

From: David Dyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 July 2001 2:28 PM
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au
Subject: Senate Inquiry into ABC Board Appointments.

The Secretary, Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology & the Arts
Reference Committee,
S157, Parliament House,
Canberra, ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

To protect the Australian democratic way of life the time has come for appointments to the ABC Board of Management to be made solely on the basis of proven capacity and merit and an unwavering belief in a comprehensive public broadcaster that is truly independent and has no allegiance to any political party and in particular the government of the day.

Events over the last five years, and especially savage funding cuts, indicate that Government is trying to exercise influence on the ABC in ways that will prevent the organisation from fulfilling its charter. The shutting down and more recently the kind of restoration of Radio Australia is just one example.

The view of the current Minister of Education that the Friends of the ABC are ipso facto linked to the Socialist Left or to unions is particularly repugnant. While happening to be a Friend of the ABC I make this submission as an individual who has seen what damage can be done when Government influences what a Public Broadcaster should and should not provide.

Yours Faithfully,

David Dyer.

(PO Box 258, 502 Lal Lal Street, Buninyong, Vic. 3357)