. But <i>The 7.30 Report</i> on March 29 and April 21 made exactly the same assertion. <i>Media Watch</i> accused the commercial media of pandering to Australian public opinion by only writing that Corby was innocent because that's what the public wanted to hear. <i>Media Watch</i> quoted journalists as saying “<i>The media has built a case on why would Corby take drugs into Bali if they're worth so little. But that's just not true. I've wanted to do something on it but the editors just didn't want to know.</i>”</p> <p>Tracey Bowden on <i>The 7.30 Report</i> on the 16th of March: “<i>When Corby's bag was opened this is what Customs Officers were presented with, a bag this size containing cannabis. Immediate questions spring to mind, like why would anyone take this amount of cannabis to Bali.</i>” Despite asking the question, the <i>7.30 Report</i> never followed up. <i>Media Watch</i> accused the commercial media of only running positive stories on the Corby family in order to get access to them. But that is exactly what Tracey Bowden did on <i>The 7.30 Report</i> when she interviewed Corby's father Michael. Mr Corby told Bowden that he and his daughter don't discuss the case because his daughter doesn't want to discuss it.</p> <p>The obvious follow up question would be “<i>doesn't that indicate that perhaps she feels guilty, not wanting to face up to it in front of her father.</i>” Later we learn from Mr Corby that when he gave his daughter 600 dollars to take on holiday, he didn't know her mother had slipped her \$500 as well. “<i>She didn't tell me about that</i>” he says. The obvious follow up question, not asked, was “<i>Is there anything else she's not telling you about.</i>”</p> <p><i>Media Watch</i> criticised the some elements of the commercial media for favourable coverage of the so-called White Knight Ron Bakir. It even gave an example from <i>Women's Weekly</i>: “<i>Ron Bakir, 28, mobile phone tycoon.</i>” <i>Media Watch</i> said only some commercial media had reported his chequered business background. So how did <i>The 7.30 Report</i> portray Mr Ron Bakir? “<i>...mobile phone entrepreneur.</i>” And at no stage did it delve into his chequered business past.</p> <p><i>Media Watch</i> attacked the <i>Weekend Australian</i> for supposedly feeding the rumour mills with a story “<i>Meet the Corby's</i>”. They said the story was irrelevant to the case. But when <i>The 7.30 Report</i> had a chance to</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>press Mr Corby for more information about his two daughters' activities in Bali, they dropped the ball. Here's what Michael Corby told the programme: <i>"They don't own a surf shop. They're just over there for that period of time. Mercedes works – assists at the shop sometimes, just helping out her Mum, and she packs shelves at Coles."</i></p> <p>Perhaps the ABC can explain what that means because I am at a loss. Why didn't the reporter ask for a clarification?</p> <p>This went to a central point in the case, why Schapelle Corby was taking a boogie board to Bali if she had access to one at a surf shop where her sister worked, or owned even.</p> <p>When the verdict and sentence was out, <i>Media Watch</i> slammed the Daily Telegraph for whipping up anti-Indonesian feeling over the case. But The 7.30 Report was also complicit because it failed to explain to its audience the evidential points in the judgement.</p> <p>On the day of the judgement when Kerry O'Brien twice interviewed reporter Tracey Bowden in Bali, he failed to ask one single question about the evidence that had led to the conviction.</p> <p>Kerry O'Brien then interviewed Asian Law Expert Tim Lindsay, but only to examine the possible avenues for appeal. It was only after O'Brien's fourth consecutive question about the appeal, that we got this – unsolicited – from Lindsay: <i>"They gave evidence that she had acknowledged it was hers and tried to prevent them looking. She denied that."</i> And what is O'Brien's response to this damaging piece of evidence? <i>"The defence team wasn't up to the job."</i></p> <p>This seems strange given that O'Brien and Bowden had repeatedly stressed during their coverage of the case over the weeks, that the evidence was vitally important.</p> <p>Here is one of their exchanges on the eve of the verdict: KOB: <i>"I know legally this case is decided on the evidence..."</i> TB: <i>"That's right Kerry, I mean, they have said all along that all that matters is the evidence that is presented in this courtroom."</i></p> <p>And yet when we got the verdict O'Brien does not ask one question about the evidence presented in court, Bowden does not mention it at all, and we are left to feed off one generalised scrap from an Asian law expert sitting in Melbourne.</p> <p>If <i>Media Watch</i> had any credibility and independence it would expose <i>"The 7.30 Report"</i> over this affair. Its claim that the commercial media coverage of the Corby case proves that a commercial company is not capable of running Asia Pacific TV is a farce.</p> <p>Would the ABC care to comment on this entire episode?</p>		
113	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u><i>ABC Arts Program Vulture</i></u></p> <p>Regarding the new ABC arts programme "Vulture". The ABC must have been disappointed with the audience figures so far. Only 67,000 people watched the first episode in Sydney –the ABC was out-rated by SBS.</p> <p>The Executive Producer, Mr Guy Rundle, has been employed by the ABC on this project since January. Is this accurate?</p> <p>Is it true the programme was supposed to go to air in mid-year but didn't get up until the end of September?</p> <p>Is this the same Guy Rundle who was editor of the left-wing commentary magazine <i>Arena</i>?</p> <p>Is he the same Guy Rundle who was a keynote speaker at the left-wing love in during July of this year called <i>"Now We The People"</i> which, from what I can tell, was one giant whinge-fest against the Howard Government?</p> <p>How much is the ABC paying Mr Rundle? If a specific figure cannot</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>be provided then the range would be fine.</p> <p>Did he ask for permission to be a keynote speaker while at the same time being on the ABC payroll?</p> <p>Can the ABC give this committee an assurance that “Vulture”, for however long it lasts, won’t become yet another vehicle for the left to grizzle to the left about the Right? Or let it become yet another taxpayer funded outlet for the Minority Left-wing club that is the ABC?</p>		
114	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Radio National Program Perspective</u></p> <p>I asked Mr Balding at the last Senate Estimates about the Radio National programme called “Perspective”. I was concerned about the biased presentations and the lack of adequate disclosure of the left-wing political background of some of the guest commentators. Mr Balding assured me that everything was fine, there was no problem. No bias. No lack of balance. No problem with disclosure. I’ve since performed a check of “Perspective” programmes since then and searched for evidence of this supposed balance, fairness, lack of bias, and fair disclosure.</p> <p>Rebecca Huntley on September 5, attacked the government over its responses to terrorism: <i>“In Australia, Generation Y’s anger over something like September 11 is less about the event itself than it is about the behaviour of the United States government and its allies with regard to the war on Iraq.”</i> Huntley is described as a social researcher and author. What is not disclosed is that she is active in the Labor Party.</p> <p>Why can “<i>New Matilda</i>” declare that affiliation but not the ABC?</p> <p>John Langmore attacked the Howard Government in Perspective of Friday Sept 17 over the UN, Iraq, foreign policy and aid. He is presented as a “professorial fellow, Political Science Department, Melbourne University”. What is not disclosed is that he previously worked for the UN and is a former Federal Labor MP. Why was this disclosure not made?</p> <p>Hugh Stretton attacked the “<i>neo-liberal surrender to the markets</i>” in a spruik for “Australia Fair” on Perspective of September 19 and is described by the programme as a visiting fellow at the Adelaide school of economics. What the audience is NOT told is that Stretton is, or was, an official sponsor of that left-wing Labor Party dominated activist group called “Now We The People” that campaigned against the Howard Government and had as one of its campaign themes, yes, “Australia Fair.” Why was this not disclosed?</p> <p>In a little over three months I have found that in items on Perspective that dealt with Australian government policies, or the US position on Iraq or other policies, 25 out of 27 items were negative and attacked the government.</p> <p>Here is a list of policy positions the speakers took in relation to the Government: Anti-Bush, anti-US nuclear policies, anti-US Iraq policy, anti-war on terror, anti-Howard, anti-terror laws, anti-Liberal Party, anti-immigration policy, anti-Howard again, anti-Bush again, anti-Aboriginal policies, anti-Kyoto position, anti-Howard Government, anti-terror laws again, anti-university funding policy, anti-US, anti-Iraq war. And then there was one that was pro-Iraq. A journalist who had actually been there and is helping a free media emerge in Iraq.</p> <p>Anti-government activists Tariq Ali, Greg Barns, Natasha Cica, Joe Siracusa, James Bourne, Marion Maddox, Chas Savage, Rebecca Huntley, Annabelle Lukin who was scathing about Australian government immigration policy and made comparisons with the Third Reich.</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>In one ten day stretch in September there were the following speakers: Mike Clear who criticised the government on immigration policy and has been a campaigner on immigration issues; Abbot Gleason an American academic who accused the “neo-conservatives” of stealing the legacy of George Orwell – not disclosed is the fact he signed an open letter attacking President George W Bush; then came Hugh Stretton whom I have just described, a socialist economist; followed by John Langmore the former ALP MP; then there was Alison Broinowski a notorious left-wing critic of the Coalition parties; the day before her John Ralston Saul the far left commentator; then there were two non-political items, then Joe Siracusa another arch-leftie; then Martin Krygier a commentator on communism; then Chris Richards the editor of the New Internationalist Magazine; then Rebecca Huntley from the Labor Party and left-wing activist James Bourne. After a break of an entire two days of no left-wing political “perspectives” following Mike Clear, who did we get next, Chas Savage and another left-wing spray at the government over anti-terror laws. Mr Savage is the ABC’s resident friend of David Hicks and Mamdouh Habib, a constant critic of the government and making I think his third or fourth appearance on the show this year. I am a firm supporter of the right of the ABC to broadcast divergent views, but is this balance?</p> <p>Is it fair?</p> <p>Here is what we got in that run of ten of twelve commentators: “Shame Howard Shame”; “the young generation’s anger over American policies and the war in Iraq”; an attack on Piers Ackerman, Andrew Bolt and Paul Sheehan; “George W. Bush is frankly clueless”; “racism and war is back”; “The US administration wants to punish the UN for opposing the Iraq war”; “Australia supported the illegal invasion of Iraq” and “Even after increasing its aid Australia remains among the meanest donors”; and “the neo-liberal surrender to the market”.</p> <p>Does this programme “Perspective” exist as some sort of club for left-wing and Labor-aligned commentators?</p> <p>When will we start to see some balance?</p> <p>Will the Managing Director, or the appropriate member of management, exercise some leadership on this and make sure Perspectives content is balanced?</p> <p>Or will the ABC allow it to continue as is, with left-wingers dressed up as various kinds of experts and their left-wing political credentials kept silent by the programme’s producers in contravention of ABC disclosure rules?</p>		
