

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in the public hands!

How can we be a democratic nation without a free press? The ABC is that, supporting city, regional and rural population. Do not dismantle. Your children and your great grandchildren will never forgive you.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3183



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off our ABC.

The ABC is more than just another media organisation. It is part of our cultural fabric that defines Australia. I am more than happy that the ABC is supported by us, through government funding.

The ABC is unbiased and does not favour any party in government – this is fair and as it should be.

It's taxpayers that contribute their share to the national public broadcaster, and as a taxpayer, I am happy to do so. All of us must pay for government services we might not need or want -- psychiatric wards, Collins class submarines, drought relief for farmers. The list goes on and on. Public broadcasting is no different. As a childless, law abiding citizen who has worked, and thereby paid taxes, since the age of 16, I love and want my taxes to continue towards the support of the ABC so much more than a lot of the money wasted by governments, i.e. life time travel for ex politicians and outlandish superannuation benefits they receive. (This list goes on and on too).

The ABC has done so much for Australian drama, the arts and culture etc. News and current affair programs are so much better, true, informative, unbiased and way more rational and reasonable than a lot of the rubbish produced by commercial channels. And then.....all that hideous advertising!

The ABC should not and must not be privatised. The ABC must remain a government funded public broadcaster. Please politicians think beyond your own tenure for once and stop with this privatisation that only bails you out in the short term and often ends up being a disaster.

Hands off our ABC.

[REDACTED]

WA 6063 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC belongs to all Australians

The ABC is not only an important part of our history and culture, it is the only truly national independent and unbiased (in spite of what some people think it is infinitely more unbiased than any other media channel that all Australians can access).

It has always belonged to us all and it must stay that way. There has never been a stronger argument for keeping a public asset rather than flogging it off to the private sector for a short term financial gain to help the Government balance its books.

We need a cast iron guarantee that this will never happen.

Yours passionately

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2104




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is the voice of the people.

All reporting is biased but The Abc is not beholden to the corporate world.
It is one of the last publicly owned assets we have.
Radio National airs opinions that you would NEVER hear on Murdoch owned, or other corporate media.
[which would be the Liberal party's preference of course.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands


The ABC is part of the fabric of our society, please don't tear it. Commercial providers cannot be compared to the ABC, they can't compete – the ABC is much more, it contributes to our democracy, diverse society and helps to define us as Australians.

As a public corporation, it is one of the few media outlets that provides a fair look at both sides of an argument. In today's society of "fake news" and the echo chamber, this is more important than ever. The intense questioning of politicians without fear of favour, without concerns of how media laws are going to be shaped or which merger is going to be approved, means we get closer to the truth than commercial media providers. Holding politicians to account is an important part of our democracy and civil society and the ABC has a critical role in this because commercial providers are compromised.

The ABC is an integral part of the fabric of Australian culture. HANDS OFF OUR ABC

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3183 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC as a public broadcaster

Is democracy a right, a privilege, or an expendable commodity?


One of the most compelling reasons I have felt so fortunate and proud to be able to call Australia home is because most of us have been able to live by democratic principles and practices. Unfortunately now some of these principles and practices are being (and some already have been) eroded.

The constant attacks on the ABC are symptomatic of this.

I have admired the way the ABC presents many sides of an issue... as a public broadcaster it is able to be independent of vested interests in presenting news and information, and investigative journalism: this is vital for a healthy democracy.

In the current global climate of polarising opinions, it is even more essential that we as a nation strengthen, rather than keep weakening, our democracy and that the ABC should be treasured and celebrated - a daily reminder that our democracy is precious for every single one of us.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3068 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 5:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC public

I have spent most of my rather long life enjoying the ABC and am certainly not into commercial radio or TV other than for rare exceptions such as some sport.

I cannot understand why the Liberal Party would even consider such a suggestion after so many years of excellent unbiased programs. This makes me wonder whether the liberal party just wants to try and exert power for its own sake! This is rather a cynical comment and reflects my inability to think of any good reason for such a move!

"Auntie" has been my favourite all my rather long life and I can't imagine any reason why I should change. In fact more positively there is every good reason not to change and I certainly WILL NOT!!

