

From: Kimchoan.Woo [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2001 10:20 PM
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au
Subject: Please protect the ABC from political interference and cronyism
Please protect the ABC from political interference and cronyism.

I feel that the ABC is losing its journalistic independence under the chairmanship of Donald McDonald and the stewardship of Jonathan Shier. The extent of this loss has been really obvious since the campaign of attacks orchestrated by Lynton Crosby, Executive Director of the Liberal Party some months ago. The journalists' usual candid and direct questioning of government ministers (especially the Prime Minister) has been much reduced, and appear brow-beaten by the ministers and the PM when there are obvious holes in the latter's argument/statements.

When Mr Shier took over the helm he promised that programming would improve, but so many good TV programmes are gone, eg Quantum, Media Watch, Sea Change etc, to be replaced by more and more of trashy sitcoms and worthless reruns. Many of the programming and promotion styles are poor imitations of the lower-class commercial TV/radio styles. They can't match SBS programmes.

I have no confidence in the McDonald - Shier team. Please remove them from the ABC and replace them with serious public broadcasters.

Kim Choan Woo
GPO Box 3069
Canberra ACT 2601