115	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Conflict of Interest by ABC Staff</u></p> <p>Given that many ABC broadcasters often comment on or include content relating to contentious issues like the Iraq War, immigration, indigenous affairs, can the ABC find out for me whether any declaration was made in regard to a potential, perceived or actual conflict of interest in relation to the following public participation by the following ABC staff?</p> <p>Quentin Dempster from Stateline NSW acting as MC at a public meeting on the impact of the war in Iraq on July the 18th 2004, run by the “Peace and Justice Coalition.”</p> <p>Julie McCrossin the radio broadcaster hosting the Labor Party-run “Emily’s List” event on November 23, 2001. Similarly Julie McCrossin criticising the Howard government over gay marriage at a forum in Sydney in August 2004; publicly supporting an event hosted</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>by the NSW Greens called "Show Mercy to Refugees"; singing an open letter to quote "Save Medicare" in 2001; speaking at a "The case for refugees" meeting at Curtin University on October 6, 2001; speaking at or being involved in as "Julie McCrossin the ABC broadcaster" at a "Rally for Native Title." In Sydney on October 11, 2001; and acting as MC at a March called "Compassion for refugees, peace and justice" on March 24, 2002.</p> <p>Lex Marinos from News radio acting as an MC at the same event.</p> <p>David Marr, and Julie Rigg from Radio National, speaking at an anti-censorship meeting in Balmain on July 10, 2003.</p> <p>Sandy McCutcheon from Radio National chairing a "Justice for Refugees" meeting in Brisbane on May 21, 2002.</p> <p>Sian Prior from Radio National acting as MC at a "Research for Asylum Seekers" meeting in Melbourne on the 24th of August 2004.</p> <p>Julie Browning again from Radio National acting as an official speaker at a "Rural Australians for Refugees" event at the Sydney UTS on May the 9th this year.</p> <p>Philip Adams from Radio National could get numerous mentions but I'll stick to one: a public signatory of a letter demanding a Royal Commission into refugees on December 7, 2001</p> <p>Margaret Throsby from Radio National acting as MC and host of the "out of limbo" refugee event on April 4, 2004.</p> <p>Rhoda Roberts of Radio National hosting a so-called "Sorry Day" event in 2002.</p> <p>Daniel Browning from the news department acting as a panellist on a forum called "the place of civil disobedience and protest in Australia" 21 October 2004.</p> <p>And Kerry O'Brien acting as MC for a "Rural Australians for Refugees" event in 2002.</p>		
116	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Australia Talks Back – 3 October 2005</u></p> <p>On Radio National's "Australia Talks Back" on Monday October 3, 2005 there was a programme about Global Warming. Tim Flannery was a guest – pushing the man-made Global Warming theory. Was an actual climate scientist, who challenges Flannery's view, William Kininmouth invited, and then disinvited?</p> <p>And how many times did the ABC refer to Dr Flannery's real profession, which is Palaeontology – the study of bones – and not the quaint epithet: "Earth Scientist"?</p>	ABC	06/02/06
117	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Employment of Sally Loane and Virginia Trioli</u></p> <p>In relation to ABC Local Radio and specifically the firing of Sally Loane in Sydney and the hiring of Virginia Trioli.</p> <p>Why was Sally Loane removed - I have read articles suggesting ABC staff viewed her as "The Pony Club", too much like the Sydney North Shore and not enough like the Inner West, in other words: not left-wing enough. Is it true the decision was taken by Sue Howard the head of Radio. Why?</p> <p>What did Sally Loane do wrong? I understand she is quite upset by what has happened.</p> <p>Can the ABC please describe the recruitment process that led to the hiring of Trioli?</p> <p>What were the selection criteria and how did she meet them?</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Why did Julie McCrossin resign after just a month and will she be given a job back at Radio National?</p> <p>Why has it taken so long to fill this position and the 9-12 slot?</p> <p>Why did Trioli not start work immediately? And how will she keep providing coverage of rugby union given her self-confessed lack of knowledge of and interest in rugby, and that she will from now on only cover cricket and racing?</p>		
118	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Employment of Valerie Geller by the ABC</u></p> <p>How much does the ABC pay the American Valerie Geller to “train” broadcasters? Just the remuneration range if a specific figure it is not appropriate to release.</p> <p>Valerie Geller's retainment has been ongoing now for four years or more. Why do staff still need training?</p> <p>How much has the ABC spent hiring Ms Geller over that period and how much longer will she be employed. What is it the ABC hopes she will achieve? Again, if specificity is not appropriate to divulge a range will be fine.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
119	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>ABC Coverage of Australian Netball</u></p> <p>If we move on to double standards and <i>The 7.30 Report</i>, I want to ask about an item regarding netball on March 1 this year. The story in question was all about the raw deal received by Australian netballers and how some are turning to a trade union for help. There were various comments about how Netball doesn't get enough media coverage, and because of that not enough sponsorship and money. The ABC has the TV rights to netball, or at least is the netball broadcaster. So on the issue of media coverage, why did <i>The 7.30</i> report choose not to reveal the following: When Australia competed in the 2003 World Netball Championships the ABC only broadcast 2 out of 8 games they played in.</p> <p>When Australia played England earlier this year, in front of a sell-out crowd, the ABC broadcast the match at 11:40pm, a time that is arguably far too late for young girls who are the sport's biggest fans. Australia played New Zealand in a three test series last year, two of the tests were broadcast at 11pm and 11:30pm and the other was not shown live at all.</p> <p>The final of the 2004 national championship was not shown live in SA and WA. The final of the 2003 national championship was not shown live anywhere, but in delay after midnight. ABC TV coverage of netball in 2003 was voted the worst sports coverage of that year.</p> <p>Can the ABC get back to me regarding the veracity of my assertions before I ask any further questions on Netball and the 7:30 Report?</p>	ABC	06/02/06
120	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>ABC Policy on External Website Links</u></p> <p>What is the ABC policy on posting external website links in programme web-sites?</p> <p>Local radio in Sydney deleted one from a posting stating it is ABC policy not to post them, whereas on the Triple J Morning Show guest book an external link is posted. For interest, it one of militant vegan Lindsay McDougall's pet projects: "saynotoanimalsinpetshops.com. Is there one policy across the ABC or is this a case of mismanagement?</p> <p>I have dozens of other examples if the ABC is interested.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
121	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>ABC IT Policy</u></p> <p>Is it true that the ABC has implemented a new IT policy allowing</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			ABC IT staff to view and trace all emails? If so would that be so ABC staff can be prevented from leaking material or acting as whistleblowers?		
122	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Investigation into Fraud by Former Staff Member</u></p> <p>What is the state of the investigation involving former staff member Mark John Williams for the alleged theft of some \$800,000 from the ABC? Is this matter still <i>sub judice</i>?</p>	ABC	06/02/06
123	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Report by Peter Cave on 4 August 2005</u></p> <p>I want to ask about the now notorious report by Peter Cave on his <i>Correspondents Report</i> of August 4, 2005, and the way the ABC dealt with it.</p> <p>Firstly, Mr Cave made the assertion that the deaths of 52 Palestinians and 23 Israeli soldiers in an area of Jenin constituted a “<i>massacre</i>”. His supporting argument for this claim is that the deaths of the Palestinians were unnecessary and indiscriminate.</p> <p>Can the ABC please provide me with the evidence Mr Cave had to support this claim? It was a big call to accuse the Israelis of a massacre, so I hope he had some evidence. If Mr Cave reached his conclusion that there had been a massacre based on claims of indiscriminate and unnecessary deaths, why did he not provide any evidence to support that claim?</p> <p>Secondly if there was – as Mr Cave points out- no on-the-spot investigation by the UN – how could he reach his conclusion. As he himself states, the lack of a truly independent investigation meant that the truth was not clear. One side said there was a massacre, the other denied it. Why did he accept the argument of one side over the other?</p> <p>Mr Cave says he saw 30 bodies. He does not know who these people were or the circumstances in which they died. If Israeli soldiers are fighting a battle against Palestinian terrorists who have taken sanctuary in civilian homes, and some of those civilians die, why is that a massacre?</p> <p>Mr Cave said half the Palestinian casualties were civilians. Why did he not reveal that the UN report stated the other half were armed combatants?</p> <p>Why did he not reveal that the UN report accused the Palestinians of violating international law because they used the shelter of a civilian refugee camp?</p> <p>Why did Mr Cave not reveal that the Palestinians had booby-trapped civilian homes. How many of the 52 victims died from Palestinian booby-traps?</p> <p>When Mr Cave said “<i>the uninformed and those with their own agenda (read Israel) are now claiming there was no massacre,</i>” why did he not say “<i>the uninformed and those with their own agenda (read Palestinians) are now claiming there was a massacre.</i>” Is he taking sides?</p> <p>When the ABC responded to the numerous complaints it received over this report, why did it state the following: “<i>Peter Cave took the view that the observation (of 30 bodies in a mass grave) was evidence enough to suggest a massacre has occurred.</i>” He does not know how they died or who they were. How could he reach his conclusion? By his own admission he did not have enough information to determine what had happened so he threw his lot in with the Palestinians.</p> <p>When more than the number of civilian victims of Jenin were killed in the Passover suicide bombing in Israel, on which occasions did the</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			ABC describe the attack as a massacre?		