I believe it is very important in a democracy to have an important vehicle like the ABC in public hands and would certainly NOT approve of the the hard right even thinking about such a plan. This is one of the great benefits of our democracy. I can only hope the liberal party is thrashed if it tries out such a ridiculous move.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3123



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is at the heart of everything good about Australia and has nurtured truth in journalism, freedom of speech, democracy and creativity in broadcasting for generations of Australians.

This superb institution is woven into the very fibre of Australian consciousness.

Hard Right organisations such the IPA and the Liberal Party Council have no right to attempting to privatise the ABC. By doing so they are attempting to destroy the very things that the ABC stands for - truth in journalism, freedom of speech, democracy and creativity in broadcasting.

What commercial interests would do to the minds of our children if they got hold of ABC for Kids does not bear thinking about.

The ABC should never be privatised.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3821



[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

Please do not privatise the ABC. It is ours and must be looked after by our government and people. Why get rid of the best station on TV. Do more and fund our ABC more money as it is the only intelligent and free of commercials station we have. Why wreck everything good we have.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC Public as a National Icon


Dear Sir/ Ms

As a resident of a rural area that regularly floods, I am very aware of the crucial role ABC radio and TV play in informing residents of events, safety hazards, rising rivers and road closures. We simply would not cope without the ABC.

The ABC also nurtures the talent of young writers, readers, artists and producers of the very best in Australian drama. This is not reproduced anywhere else. The ABC is a critic of all governments and always has been; this is an indication of a healthy democracy. Most mature government ministers accept this is part and parcel of politics. The ABC is our only free national voice and much needed in this uncertain environment. Keep the ABC free and

Outspoken as it should be. Elected governments come and go but ABC supporters and do not forget on voting day. There are thousands of ABC supporters/ users who are watching.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC needs to remain public

Members of the Inquiry,

The ABC is one of the very few trusted sources for credible news in Australia. Privatising or Commercialising public media will seriously undermine the content and quality of the contents which will be aimed at commercial interest rather than providing a genuinely public service that is independent of advertisers, corporate or private funding.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6000



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't you dare touch our ABC.....

As a nation we will never recover if the ABC is damaged beyond recognition. It is the jewel in the crown of broadcasting and we must never lose it. Research shows it is the most trusted independent information source and holds all shades of government to account, which is why the Coalition are so anxious to shut it down. We're very lucky as a nation to have it and public broadcasting for the good of all plays an irreplaceable role in our democracy and cannot be compared with commercial media.

I personally couldn't live without the ABC - it keeps me sane and well informed in this increasingly insane world.

Hands off our ABC!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2110




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!!

The ABC should be kept in public hands and should never be privatized now or in the future. Privatization will lead to a decline in high quality and trustworthy programming and reporting. I want to keep having access to the valuable and reliable source of news and information provided by the ABC which is able to be independent of commercial interest and influence while it remains in public hands. Privatization will destroy the ABC as it will become just like other businesses with private vested interests. Privatisation of the ABC will seriously diminish the current diversity of news sources such and the ABC currently raises the bar for broadcasting in Australia. Australia needs a reliable national broadcaster whose only interest is that of its own integrity as a broadcaster and in serving the public interest. The ABC should remain independent of commercial interest and influence. Those who oppose to the ABC remaining in public hands are deliberately distorting public opinion by generating false claims and complaints that the ABC has advantage over commercial broadcasters, however this is not true as people like myself listen and watch the ABC because the programmes are better and more reliable than what is produced by commercial broadcasters. The ABC is valuable to Australians in exercising integrity. The claim that the ABC has unfair advantage over others is false and should never be a reason to privatize it. Commercial broadcasters in general lack real integrity and quality and are not reliable as a source of accurate information and programming for real public interest.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2049 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatisation of ABC

It is of critical importance that Australians have access to unbiased, factual & accurate reporting - we need this. The ABC also provide many programs that are used weekly by Australian schools. WE cannot loose access to this Independent source of information. Keep your hands off our ABC do not consider privatisation. Dr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2041



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Defence of an independent ABC

I write against the recent decision of the LCP's conference to privatise the ABC.

