

From: karen rooke [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 24 July 2001 1:40 PM
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au
Subject: INQUIRY INTO ABC BOARD APPOINTMENT SYSTEM

I understand that there is a Senate inquiry underway into the 'Methods of Appointment to the ABC Board'. I am writing to congratulate you on your efforts to evaluate and revise the process so that the public may have greater confidence in the independence and representativeness of the ABC as the national broadcaster.

I am in support of the ABC having a management board free of a political agenda.

The present system of appointments to the ABC Board is clearly unsatisfactory, in that it allows any government, so-intentioned, to stack the board with its allies. For the good of all Australians, our national broadcaster must be independent of government and commercial influence.

What we need is a new system which ensures the board members are appointed on the basis of merit and commitment to independent and comprehensive national public broadcasting, not for their allegiance to the government of the day.

Karen Rooke