124	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Four Corners Program "Lord of the Forest"</u></p> <p>Regarding the biased program on <i>Four Corners</i> "Lords of the Forest" do findings by the ICRP provide the right checks and balances for the ABC?</p> <p>Is it appropriate that the final say on what course of action is taken after the ICRP's findings are made is chosen by the ABC's Managing Director (who in the case of Lord of the Forests effectively did nothing of value in response to the ICRP's findings)?</p> <p>Why has there been no public apology or effective announcement about the ABC error?</p> <p>With that in mind, is there no incentive for ABC journalists and producers to fully adhere to the ABC's Code of Practice when reporting on news and current affairs?</p> <p>Again, I would prefer not to receive back responses along the lines of: "we stand by our story" or "we do not agree" or "we reject the suggestion" or "the circumstances were appropriate". I have asked quite specific questions and given very specific examples and I would appreciate it if the ABC would show due respect to this committee by providing more adequate answers.</p>	ABC	06/02/06
125	Tabled	Ronaldson	<p><u>References to Palestian Terror Groups</u></p> <p>The ABC has consistently refused to refer to Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other Palestinian terror groups that indiscriminately murder Israeli civilians as "terrorists." The ABC now has a guideline to that effect. The ABC's style guide advises its journalists:</p> <p><i>Remember, one person's 'terrorist' is usually someone else's 'freedom fighter'. 'Terrorism', 'terrorist', 'militant', 'gunman', etc. are all labels. Our reports should rely first on facts, and clear descriptions of events, rather than labels that may seem too extreme or too soft, depending on your point of view.</i></p> <p>However, I note that in the coverage of the latest Bali bombing, although mass murder of Israelis is never described as terrorism, other standards apply in our own region.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly agree that the tragic Bali bombings were terrorism, and those responsible are terrorists. However, no Palestinian group participating in murder of innocent civilians is described by the ABC as "terrorist" during the same period – instead they are referred to as "militant" or "suicide bombers." For example:</p> <p>A. ABC Radio "AM" (Oct. 7) - Peter Cave announced, "Known for its successful recruitment of suicide bombers, the Palestinian militant group, Hamas"</p> <p>B. ABC Radio "AM" (Oct. 27) - In a report on Islamic Jihad's suicide bombing in Hadera, which killed five Israelis, Tony Eastley referred to "the Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad". Mark Willacy referred to the terrorist responsible as "the bomber" and his terrorist act as "this bombing" and "the Hadera bombing". The words "terrorist" or "terrorism" were not used in the report.</p> <p>However, the event of the second Bali bombing has seen the almost blanket use of the term "terrorist" (I believe rightly – but in clear breach of the style guide). For example:</p>	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>C. ABC TV "Midday Report" (Oct. 3) - Former Middle East correspondent Tim Palmer stated that the bombers of the Australian Embassy last year were tracked, "not to known Jemaah Islamiyah terrorists,"</p> <p>D. ABC TV "News" (Oct. 2) - For several nights after the attack, the ABC's television coverage was under a graphic headed "Bali Terror". On the first night after the attacks, Kathy Bowlen announced, "Once again Australians have been caught up in a terrorist attack in Bali." Later, she said, "Again, these latest terrorist atrocities have hit where they'll do the most damage,"</p> <p>E. ABC TV "Midday Report" (Oct.4) - Roz Childs announced, "Several countries have issued new travel warnings against visiting Bali where fears persist of another terrorist strike to follow up the weekend bombings" She also referred to "Australian tourists fearing further terrorist attacks,"</p> <p>F. ABC TV "Midday Report" (Oct.7) - Mark Simkin stated, "Bali is the latest terrorist battlefield,"</p> <p>G. ABC TV "News" (Oct. 8) - Kathy Bowlen announced, "The death toll from the explosions rose to 13 today when a 20 year old Indonesian woman died of injuries suffered in the terrorist attack,"</p> <p>H. ABC TV "News" (Oct. 14) - Ian Henderson announced, "Here in Australia, family and friends have buried two victims of the recent terror attack in Bali,"</p> <p>I. ABC TV "Media Watch" (Oct 10) - The ABC's own media watchdog Liz Jackson breached the style guide, saying, "The past week has of course been dominated by the shocking news of a second set of terrorist bombs exploding in Bali,"</p> <p>J. ABC TV "7.30 Report" (Oct. 11) - Kerry O'Brien referred to the Hilton Hotel bombing of the late 70s as Australia's "worst terrorist attack on home soil to date,"</p> <p>K. ABC TV "7.30 Report" (Oct 3) - Maxine McKew said the Bali bombings were, "a chilling reminder of October 12, 2002 when, for the first time, terrorism ripped through the heart of Bali's tourist precincts." Lisa Millar described the lack of Australians watching the rugby grand final at the rebuilt Paddy's Bar the night after the bombings as "a graphic illustration of the immediate impact of terrorism,"</p> <p>L. ABC TV "7.30 Report" (Oct 3) - Tracy Bowden commenced a report, "As terrorism once again strikes Indonesia" She concluded, "But as police continue their investigation into these latest acts of terrorism"</p> <p>M. ABC TV "Lateline" (Oct.4) - Tony Jones noted, "Jihadist extremism has spawned countless suicide terrorists from New York to London, from Baghdad to Bali."</p> <p>N. ABC TV "Lateline" (Oct. 3) - Tony Jones announced, "Jemaah Islamiyah is the prime suspect in the latest Bali bombings, although experts believe the terror organisation has been radically transformed since the first Bali attack in October 2002. Scores of arrests have seen JI evolve into a more diverse terror network, with</p>		

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>its key mastermind Dr Azahari bin Husin apparently operating independently." Margot O'Neill described Dr Azahari bin Husin as JI's "key terrorist mastermind",</p> <p>O. ABC Radio "AM" (Oct. 13) - Peter Cave announced that the people of Bali were feeling "mounting communal anger over repeated terror attacks on their island,"</p> <p>P. ABC Radio "AM" (Oct. 3) - On the death of bomb victim Brendan Fitzgerald, Peter Cave said, "It's the second time that someone from the small South-Western community of Busselton has died in a terrorist attack in Bali"</p> <p>Q. ABC Radio "The World Today" (Oct. 4) - Alexandra Kirk reported, "Both the Government and the Opposition want Indonesia to ban the terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah"</p> <p>R. ABC Radio "The World Today" (Oct. 4) - Tanya Nolan announced that severed heads found at the bomb sites, "are believed to belong to the suicide bombers responsible for Saturday night's terrorist attacks," and that "Police have been interviewing convicted members of the terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah,"</p> <p>S. ABC Radio "The World Today" (Oct. 3) - Tanya Nolan announced, "As mentioned, Indonesian authorities have their sights firmly on the region's largest and most sophisticated terrorist organisation Jemaah Islamiah, as being the group most likely to be responsible for the bombings," Introducing a separate story, she said that Australian tourists arriving home from Bali "were clearly shaken by the latest terrorist attacks"</p> <p>T. ABC Radio "PM" (Oct. 4) - Mark Colvin announced, "Terrorist attacks used to send shudders through global financial markets, but the latest in Bali has barely caused a ripple,"</p> <p>U. ABC Radio "PM" (Oct. 3) - "Blame is already being pointed at the regional terrorist outfit Jemaah Islamiyah," and, "Local businesses now fear that the latest act of terrorism will once again cripple their economy"</p> <p>Considering these quotes and examples:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the ABC please advise in relation to each and every detailed instance of the use of the terms "terror," "terrorist" or "terrorism" above: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i Was the ABC already aware of the use of that term in that instance? ii Was such use of the term a breach of the ABC's guidelines? iii In any case where you advise that use of terms like "terror," "terrorist" or "terrorism" was not a breach of the ABC's guidelines, please advise what the difference is to acts of murder not referred to as "terror," "terrorist" or "terrorism" above; iv What disciplinary action has been taken in respect of any breach; and v How such breach was allowed to have occurred. 2. Does the ABC acknowledge that, in relation to terrorist acts in our region, that the ABC Style guide is consistently not being followed 		

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>by its journalists?</p> <p>3. Does the ABC acknowledge that it consistently uses a different terminology when referring to the murder of Israeli citizens?</p> <p>4. Does the ABC acknowledge that in refusing to label Palestinian terror groups as "terrorists" that they are making value judgements - that killing Israelis is somehow less reprehensible than killing others?</p> <p>5. Would the ABC categorise either Hamas or Islamic Jihad as "freedom fighters"?</p> <p>6. Does the ABC acknowledge palpable bias in relation to its reporting on the Middle East and West Asia?</p> <p>7. Does the ABC acknowledge that its guideline on the use of the term "terror," "terrorist" and "terrorism" are out of step with community standards?</p> <p>8. How many times have the words "terror," "terrorist" or "terrorism" been used by ABC journalists in the last year?</p> <p>9. How many other instances of breaches of the style guide is the ABC aware of during the last year?</p> <p>10. In respect of any other breaches of the style guide, what are the details of each breach and any disciplinary action taken on presenters or journalists?</p> <p>11. Does the ABC consider the continued use of this guideline as appropriate?</p>		
126	Tabled	Conroy	<p><u>First Release Television Programs Broadcast 2004-05</u></p> <p>How many hours of first release general TV programs (ie excluding News Current Affairs and RAGE) that were put to air in 2004-2005 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produced in-house by the ABC without the involvement of any other parties? - Produced by the ABC with the involvement of other parties (ie co-produced)? - Produced for the ABC with either no or minimal ABC involvement in their production? - Complete programs acquired <p>Of the co-productions, how many of these involved the FFC?</p>	ABC	06/02/06
127	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. 2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). 3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; 	ABC	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period. <p>4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent of any delay; ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time; iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments). <p>5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.</p> <p>6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects. ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project. 		