I have always been a swinging voter, evaluating parties' and candidates' policies and record before casting my vote. Of late, I have favoured Independents, because they alone seem to be prepared to voice policies and positions that show concern for the common good, rather than toeing a party line.

I was appalled that the LCP vote to privatise the ABC was unanimous. Not one dissenting voice? Does no one in the party listen to/watch the ABC? Do you all have Pay TV or, alternatively, do you all chill out with the largely mindless fare on the commercial channels?

I listen to ABC radio for a wide range of topical and curious discussion (ABC National) and for classical and serious music (ABC Classic FM). Every night I watch the 7.00 o'clock ABC News (when I'm not watching SBS's hour-long world news, and I watch documentaries about religion, history, science, current affairs and environment. I don't watch voyeuristic shows like Big Brother on the commercial stations, nor crime series (even the ABC has too many of these, alas!) nor sport.

You will see that these are not mainstream tastes, untrendy and old hat; yet I too and many like me discuss these issues at depth, analysing what we have heard and evaluating the world and our government in the light of what we have learnt and of our reason and experience.

If you want to keep the hoi poloi entertained with bread and circuses, and if you are afraid of informed discussion and dissent, then of course you will want to put this maverick broadcaster in the safe, malleable hands of a profit-making business. But if you want intelligent, articulate and informed citizens and voters who keep everyone - government, opposition, independents - on their toes, then you will value and protect the independence of the ABC.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2640



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: KEEP ABC IN PUBLIC HANDS

I like so many other Australians regard the ABC as the AUSTRALIANS' BROADCASTING COMMISSION.

We depend on the ABC for more than authentic news. We also depend on the ABC for keeping us fit and healthy mentally. The Govt is so out

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2533




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC should remain in Public Hands

I have been an ABC listener and viewer since childhood (am now 77!). Of course I have tried commercial radio and T V and have have found them wanting- sensationalist, immature, popularist, lacking in depth where major issues are “dumbed down”. In contrast, I have and continue to be respectful of the depth of research and professionalism of the ABC. I have been distressed by the recent funding cuts to this Organisation, as I believe that is essential for our democracy that we, the people, are able to have a trustworthy and unbiased source of Australian and World news, unbiased analysis of scientific, cultural and political issues. Our children need the quality programmes that are available and being developed specifically for them. As far as I am concerned, this whole country is reliant on the ABC for emergency situations eg bushfires and floods. Should we ever be involved in international tensions or even wars, it is essential to our country that we have a National Broadcaster in Public hands. The ABC cannot and should not be compared to commercial media. They each have their role, but the ABC is essentially a separate and distinctly different organisation because of it’s need for higher standards and responsibility to the Australian People. I have been completely devastated by the recent Liberal Party vote to Privatisise the ABC. It is unbelievable to think that these supposedly intelligent people are so driven by the lobbying of commercial profit driven media, and so frightened of in depth analysis of their political decisions and strategies that they would try to destroy such a trustworthy organisation as the ABC. Shame on them! In conclusion, I had been considering voting for the Liberals in upcoming elections, because of the track record of their candidate. On the basis of this vote, I will not be voting for the Liberals/ Coalition until they remove this policy from their platform.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3442 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Enquiry into the ABC and SBS

I wish to record my objections to the "not so hidden" agenda of the enquiry into the ABC and SBS.
i would like to state very strongly that i want public braodcasters who are fee from political interference or commercial pressure.
i want a public broadcaters who will provide services to all Australians, especially those in regional and remote areas, and not just those in cities.
i do not want public broadcasters who are subject to commercial considerations which quickly become an underlying basis for influencing programming decisions.
I want public broadcasters who are free from outside interference; who are free to make editorial decisions not influenced by the political bias of private ownership or the vested interests of investors.
i see this enquiry as a step towards providing the government with the excuse to privatise the ABC and SBS.
It is vital that our public broadcasters remain Public.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2062 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the pubic broadcaster in public hands

I have lived in Australia for almost 25 years and have really enjoyed and appreciated the ABC (and SBS) during that time. It is of a very high quality and impresses as being for everyone and being unbiased. Commercial TV in contrast is none of these things to me and is of low quality in my opinion due to commercial limitations. It is also great and really important that the public broadcaster is available throughout the country (I am aware with the loss of shortwave radio, some of this has been lost). I strongly believe that the ABC should stay in public hands and I would like to see the level of funding increased again as the cutbacks have affected the availability, diversity and the quality of service.