128	Tabled	Fielding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 2. How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years? 3. How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 4. How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 5. How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration? 	ABC	07/02/06
129	90	Joyce	<p><u>Classification of Film 'Lolita' Broadcast on SBS TV</u> Senator JOYCE—In May you had <i>Lolita</i> on. <i>Lolita</i> is rated R, if you got it from a video store. How did you manage to get that on? Mr Brown—It was not rated R for— Ms Eisenberg—Was that the Stanley Kubrick version? Mr Brown—The Stanley Kubrick 1960s film. Ms Eisenberg—I think we would need to take that on notice. There was another version of it which was made a number of years later which had a different rating. R rated content is not permitted on SBS under our codes of practice.</p>	SBS	06/02/06
130	92	Joyce	<p><u>SBS Documentary "Lost Worlds: the Real Family of Jesus</u> Senator JOYCE—... What is the factual content of this? This is all new information. Would you stand by this? Do you think this is a factually precise document? You have done the research into it and it has passed your imprimatur as being a factually worthwhile thing to put on television. Mr Brown—I would have to take that on notice. I have not seen the program. I am reliant on the description you are giving me. Senator JOYCE—You will get to see it on Sunday night. What is put</p>	SBS	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>to me as a representative of the people of Queensland is that this sort of thing prompts them to ask why we bother sponsoring SBS. They give it so much latitude in so many areas, but then it always manages to go that step that just takes it from questioning to insulting.</p> <p>Mr Brown—I think before one forms that judgment one should see the program.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE—I am reading what it says. It is on your web site. It is a statement. It makes a statement. It deals with a 'common misconception that Jesus was the single child of a nuclear family'. That is a statement. It does not say 'We question'; it says it deals with the 'common misconception that Jesus was the single child of a nuclear family'. It also states:</p> <p><i>Evidence from the Gospels, history and archaeology as well as the interpretations of religious experts reveal ...</i></p> <p>It does not question, it does not say it needs to be discussed or that there is an area of doubt. It says 'reveal that not only did Mary have other children, but that Joseph' must have been married before and have had children from that marriage. That is interesting. I have grabbed my bible— I cannot find anywhere Joseph's previous marriage. So where did it come from? It is on your program. It is taxpayers' money that is going to sponsor this trash.</p> <p>Mr Brown—As I said, I have not seen the program. I am quite happy to take on notice the consideration of whether that particular listing that you have taken from the web accurately reflects the program.</p>		
131	97	Conroy	<p><u>Outsourcing of Program Production</u></p> <p>Senator CONROY—How many jobs have been lost in SBS because of outsourcing of program production in the last two years?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will have to take that on notice.</p>	SBS	06/02/06
132	98	Eggleston	<p><u>SBS Extensions</u></p> <p>CHAIR—I will ask a question about the extent of SBS coverage now. I know that you are now covering towns with quite small populations, but how dense is your coverage across Australia now? Basically, are you in rural areas, regional areas?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I think we have a solid reach into communities of 5,000 and we are starting to move that down into the 3,000 level.</p> <p>CHAIR—Are towns like Pemberton and Manjimup, in the south of WA, where there is a high Italian population, covered?</p> <p>Mr Broderick—We have a number of services going into WA at the moment. There are four new services going in over the next six months.</p> <p>CHAIR—Where are they going into?</p> <p>Mr Broderick—Margaret River, Derby, Exmouth and Tom Price.</p> <p>CHAIR—Exmouth and Derby—that is very interesting. Carnarvon is covered now, I gather?</p> <p>Mr Broderick—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	SBS	06/02/06
133	100	Santoro	<p><u>Memo dated 21 January 2005 from SBS Radio</u></p> <p>Senator SANTORO—And the memo is dated 21 January 2005. It appears to show that Dianne Wilman is encouraging Sydney and Melbourne language program broadcasters to use musical satire to lampoon President Bush on the day of his inauguration. It states, and I quote, 'The following links have satirical songs about George W Bush, which may be appropriate for coverage about today's inauguration.' One of the links, Mr Brown, is called internationalterrorist.com. I have gone to that link, Mr Brown, and what I found was a picture of the president with a large caption: 'international terrorist'. It then goes on to provide what it calls a profile of a terrorist, about President Bush. Mr Brown, was that memo sent?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I've never heard of that memo.</p> <p>Senator SANTORO—I have a copy here of what appears to be a</p>	SBS	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			genuine memo from Cheryl McGee to melbournebroadcasters.melpo.SBS@SBS.com.au, Melbourne Radio, etc. Mr Luu —I would like to take that on notice, if I may.		
134	101	Santoro	<u>Memo dated 21 January 2005 from SBS Radio</u> Senator SANTORO —Would you undertake, for the committee, to find out how many programs broadcast the material referred to in the memo? Mr Brown —Yes. Senator SANTORO —Would you provide us with specific—would you perhaps go to the librarian, as Senator Conroy has just suggested? I appreciate your assistance, Senator Conroy, very much. Would you provide very specific details as to how many— Mr Brown —We will look fully into the allegation contained in that email and the consequences of it.	SBS	06/02/06
135	103	Santoro	Senator SANTORO —.....Can I ask about a report on <i>World News Australia</i> on October 20 by one Aarti Betigeri, who as I understand it, is quite a junior reporter. She put forward the controversial theory called 'peak oil', which is all about the beginning of the end of the world as we know it—starting in five years, I believe. Your report says she talked to, and I quote, 'oil experts'. It turned out to be an anti-government academic from Sydney—who is actually an expert in management, not oil—and a proponent of the theory himself, who was introduced on your program as an 'oil geologist', when in fact he is retired. Why didn't this report tell us that the 'peak oil' doomsayers' theory is regarded by many as a myth and has been dismissed by the actual experts: the oil industry. Mr Brown —I need to take that one on notice as I am not familiar with the report. Senator SANTORO —Why didn't your reporter tell us that doomsayers' theories about the end of oil had been around since 1875 and that the most notorious of these, the Hubbert curve, predicted that 'peak oil' would happen in 1970? Mr Brown —Again, Senator, I will take that on notice.	SBS	06/02/06
136	103	Santoro	<u>Report on SBS Website</u> Senator SANTORO —Yes, okay. Staying with SBS TV, and you have a report reviewing the meeting between President Bush and Palestinian leader, Abbas. And you had presented two direct quotes from the White House spokesman, Mr McLennan. I mean, they are there in inverted commas on your web site. I checked the White House web site too, and the quotes you presented are not the same quotes as are on the White House web site. And I have both transcripts here. Now, I am not suggesting you have changed them or anything, but are you in the habit of presenting as direct quotes items which in fact are not direct quotes? Would you like to take that on notice? Mr Brown —I'll take that on notice.....	SBS	06/02/06
137	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Dateline Item 19 October 2005</u> Regarding a programme on October 19 on <i>Dateline</i> called "The Psych War in Afghanistan". The thrust of the story was that American soldiers had deliberately laid down the bodies of two dead Taliban facing Mecca and set fire to them simply as an act of desecration. Did George Negus, the host, call it a military atrocity and potential war crime? Did he do so in the knowledge that the man who filmed the burning told the programme that the soldiers believed they were doing so for reasons of hygiene. "Later on, when I was down with the PsyOps operations people they used it as psychological warfare". Could SBS please provide the exact timeline between the cameraman filming the	SBS	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>burning and the PsyOps people making their statement to the cameraman?</p> <p>SBS reporter John Martinkus, whose anti-American attitudes are well known, said the following: "The burning of the corpses and the fact that they've been laid out facing Mecca is a deliberate desecration of Muslim beliefs". Is this suggesting a different and concurrent timeline, contrary to what the cameraman has said both on the programme and in subsequent interviews?</p> <p>Is the cameraman - who was there - right; or is Mr Martinkus, who was not?</p> <p>Why didn't Mr Martinkus point out that in such rock-hard and stony ground a burial might have been difficult?</p>		
138	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>SBS Radio.</u></p> <p>Why did the programme <i>World View</i> on October 19 or 20 this year suggest that the government's proposed anti-terror laws included the following: assimilation, banning the Burka, stopping the teaching of languages other than English and abolishing SBS. Where did she get that information and can I obtain a transcript please?</p>	SBS	06/02/06
139	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>SBS News Report 17 October 2005</u></p> <p>Why did the SBS TV News reports misquote and misrepresent Israel on October 17 in a report headlined "Three Israelis Shot Dead"? SBS reports the following from Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz: "'The Palestinians are not doing anything serious – these measures will remain in force until they take real steps" against militant groups'. The selective usage of quotation marks is at question here. Minister Mofaz never referred to militants, he referred to terrorists. Has SBS used a bit of journalistic jiggery-pokery with the placement of quotation marks to avoid using a term the SBS would prefer not to use– namely "terrorists"?</p> <p>The same report then goes on to say "Ahead of the meeting Mr Mofaz accused militants...."</p> <p>In another report from September 29: "An Israeli military source said a leading traffic artery for militants had been wrecked."</p> <p>However, on none of these occasions did Israel actually refer to militants. They referred to terrorists. Has SBS misrepresented what was actually said?</p>	SBS	06/02/06
140	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Use of Term "Terrorist"</u></p> <p>On several occasions (October 12 and October 25 this year) SBS mentioned Israel referring to Hamas terrorists as "activists." Why?</p> <p>Death squads armed to the teeth with bombs and guns shooting and blowing up innocent civilians and SBS calls them "activists."</p> <p>If the SBS was reporting a Palestinian referring to "militants" would the reporter or editorial team change it to "terrorist"?</p>	SBS	06/02/06
141	Tabled	Santoro	<p><u>Broadcast of Documentary "Jenin Jenin" in June 2003</u></p> <p>Why did the SBS broadcast a program called "Jenin, Jenin" in June 2003 when:</p> <p>a) it was actually produced by a known terrorist Taher Samodi, a member of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, and;</p> <p>b) it contained numerous instances of incitement to hate Jews including referring to Jews as "the killers of prophets".</p> <p>Does the SBS think that this is responsible behaviour by Australia's multicultural broadcaster?</p>	SBS	06/02/06 + 4 attach'ts

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			How does this programming decision square with the following statement from the SBS mission statement: "To contribute to a cohesive, equitable and harmonious Australian society"? Are references to Israel and the United States exempt from those provisions?		
142	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Complaint SBS World News February 2001</u> I understand that the SBS received a complaint about the following on SBS World News from February 19, 2001: Reporter Richard Mason said "America and Israel are going ahead with their provocative Patriot Missile tests." The complainant quite rightly pointed out that this was commentary and not news. The patriot is a defensive missile and it does not become objectively provocative because some people choose to allege that it is. The complaint was summarily dismissed, why?	SBS	06/02/06
143	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Complaint about Item Broadcast 20 February 2001</u> The SBS also summarily dismissed a complaint from February 20, 2001 in relation to this coverage: "Ariel Sharon's rule has seen both sides lock horns in a spiralling war of attrition" even though the complainant pointed out Mr Sharon had not even taken office and decisions were being taken by the caretaker Prime Minister Mr Barak. Why was this complaint dismissed?	SBS	06/02/06
144	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Paolo Totaro, Political Commentator SBS Radio Italian programme.</u> Did Mr Totaro launch a number of attacks on the Coalition Government? Did the programme interview Mr Totaro on July 31 2005 and introduce him as an ex-President of Friends of Labor?	SBS	06/02/06
145	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Political Commentators SBS Radio Language Programs</u> Could the SBS please provide me with a list of all political commentators engaged by the Italian programme? Could the SBS please also do the same for the following radio programmes: Aboriginal, Arabic, Cantonese, Croatian, Dutch, Filipino, German, Greek, Indonesian, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Tamil, Vietnamese and World View?	SBS	06/02/06
146	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Complaints Upheld Against SBS Radio Programmes</u> Could the SBS please provide me with details of all complaints upheld against SBS Radio programmes in the past 12 months?	SBS	06/02/06
147	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Appointment of Mrs Olya Booyer as Community Relations Executive in SBS TV.</u> The job is a senior one and as I understand it a new one. Why was it only advertised internally? Why was it advertised internally on the December 17 last year, with the closing date of December 31 st ? Does the SBS believe that this time frame represents a sufficient period of time for potential applicants to apply? Was the job deliberately advertised at Christmas to limit other applications so Mrs Booyer could get the job? How many people applied? Who was on the selection panel? Who was the delegate who approved the appointment? Is this in fact a case of a job where SBS only wanted Mrs Booyer for the job?	SBS	06/02/06
148	Tabled	Santoro	<u>SBS Community advisory Committee</u>	SBS	07/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			How many times has the SBS Community Advisory Committee met in the past year and how many recommendations did it make to the Board?		
149	Tabled	Santoro	<u>Copies of SBS Editorial Policies</u> Would the SBS be so kind as to provide me with two copies each of your editorial policies, charter, and any style guide or rule book for your journalists? All of the relevant books please.	SBS	06/02/06 + 1 attach't
150	Tabled	Conroy	<i>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</i> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. 2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). 3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? a. If not, please provide details of: i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period. 4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates). a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of: i. The extent of any delay; ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time; iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments). 5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications. 6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned. a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of: i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects. ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.	SBS	06/02/06
151	Tabled	Fielding	1. How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 2. How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years? 3. How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 4. How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 5. How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?	SBS	07/02/06
152	60	Conroy	<u>Breakdown of Government Funding of ABC</u>	Broadcasti	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Senator CONROY—In a recent press release you claimed the ABC's funding had increased by \$80 million in real terms since 1995-96 to \$792 million.</p> <p>Senator Coonan—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Can you give us a breakdown of that \$792 million figure? What does it include?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I will certainly do that for you. I will take it on notice.</p>	ng	
153	63	Conroy	<p><u>Government Funding of ABC Since 1996</u></p> <p>Senator CONROY—Minister, I am just looking at the press release I referred to earlier. You compare the amount of money the ABC received in 1995-96 to what it receives this financial year. The next line is an intriguing statement: The Government's funding of the ABC has been maintained in real terms since 1997. You were in government before 1997, weren't you?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—1996.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Was that a typo?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I do not think so.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Why did you pick 1997 rather than 1996?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I would have to check it. I will get back to you on it.</p>	Broadcasting	06/02/06
154	64	Conroy	<p><u>Government Funding of ABC in Real Terms</u></p> <p>Senator CONROY—Do you believe that the government's funding of the ABC has been maintained in real terms since 1996?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—Yes, I do.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—No, I said 1996.</p> <p>Senator Coonan—Since 1996, yes. Since 1997.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—The press release says 1997. What I asked was: do you believe that the government's funding of the ABC, given that \$66 million cut, has been maintained in real terms since 1996?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—Yes, I do.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—1996?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—1997. Just maintained since 1997.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—But what I am asking you is: do you believe that the government's funding of the ABC has been maintained in real terms since 1996, when you came to government?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I thought I said 1997.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—My question is: do you agree with the statement, not the one that is in your press release—</p> <p>Senator Coonan—Yes, I agree with that.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Do you agree with the statement that says the government's funding of the ABC has been maintained in real terms since 1996?</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I am not going to do that on the run. I will calculate it and I will let you know—</p> <p>Senator CONROY—I am just guessing that—</p> <p>Senator Coonan—No, I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—I am just guessing that, if what I have just said were a true statement, you would have written '1996' there rather than '1997'.</p> <p>Senator Coonan—As you know, I have written '1997'. If you want me to do it on a different basis, I will take it on notice and I will do the calculation.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Not a different basis, just an extra year.</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I will do the calculation.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—The life of your government.</p> <p>Senator Coonan—I will do the calculation.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Thank you.</p>	Broadcasting	07/02/06
155	66	Conroy	<p><u>International Television Service Tender Process</u></p>	Broadcasting	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>Senator CONROY—To be clear, I am not trying to get any information about the ABC's tender or anybody else's; I am not going there at all. I just want to find out whether or not the service that is currently provided will be different to the new service. Somebody must know the answer it that.</p> <p>Ms Williams—I am afraid I was not involved.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—I appreciate that, Ms Williams.</p> <p>Senator Coonan—It is really a DFAT process, but we obviously have a role. We will take that on notice and see if we can give you that information.</p>	ng	
156	Tabled	Fielding	I understand that consideration has been given to new television stations which might broadcast content to mobile telephones.. Would you please provide details of how such a scheme might work? What sort of devices could receive the broadcast? What provisions would be made to ensure that children did not see inappropriate material?	Broadcasting	31/01/06
157	Tabled	Conroy	<p>ABC Funding Adequacy Review</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the cost of the Funding adequacy review currently being conducted by the KPMG? 2. When is the KPMG review expected to report? 3. Will the Government give a commitment to releasing the KPMG report publicly as soon as it is received? 	Broadcasting	06/02/06
158	Tabled	Conroy	<p>DIGITAL RADIO</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the department confirm that legislation will be required to give effect to the Government's plan for digital radio that was announced earlier this month? 2. When is that legislation expected? 3. When does the department anticipate that digital services will start in metropolitan areas? 4. When does the department anticipate that services will start in regional areas? 5. To ensure the rollout of digital TV in regional areas, the Government established a regional equalisation plan to subsidise the broadcasters. Will similar assistance be required in regional Australia to allow digital radio to commence? Has the department done any assessment of the costs? 6. The Minister stated that the Government will continue to consider options for non-Broadcasting Services Band broadcasters like <i>World Audio</i> to deliver digital radio services. What other options are available? What is the process? 7. The framework is a very broad document. When will details of the framework be available including information on the implementation methodology and timetable? 8. When will channel plans be available for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the VHF Band III spectrum to be used (ii) the L band spectrum to be used? 9. How will VHF and L-Band spectrum be allocated, and what spectrum access costs will apply 10. Will new subscription services be exempt from the moratorium to apply to new free-to-air commercial licences? 11. In relation to the rights to acquire a minimum of 128kbps of multiplex capacity and the ability to acquire up to a maximum of 256 kbps to deliver new services, what is the definition of a new service and how will this be regulated? 	Broadcasting	10/02/06
159	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Mobile content- 'convergent devices review'</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When is the convergent devices review expected to be released? 2. I understand that the Department commissioned Network Strategies Ltd to advise on technologies and business models being employed to deliver mobile content. How much did this 	Broadcasting	12/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			consultancy cost?		