Thank

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2203



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The Australian nation's broadcaster is a mainstay of our democracy and must remain in the hands of the public whom it serves

What the ABC means to me: it's my most trusted, comprehensive and unbiased source of information, news and current affairs. It has provided education and entertainment to my children and now my grandchildren, both through Playschool and the ABC app. It tells our story to ourselves, and as such is a huge reservoir of the cultural values of our nation. In my work as a teacher I have used "Behind the News" in the teaching of international students to acquaint them with the current affairs of the country, its democratic values and the many language features of these programs. I used stories such as that of Layne Beachley to inspire students with her role-modelling of the overcoming of adversity as a cultural trait. When the ABC produces local drama, I know it's going to be a quality production and the best entertainment: the "Jack Irish" and Phryne Fisher series are two prime examples. In times of national disaster when all the nation needs to pull together, the only news source to go to is the ABC.

It is inconceivable that the ABC should be taken from us, as privatisation would inevitably mean. It is a source of inspiration which has moulded us into a free, democratic, creative and analytically thinking people. It is our lifeblood.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6010 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands!

The ABC has always been my personal entertainment lifeline. I am entertained by ABC Classic FM each day. I am educated by both RN and Classic FM each day. I do not have a television and have not had one in this century. Nothing in Rural Australia can offer an alternative to the breadth of what is currently offered to me through the ABC. More funding and keep to the charter. We have an asset that is irreplaceable

[REDACTED]

WA 6330



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

I am writing to voice my support for the ABC and speak out against privatisation or further funding cuts.

In a healthy democracy having a strong independent and public news source is absolutely critical. I turn to the ABC as a source of information I can trust, online, on the radio and on television.

Representation on screen is also critical, and the ABC plays an important role in ensuring that Australian screen culture includes the stories of women and minorities. It also fosters creative talent in front of and behind the camera, to ensure that people from varied backgrounds are able to be included in telling their own stories.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3072 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: KEEP OUR ABC PUBLIC

4 corners is my most trusted news source.
My grandchildren are only allowed to watch ABC because it is NOT privatised.
I don't trust the Coalition's attacks on our ABC and certainly don't trust it to privatise my ABC.
The only news I trust is the ABC because of the very fact that it is NOT privatised.
Public broadcasting plays a crucial and important role in our society and should never be compared to commercial broadcasting.
I feel very strongly about this and DO NOT WANT MY ABC PRIVATISED.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2615 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please don't privatise the ABC

I find it hard to believe that there was a vote taken at an important Liberal party meeting to sell off the ABC. I was dismayed that only Mitch Fifield spoke against it. Surely the right has not gained so much control over the party.


The ABC brings us news we can trust and is less engaged with frivolous stories than commercial networks.. Perhaps my largest concern comes with the idea of advertising on the ABC. I remember when it was brought in to SBS and we were assured that the ads would be superior and dealing with significant issues. This is not the case and I therefore watch little SBS television. I watch almost no commercial TV as I find the ads so boring.

surely Australia is not too poor to afford the ABC TV and radio.

You might find a lot of Liberal voters find this a step too far.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2033 

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

Having the ABC is a matter of national security. Our ability to win the hearts and minds of Asia through soft diplomacy and the projection of our values into that region is now more critical than ever, especially given the rise of governments in the region that do not share our democratic values. Our ability to influence the region is our weapon. Besides that we need the 4th estate. We cannot rely on media barons to deliver fearless and frank journalism. Especially now, when journalism is under unprecedented attack, we must stand up as a nation and fully fund our national broadcaster. I accept there is room for improvement. I accept there is a left leaning bias, but I do not accept that the ABC should be privatised. Issues of perceived bias can be handled in appropriate ways. Our Reserve Bank is independent. There is no reason why our ABC cannot be. It should be as unthinkable to privatise our ABC as it would the Reserve Bank.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
NT 0831 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please do not privatise the ABC

The ABC is the only media outlet producing transparent, balanced news coverage. If it is privatised there will be no independent, unbiased news available in Australia. There would be no media organisation with the means or motivation to expose corruption and unacceptable conduct in Australian society. As in the UK with the BBC, the ABC must remain government funded and therefore independent.