160	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Austar proposal</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department aware of a recent decision by Austar to roll out a regional WiMAX broadband network? 2. Austar have indicated that it is interested in pursuing partnerships with government to expand the coverage of this network. Has the government received any correspondence from Austar on this issue? 3. Has the Department done any work regarding how such a partnership with Austar might operate? 4. Has the Department given any consideration to the process that would apply to the providing of public funding for partnerships of the kind envisaged by Austar? 5. If the government provided public funding for partnerships of this kind to extend broadband coverage, would other operators be able to bid for similar funding in an open competitive tender process? 	Broadcasting	06/02/06
161	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Broadcasting Blackspots</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of black spot remediation programs that have been implemented by the Government since 1995/96? 2. Has the department conducted an audit of television blackspots? If so please provide details. <p>Is the Department aware of widespread complaints about TV blackspots on the sunshine coast?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. What programs are in place to assist viewers in these areas? 	Broadcasting	10/02/06
162	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. 2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). 3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period. 4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent of any delay; ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time; iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments). 5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications. 6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned. 	NetAlert	12/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:</p> <p>i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.</p> <p>ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.</p>		
163	Tabled	Fielding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 2. How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years? 3. How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 4. How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 5. How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? 6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration? 	NetAlert	07/12/05
164	84	Conroy	<p>Mail Contractors If a mail contractor wins a tender for a mail contract and the price of fuel increases prior to the contractor commencing work on contract, does Post agree to an amended contract prior to the commencement of the contract, or is that just tough of luck for the tenderer?</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
165	84-85	Conroy	<p>Mail Contractors In February we raised the issue of the cost and complexity of the dispute resolution procedure for mail contractors. We talked about the dispute resolution procedures and I think Australia Post told the committee that there were no disputes active at that time. Can I get an update? d about lodged disputes as opposed to ones that have gone to the final resolution process. Has there been any resolution through arbitration or other means?</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
166	85	Conroy	<p>Contract Management Manual Is there a problem with it being available: There may be; you may say it is commercial-in-confidence from our side of it. But I am just interested in whether we could get a copy tabled here, for instance. I am interested to know how confidential it is and if it is available publicly.</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
167	85	Conroy	<p>Dispute resolution procedure How does the dispute resolution procedure for mail contractors compare to the dispute resolution procedures available for licensed post offices? Some people have said to me that the LPO approach is a better model. Can you explain to me what the differences are. Formal arbitration is expensive. Has Australia Post considered reforming the dispute resolution procedure to allow a more cost-effective resolution of disputes between contractors and Australia Post?</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
168	86	Marshall	<p>Occupational health and safety incident report Are you able to tell me how many P400s were lodged? Would you be able to break that down by state?</p>	Australia Post	02/02/06
169	86	Marshall	<p>Lost Time Injury FR Do you actually know how many lost time injuries, though. And by state.</p>	Australia Post	02/02/06
170	86-87	Marshall	<p>Compensation claims How many compensation claims were lodged with Australia Post in the last financial year: Can you break that down by state for me, too? How many of these were accepted upon first determination? We will just assume we can do that state by state for all of these questions?</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
171	87	Marshall	<p>Compensation claims</p>	Australia	12/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>How many employees with rejected compensation claims requested a review of the determination?</p> <p>Could you also advise me on how many of those reviewable decisions were accepted, after the review, of course?</p> <p>How many employees chose to appeal these decisions to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal?</p> <p><i>(Mr McDonald....I can break it down by state if that helps).</i></p> <p>Can you also find out for me how many of those cases were settled at the conciliation stage and in whose favour?</p> <p>We will assume all those questions are for the last financial year.</p> <p>How many went to a full hearing and in whose favour the final determinations were?</p>	Post	
172	88	Marshall	<p>Code of Ethics</p> <p>Can you give me the numbers of code of ethics breaches that led to disciplinary action being taken?</p> <p>In the financial year.</p>	Australia Post	31/01/06
173	89	Marshall	<p>Disciplinary action</p> <p>Would you be able to give me the numbers of those that were terminated, those that were transferred and those that had their pay reduced?</p> <p>And those that had their pay reduced by more than one level?</p> <p>Those that got to the level of formal counselling or were cause for an inquiry to take place.</p> <p>How many of that category, including those that were penalised, were authorised union representatives, and can you break them down separately in terms of those categories we talked about?</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
174	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Franchising</p> <p>Has AP offered a franchise to the operator/managers of the four pilot sites? Did they accept?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What LPOs have closed in the last 12 months? 2. What CMAs and CPAs have closed in the last 12 months? 3. What Corporate Post Offices have been converted to LPO operations in the last 12 months? 4. Have any "greenfields" corporate post offices or Licensed Post Offices opened? 	Australia Post	12/01/06
175	Tabled	Conroy	<p>LPO Premises</p> <p>Can the AP provide the committee with an updated list of in conjunction post offices.</p> <p>The LPO Manual states that the LPO floor plan has to be agreed between the Licensee and AP. Does AP first ascertain from the Licensee whether a floor plan exists? And if no floor plan exists, has AP been entering into negotiations with each licensee regarding the floor plan and if so, please detail how that negotiation takes place?</p>	Australia Post	12/01/06
176	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</p> <p><u>This set of questions is for the Department and each portfolio agency severally</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. 2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). 3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for 	Australia Post	31/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>this 12 month period.</p> <p>4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).</p> <p>a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of:</p> <p>i. The extent of any delay;</p> <p>ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time;</p> <p>iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments).</p> <p>5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.</p> <p>6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.</p> <p>a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:</p> <p>i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.</p> <p>ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.</p>		
177	133-134	Conroy	<p><i>Use of private jets</i></p> <p>In the past six months, how much has Telstra spent on the use of private jets as opposed to scheduled commercial flights? Is it possible to check to see if there were any others (ie private jet flights)?</p> <p>How much did Telstra spend on the use of private jets for the corresponding six-month period in 2004?</p> <p>Can you take on notice whether any private jets have been used for flights to Sydney and Melbourne in the past six months? Including return.</p> <p>Is there any policy at all for the use of private jets?</p>	Telstra	09/02/06
178	137-138	Conroy	<p><i>Executive salaries</i></p> <p>Could we get the details on Mr Barac, Mr Burns and Mr Robbiati as well.</p> <p>It is up to the committee to decide if we want to keep it confidential or not, but you can ask us to keep it confidential and the committee then makes a decision.</p>	Telstra	31/01/06
179	139	Conroy	<p><i>3G and CDMA</i></p> <p>I appreciate your having asked yourself the key question, and you have answered it. I wonder whether you could now answer my question. I asked about a technical perspective. Is it correct that 3G mobile base stations have a smaller coverage range than CDMA? Is that a correct technical statement?</p>	Telstra	31/01/06
180	139	Joyce	<p><i>3G and CDMA</i></p> <p>You are both on Black Mountain and you have 3G and CDMA and the same capacity in generation form you antennas. You jump in your car with the same kit on both and you start heading west. Which one is going to drop out first?</p>	Telstra	07/02/06
181	145	Conroy	<p><i>Stock Exchange – disclosure obligations</i></p> <p>Are you running any workshops on continuous disclosure obligations at Telstra?</p> <p>Has anyone attended recently?</p>	Telstra	31/01/06
182	145-146	Conroy	<p><i>Lindeman Island – staff retreat</i></p> <p>What was the total cost of the retreat?</p> <p>How many Telstra staff and other guests were invited to Lindeman</p>	Telstra	31/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			Island at Telstra's request?		
183	146	Conroy	<p>Staff retreats</p> <p>Has Telstra operated similar retreats for staff in the past year, and, if so, could you provide details?</p> <p>How many have you run over, say the last two years, and what the costs were.</p> <p>How much did Telstra spend on retreats of this nature in the 2004-05 financial year and then this year?</p> <p>How much did Telstra spend on retreats of this nature in 2003-04, and do you intend to undertake similar retreats in the future?</p> <p>Could you give us a figure for the budgeted projection for 2005-06?</p>	Telstra	31/01/06
184	147	Joyce	<p>Directory Assistance Centres</p> <p>Are they (the remaining directory assistance centres) in band 4 areas.</p>	Telstra	31/01/06
185	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. 2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). 3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period. 4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent of any delay; ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time; iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments). 5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications. 6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects. ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project. 	Telstra	12/01/06
186	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Wholesale Restructuring</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There have recently been a number of high-profile departures of Senior Telstra Wholesale staff from the division, into Telstra's retail arms. What is the rationale for these changes? 2. Have staff levels in Telstra wholesale fallen in the last six months? 3. Is Telstra considering or planning staff reductions in its wholesale division? 4. Is Telstra considering or planning to reduce the number of 	Telstra	12/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>technical staff employed in Telstra Wholesale?</p> <p>5. Is Telstra considering or planning to reduce the operational budget of Telstra wholesale?</p> <p>6. Is Telstra considering or planning to reduce the marketing budget of its wholesale division?</p> <p>7. Is Telstra currently considering (or has already decided on) withdrawing some wholesale products in the future?</p> <p>8. Is it fair to say that Telstra's attitude to wholesale services has changed since the new management team arrived? There are continuing rumours in the industry and in the media that Telstra intends to provide only the bare wholesale products that it is required to provide by law and no more. Are these media reports accurate?</p>		
187	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Potential CDMA Network Switch</p> <p>1. From a technical perspective, is it correct that due to the smaller coverage range of 3G mobile base stations, 60 – 80% more 3G base stations would need to be installed to provide the same degree of coverage as the existing 3G network?</p> <p>2. Has Telstra undertaken an assessment of what the costs of installing 60-80% more base stations throughout Australia would be?</p> <p>3. Are Australians entitled to assume that there will be no loss of mobile coverage as a result of a switch to 3G? Can Telstra rule out a move to 3G if it would result in less coverage?</p> <p>4. How much has Telstra spent rolling out its CDMA network?</p> <p>5. And how much has Telstra received from the Federal government in subsidies or grants for expanding the coverage of the CDMA network?</p> <p>6. Is there any technological reason why the CDMA network would need to be shut down to allow the roll out of a 3G network?</p>	Telstra	07/02/06
188	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Potential CDMA Network Switch</p> <p>1. How much has Telstra spent on the use of private jets (as opposed to scheduled commercial flights) in the last six months?</p> <p>2. How much did Telstra spend on the use of private jets for the corresponding six month period in 2004?</p> <p>3. How much has Telstra spent on the use of private jets for flights to Canberra in the past six months (including return flights)?</p> <p>4. How much has Telstra spent on the use of private jets for flights to Sydney and Melbourne in the past six months (including return flights)?</p> <p>5. How many private jets does Telstra have access to for the use of its executives?</p> <p>6. What is Telstra's justification for the use of these private jets rather than commercial flights for flights to Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne?</p> <p>7. Does Telstra have a policy as to when it is appropriate for its executives to use a private jet and when its executives should fly commercially?</p> <p>8. If so, have there been any occasions in the last 6 months in which Telstra executives did not comply with this policy?</p> <p>a. If so, please provide details.</p> <p>b. Has this policy changed at any time in the last 6 months?</p> <p>i. If so, have there been any occasions in the last 6 months in which Telstra executives would not have complied with its policy on the use of private jets but for the change in policy?</p> <p>ii. If so, please provide details.</p>	Telstra	12/01/06
189	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Australian Workplace Agreements – Sick Leave</p> <p>1. Does Telstra have a policy for the management of paid sick leave in its call centres?</p>	Telstra	09/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What guidelines does Telstra provide to call centre managers for grant of discretionary paid sick leave under clause 11.2 of the standard Telstra call centre AWA? 3. Do these guidelines include targets for call centre managers or team leaders for the number of days of paid sick leave taken by staff members? 4. Does Telstra have targets in any other form for call centre managers or team leaders for the number of days of paid sick leave taken by staff members? 5. Does the level of paid sick leave of staff form part of the performance measures for call centre team leaders and managers at Telstra? 6. How would Telstra treat an employee on such an AWA if they became seriously ill (and had a medical certificate stating that they cannot attend work) and needed to take a large number of sick leave days than would be considered normal? 7. Does Telstra set a limit on sick leave or are there any guidelines on this issue? 8. Clause 11.3 of the standard Telstra call centre AWA does not explicitly provide for a maximum number of sick days able to be claimed by a Telstra employee. Are there any situations in which Telstra would not pay sick leave for a seriously ill member of staff on such an AWA? 9. Has Telstra ever required staff to attend a doctor of Telstra's choosing? 10. Does Telstra have any policies or guidelines on the conduct described in the previous question? 11. Is Telstra aware of a situation in the Bathurst Call Centre in which a Telstra employee under this AWA was refused sick leave and was forced to attend work, only to collapse at work? 12. Were the call centre managers or team leaders involved in this incident acting in accordance with Telstra policies for the management of sick leave? 13. Does Telstra condone the type of conduct described in question 11? 14. Have the call centre managers or team leaders involved in this incident been counselled about their conduct? 		