[REDACTED]

WA 6005



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:36 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Submission against privatisation of our ABC

To whom it may concern,

Dear Sir or Madam

In the interests of all Australians, and our nation as a whole, the ABC should not be privatised.

Investing adequate public funding to allow the ABC to continue its excellent service to the Australian community, is a valuable and worthwhile investment towards a better future, and an improved and fairer society.

The ABC provides a unique variation of valuable resources, which help ordinary everyday people to develop their knowledge and interests, and an honest, realistic and unbiased understanding of ourselves, our societies, and where we are positioned in local, national, global and universal contexts. This must surely be of assistance to us as a people, to live better lives, make better decisions in our day to day lives, and move collectively towards a more cohesive and rewarding experience of life. The prime ingredients for a better future.

The ABC is owned by the people, has grown with the people, and has grown with the times to become the reliable, highly respected, and informative entity that it is today. The government of the day, should not really presume to have the right to bend or reshape it for its own vested or corporate self-serving interests. Indeed, the only people who might benefit from its privatisation, are those with vested interests in corporations or governments who do not wish the light of day to be shone upon questionable dealings or potentially unpopular secret policy objectives.


In the world of media, our dear old Auntie represents the last refuge, for people of all ages, to receive quality entertainment, along with trustworthy, reliable and informative programming, based on the search for truth and meaning. And hallelujah to be able to experience this relatively "calm haven for the mind" in this cluttered over-busy world, without having to expose oneself to the likelihood of corporate brainwashing and negative influences that have already steered our nation, our people and our world onto a dangerous path of greedy, selfish exploitation of nature, people and resources. This is a blessing indeed, and one we should protect with all the zeal we can muster.

Please recommend that the ABC should NEVER be privatised, and should ALWAYS be in the safe hands of the people.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2264 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands.

The ABC is important for me because it provides the information essential to equip a society with the ability to make informed, unbiased decisions. The ABC is an independent body that is motivated and able to provide investigative journalism, cultural diversity, scientific information, local content programs etc. Commercial stations are interested in advertising revenue, providing programs that provide programs of low intelligence intellect, false news and propaganda. It is absolutely essential that the ABC remains in public hands and beyond the control of commercial interests.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

QLD 4215



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatising the ABC.

I grew up with the ABC and so did my daughter. As an independent voice the ABC fulfills a vital community role. As a political football between the two main parties, the fact that both sides complain of bias in favour of their opposition shows a relative impartiality. The Australian content, current affairs, local news etc are not matched by any other media organisations. Privatization of the ABC would lead to the same poor quality and bias to be found on other media which require advertising revenue to keep going. We citizens own the ABC; it is not tge government's to sell off.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2753



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I have watched ABC since it all started. I enjoy all the unbiased public affairs programs and interesting and highly intelligent discussions. Only watch one other channel - you can probably guess which one.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2602



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC belongs to the people, not any government.

Mr Abetz and others who have difficulty in having to cope with frank comment . Learn to live with truthful reporting. Very little has ever been achieved over time with privatisation. Leave our ABC alone. This government should be strong enough to look fair comment in the eye. Your strategy has elements of the cowards punch.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3945



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off our ABC

I cannot believe this is even being discussed. You have no right or indeed a mandate to do this. Last night I watched Sky News to see what would be on offering if the ABC disappeared. You talk about unbiased. This was so ridiculously one-sided - from Peta Credlin to Andrew Bolt, it was almost laughable. Be careful. Lots of Liberal as well as Labor voters love and respect the ABC. It is one of our oldest institutions. You have no right to either sell it or starve it of funds because of your ideological bias. We've all seen how other institutions we've sold have fared - aka Telstra, CBA. The ABC is not a business so keep your hands off.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2785



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:29 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC!