190	Tabled	Conroy	<p><i>Telstra: Personal dossiers on staff</i> I refer to Telstra's recent denials that it maintains secret dossiers of personal information on its staff.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. While Telstra denies that it currently collects information concerning its employees' sexual preferences, religious affiliations, philosophical beliefs, political affiliations, union membership or other sensitive information, does Telstra's employee surveillance policy permit such information to be collected by Telstra? 2. If so, what is the legal basis for Telstra asserting the right to collection this information? 3. Does Telstra consider this kind of information to be relevant to its relationship with its employees? 4. If Telstra inadvertently came into the possession of such information during an investigation of staff misconduct, would Telstra retain this information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. In what form would this information be retained? (eg written records?) ii. Who would have access to this information? iii. What safeguards does Telstra employ to ensure that this information is not misused? iv. What processes does Telstra have for the destruction of this 	Telstra	07/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			information?		
191	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Lindeman Island retreat</p> <p>I refer to recent media reports of a staff retreat to Lindeman Island provided by Telstra for selected sales staff.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can Telstra confirm that it booked out the entire Lindeman Island resort for its staff for one weekend this year? 2. What was the purpose of this retreat? 3. What was the total cost of this retreat? 4. How many Telstra staff and other guests were invited to Lindeman Island at Telstra's request? 5. What criteria did Telstra apply in selecting staff to attend this retreat? 6. Has Telstra operated similar retreats for staff in the past year? If so, please provide details. 7. How much did Telstra spend on retreats of this nature in the 2004/2005 financial year? 8. How much did Telstra spend on retreats of this nature in the 2003/2004 financial year? 9. Does Telstra intend to undertake similar retreats in the future? If so, how much does Telstra anticipate it will spend on retreats of this nature in the 2005/2006 financial year? 	Telstra	31/01/06
192	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Security of exchanges</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What security checks does Telstra apply to persons before they are granted access to Telstra exchanges? 2. Do these security checks differ between Telstra employees and sub-contracted workers? 3. What security checks does Telstra apply before providing staff of sub-contractors access to Telstra exchanges? 4. What monitoring does Telstra undertake to ensure that sub-contracted workers complete these security checks legitimately? 5. There have recently been media reports claiming that sub-contractors are not forced to undergo proper background or security checks before commencing work. There have been claims that at present sub-contracting companies are only required to make their staff sit an online exam before being permitted to access Telstra exchanges, is this correct? 6. There have also been claims that sub-contracting companies have been providing staff with the answers to these online exams. Is this possible? 7. What measures does Telstra have in place to ensure that the conduct discussed in the preceding question does not occur? 	Telstra	12/01/06
193	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Telstra: Cranbourne Call Zone</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is Telstra aware of recent claims by Greg Hunt (MP for Flinders) that Cranbourne will be brought within the Melbourne Metropolitan Call Area within 12 months? 2. Are these claims accurate? 3. Has Telstra considered a proposal to change its policy and grant metro-zone status to exchanges where more than 50% of the population lives within the 50km radius of the metropolitan zone? 4. Does Telstra intend to accept such a proposal? 5. Has Telstra advised Mr Hunt of any plans to alter the call zone treatment of Cranbourne in the future? 6. Has Telstra considered the financial impact of moving Cranbourne inside the Melbourne Metropolitan Call Area? 7. What would be the net financial impact for Telstra of moving Cranbourne within the Melbourne Metropolitan Call Area? 8. Has Telstra considered moving Cranbourne inside the Melbourne Metropolitan Call Area? 	Telstra	07/02/06
194	81	Conroy	Dividend payout ratio	Tel	31/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			Why did you think they needed to increase the dividend payout ratio? <i>Senator Coonan....I would have to go back and have a look but my recollection is that when the letter was written there would have been a basis for us think that there was a good case to have a look at it. But I would really have to go back and check my notes at the time to give you a detailed and considered answer.</i>		
195	130-131	Conroy	Delivery of broadband You have promised to deliver broadband, in whatever way it takes to provide it-how much will this promise cost the government? What is it going to cost to meet the commitment that you gave to the NFF on broadband? We know that the government has committed \$878 million, but that is not necessarily the cost.	Tel	07/02/06
196	142	Conroy	Telstra's carrier licence condition Can a 3G network operate on the same network that you described? You did not say that it had to be a national CDMA network. You said that a digital service had to be operated on this network. A 3G service would be digital and would comply with the licence conditions. <i>(Senator Coonan....We will check to be absolutely certain, but I think it is pretty specific that it has to be CDMA).</i>	Tel	06/02/06
197	Tabled	Conroy	VOIP Review 1. On what date did the Department receive a report from ACMA/ACA regarding the results of a review of the regulation of VOIP in Australia? 2. Why has this review not yet been released to the public? 3. How long has the Department been considering the regulatory issues associated with VOIP? When was the first time that the Department realised that VOIP would be an issue that would ultimately require regulatory attention?	Tel	06/02/06
198	Tabled	Conroy	Postal services I refer to the Governments' election commitment to prevent the delivery of junk mail to mailboxes with "no junk mail" stickers. Can the department advise the Committee what progress has been made in implementing this promise? Is the Department aware that in their October report, PRODUCT MARKET COMPETITION AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE IN AUSTRALIA , the OECD called on the Government to "enhance competition in the postal services market" ? What is the Government's response to this report? Is the department doing any work on legislative changes to enhance competition in the postal services market?	Tel	13/02/06
199	151	Conroy	How long is it since the ACMA Act was passed by the Senate?	ACMA	06/02/06
200	154	Ronaldson	However, SGCR [Strengthening Goldfields Community Radio Inc] were then advised that it may interfere with an existing community broadcaster, 3VYV, in the Yarra Valley.... Is it likely that there is going to be interference between Yarra Valley and Maryborough?	ACMA	13/02/06
201	Tabled	Conroy	ANTI-SIPHONING 1. The Government has directed ACMA to monitor the anti-siphoning list. When is the first monitoring report expected to be published? 2. Is ACMA consulting with any other parties on the methodology that should be used in the monitoring? 3. Have you seen the reports that the pay TV industry body, ASTRA does at present? Will ACMA's reports use the same methodology? 4. Earlier this year there was some debate about whether there is a loophole in the anti-siphoning laws because entities that are associated with pay TV licensees can acquire the right to events before free to air broadcasters have had a reasonable opportunity. Will ACMA be examining how common this practice is and its effect on the integrity of the list?	ACMA	07/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
202	Tabled	Conroy	<p>AM RADIO</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I understand that the ABA provided the Minister with a report on AM radio in June 2005? Is that correct? 2. Can a copy of that report be made available to the Committee? 3. Does the Government plan to make a formal response to this report? 	ACMA	10/02/06
203	Tabled	Conroy	<p>DEFENCE FORCE SPECTRUM</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There has been some recent press about ACMA charging the Army spectrum fees (Daily Telegraph 20 October) when it fits jamming devices to its helicopters which protect them from detection. Are those reports accurate? 2. How much revenue does ACMA collect from the defence forces annually? 3. What are the legislative provisions that require ACMA to charge these fees? 4. It has also been reported that defence forces regularly ignore their liability to ACMA? How rigorously does ACMA pursue these fees? 	ACMA	07/02/06
204	Tabled	Conroy	<p>DIGITAL RADIO</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Last month the Minister released a framework for the transition to digital radio. I understand that ACMA has to plan for the roll out in metropolitan areas. Can you elaborate on ACMA's duties? What is the process to implement the plan? 2. When does ACMA expect that digital radio services will commence in metropolitan Australia? 3. On December 18 2004 the Minister asked the ABA to investigate the availability of spectrum for digital radio. Can ACMA provide a copy of the report to the Committee? 4. If the answer to question 3 is no, what were the report's key findings in relation to the availability of spectrum? 	ACMA	07/02/06
205	Tabled	Conroy	<p>DIGITAL MEDIA STUDY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In March 2005 ACMA commissioned research into digital media in households. How much is the study costing ACMA? 2. Has it concluded yet? 3. When will the study be made available to the public? 	ACMA	06/02/06
206	Tabled	Conroy	<p>ACMA: SMS SPAM</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many complaints has ACMA/ACA received regarding SPAM in the last financial year (showing total complaints received and total organisations or individuals complained about)? 2. How many of these complaints related to SMS spam? What enforcement action did the ACMA/ACA take in response to these complaints? 3. On how many occasions has the ACMA/ACA fined companies or individuals for breaches of the Spam Act? On how many occasions has the ACMA/ACA taken lesser regulatory action (eg cautions, directions) against companies or individuals for breaches of the Spam Act? 4. On how many occasions has the ACMA/ACA fined companies or individuals for breaches of the Spam Act? 5. On how many occasions has the ACMA/ACA taken lesser regulatory action (eg cautions, directions) against companies or individuals for breaches of the Spam Act? 	ACMA	12/01/06
207		Conroy	<p>ACMA: PROTECTION OF CUSTOMER PERSONAL DATA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A recent Four Corners documentary (screened on August 15) outlined allegations that workers at Indian Call Centres were trading confidential information about overseas customers. The report also indicated that a number of Australian telecommunications companies that outsource their telemarketing operations to overseas countries could have been affected by this security and privacy breach. Has ACMA undertaken any 	ACMA	10/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>investigations as to whether any Australian telecommunications companies have breached Australian law as a result of the allegations outlined on Four Corners?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. If so, please provide details of these investigations. 3. Is ACMA investigating the need to mandate data protection certification for overseas outsourced call centres? 4. Would ACMA consider recommending to the Minister that ACIF be issued a direction requiring it to develop an industry code dealing with the circumstances in which telecommunications companies could transfer customers' personal data to overseas operators? 5. What other policy options does ACMA have at its disposal for dealing with this issue? 		
208	Tabled	Fielding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What protections are in place to ensure that children are not exposed to pornographic images and/or video on telephones, whether mobile phones or landline telephones? If there are protections, please explain how these work. 2. What protections are in place to ensure that there are general restrictions to access to R-rated and X-rated material on mobile telephones? If there are restrictions, please explain how these work. 3. Given that mobile telephones can be used to access the Internet and given that mobile telephone use is almost impossible for parents to supervise, what has the Government done to ensure that children do not get access to inappropriate material, especially R-rated and X-rated material? 4. What is the Government doing to keep ahead of rapidly changing technology in the area of electronic distribution of pornographic material? Please provide details of where technological developments are anticipated and what the Government is doing to prepare for those changes in order to effectively regulate content. 5. Have representatives of the Government attended any conferences on the regulation of Internet pornography or the regulation of transmission of pornography by other electronic means? If so, please provide details including a copy of the conference proceedings. 6. I note that there are new Internet industry codes of practice. Please explain how the interim safeguards for mobile content work. 7. Please explain the process underway for development of a permanent regulatory framework for mobile content. What is the timeline to get a permanent regulatory system in place? How is the permanent regulatory framework expected to differ from the interim safeguards? 8. How many members of the Internet Industry Association signed up to the last set of industry codes of practice? I understand that very few members display the IIA Family Friendly ISP ladybird seal. How many members do you anticipate will sign up to the codes of practice and how can you improve that number? 9. If the IIA cannot get many of its members to sign up to a code of practice, isn't this a case for better government regulation rather than ineffective industry self-regulation? 	ACMA	09/02/06
209	Tabled	Murray	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What guidance is provided to staff with responsibilities for contract negotiations specifically about the requirements of the Senate Order? If relevant guidance is not provided, please explain why this is the case. 2. What training and awareness sessions are provided, either in-house or through other training providers (eg. DOFA, APS Commission or private firms) in respect of the Order? Please provide a list of the dates, the identity of the training providers and the content of the training that staff attended in 2005. If training and awareness sessions are not provided, please explain why this is the case. 	ACMA	06/02/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>3. Has the department/agency revised its procurement guidelines to incorporate the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines that took effect from 1 January 2005, particularly with respect to the confidentiality elements contained in those guidelines? If so, when did this occur and can a copy be provided? If not, what is the cause of the delay and when will the revision occur?</p> <p>4. ANAO audits for the last three years have revealed a consistently low level of compliance across most agencies with DOFA confidentiality criteria (February 2003) for determining whether commercial information should be protected as confidential. The ANAO's latest report on the Order (No.11 2005-2006, September 2005) states that departments and agencies need to give higher priority with this important requirement of the Senate Order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What specific measures have been or will be taken to address this problem, give it higher priority and raise compliance levels? • What guidance and training are provided to staff about the confidentiality criteria and the four tests employed to determine whether information should be protected? • What internal auditing or checking is performed to test compliance in this area? If none is performed, why not and is the agency considering the adoption of internal controls and checks? <p>5. What problems, if any, has the agency and/or relevant staff experienced in complying with the Senate Order? What is the nature and cause of any problems? What measures have been, or could be, adopted to address these concerns?</p>		
210	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. 2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). 3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period. 4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent of any delay; ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time; iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments). 5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications. 6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned 	ACMA	12/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.</p> <p>a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:</p> <p>i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.</p> <p>ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.</p>		
211	Tabled	Fielding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration? 	ACMA	31/01/06
212	Tabled	Fielding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years? What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration? 	Corp & Business	31/01/06
213	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Reviews conducted by the Department</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many formal inquiries, reviews or discussion papers has the Department conducted in the past year? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide details. How many reports resulting from these formal inquiries, reviews or discussion papers have been released to the public? How many reports prepared by external regulators (eg ACMA, ACCC) has the Department conducted formal public consultations on in the past year? Please provide details. 	Corp & Business	02/03/06
214	Tabled	Conroy	<p>Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites). Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If not, please provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period; Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period; The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for 	Corp & Business	31/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
			<p>this 12 month period.</p> <p>4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).</p> <p>a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of:</p> <p>i. The extent of any delay;</p> <p>ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time;</p> <p>iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments).</p> <p>5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.</p> <p>6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.</p> <p>a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:</p> <p>i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.</p> <p>ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.</p>		
215	Tabled	Murray	<p>All departments and agencies</p> <p>1. What guidance is provided to staff with responsibilities for contract negotiations specifically about the requirements of the Senate Order? If relevant guidance is not provided, please explain why this is the case.</p> <p>2. What training and awareness sessions are provided, either in-house or through other training providers (eg. DOFA, APS Commission or private firms) in respect of the Order? Please provide a list of the dates, the identity of the training providers and the content of the training that staff attended in 2005. If training and awareness sessions are not provided, please explain why this is the case.</p> <p>3. Has the department/agency revised its procurement guidelines to incorporate the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines that took effect from 1 January 2005, particularly with respect to the confidentiality elements contained in those guidelines? If so, when did this occur and can a copy be provided? If not, what is the cause of the delay and when will the revision occur?</p> <p>4. ANAO audits for the last three years have revealed a consistently low level of compliance across most agencies with DOFA confidentiality criteria (February 2003) for determining whether commercial information should be protected as confidential. The ANAO's latest report on the Order (No.11 2005-2006, September 2005) states that departments and agencies need to give higher priority with this important requirement of the Senate Order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What specific measures have been or will be taken to address this problem, give it higher priority and raise compliance levels? • What guidance and training are provided to staff about the confidentiality criteria and the four tests employed to determine whether information should be protected? • What internal auditing or checking is performed to test compliance in this area? If none is performed, why not and is the agency considering the adoption of internal controls and checks? <p>5. What problems, if any, has the agency and/or relevant staff experienced in complying with the Senate Order? What is the nature and cause of any problems? What measures have been, or could be, adopted to address these concerns?</p>	Legal	12/01/06

Q No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Agency/ Div's	Date Rec'd
216	Tabled	Conroy	Is the Department aware of a recent decision by the Federal Court permitting the use of 'mod-chips' in Sony Playstations to evade regional restrictions on Playstation games?	ICT	07/12/05
217	Tabled	Conroy	Is the Department considering legislative change in response to this decision? a. If so, please provide details.	ICT	07/12/05
218	Tabled	Conroy	Has the Department taken advice on any obligations that Australia may have to legislate to overturn this decision under the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement? a. If so, please provide details.	ICT	07/12/05
219	Tabled	Conroy	Has the Government received representations from the United States regarding the Federal Court's decision" a. If so, please provide details.	ICT	07/12/05
220	Tabled	Brown	National Film and Sound Archive At what stage is the development of legislation to provide for the statutory deposit of audiovisual material in the National Film and Sound Archive? Can the Minister give an assurance that when statutory deposit of audiovisual material legislation is introduced, it will give specific provision for the beneficiary to be the National Film and Sound Archive, and not the Australian Film Commission?	ICT	12/01/06