Like so many, many Australians, I was shocked to hear that the liberal Party Council had voted to privatise the ABC.

For me, the ABC has always been a cornerstone and reference point for fair and honest news coverage, and a wide-ranging, informative source of programmes that stimulate debate, be it social, political literary, musical- the list is so long.

The idea of this Public service being privatised goes against everything that I admire and value about our country , and I will fight against any attempt to change it.

And I will not be alone.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3101



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep our ABC in public hands

For me, a public ABC is synonymous with democracy . I dot think the ‘ thinking ‘ Australian public will tolerate an ABC world n the hands of some private company (Murdock for example) . Any such a move will mean the Government will be out at the next election . I’m a Liberal voter and I watch the ABC . I like it the way it is , thank you . I do not watch commercial TV and if the ABC becomes a private company I will be back to more reading books and watching Netflix- no adds or propaganda.
I have experienced the privatisation of the RAI in Italy at Berlusconi’s hands - it’s a disgrace .
Please do not vote to privatise the ABC and let’s keep OUR ABC the way it is .

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2088 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

I am horrified to hear that there is talk of privatising the ABC. I am so proud of this organisation and what it stands for and its outstanding content. It makes no sense at all to take it out of public ownership. It simply can't be the same if it is subject to commercial pressures. It is one of the great icons of Australian culture. We love it and we want to keep it!!!!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2482 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: AUSTRALIAN Broadcasting Commission

Australians need a national broadcaster which is fully and adequately funded so it can broadcast Australian content, cover issues and topics that are not just populist headline stuff, reach all corners of the country with relevant, informative, accurate programs, and be unafraid to question politicians and other powerful people of whichever creed or political leaning.

We need a national broadcaster whose programming is NOT influenced by the owners of privatised media organisations (Rupert Murdoch, I'm thinking of you!). We need a national broadcaster which CANNOT be bought.


We need our ABC.

I wonder what it is that the young Liberals (who don't seem very liberal) are afraid of? If they speak sense and truth they should have no fear of being questioned - the truth is always able to withstand questioning.

I will never, ever vote for any party that aims to privatise the ABC. Not ever.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3135 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

I live in a regional area. The ABC and SBS are my main news sources. 4 Corners is a trusted news source, with Q & A a valuable and important public forum, along with many others informative and entertaining programmes.

The ABC needs to stay in public hands, and funds should not keep being cut to this essential public service.

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in Australia's democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7249



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

I don't want the ABC to go the way of the American media! The ABC keeps things honest! It's not captive to powerful media moguls. It belongs to the people. It gives us what commercial channels can never provide in wonderful programs. HANDS OFF or you will feel the backlash at the next election, even from your own supporters. HANDS. OFF!!!!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2085




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC needs to stay in the public domain

The ABC is dedicated to cover Australia and Australians, money, profits and sensational news making is not their agenda. Their ethos and existence is to help and cover Australia in a balanced way. If either left or right leaning people are completely happy with it then its not doing its job. But that is not the case, either side of politics are never completely satisfied with the ABC because of their balanced reporting of events. You can not and will not get that from the private sector.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


NSW 2217 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must remain Australia's independent public broadcaster

The ABC must remain an independent voice in the media in Australia so that it retains the capacity to report, inform and analyse, drawing on different points of view. It is the only provider of important regional networks, committed to representing regional Australians. It is the only source of intellectually invigorating discussion and debate on social, cultural and political matters. It airs Australian voices and experiences across the arts, sport, politics in short it is the only media that presents and informs Australians about Australia and Australian identity. Without a robust ABC the Australian people have no committed voice for presenting and sharing Australian culture and risk losing more and more of Australian identity. I don't mean just a bush and pioneer identity so often equated with Australian identity, I mean the diversity of cultural origin and expression which has made Australia such a terrific country. Every time we cut the ABC, the arts, independent journalism, education, we risk further diminishing our sense of Australianness.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3078 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC

You could not have it more wrong than to sell off the only TV a Radio Stations that are unbiased, tell the truth and do not push the agenda of private individuals. ABC is the only TV and Radio I listen too and watch, Yes it costs the public money, I pay tax, I don't mind it going to support this platform of media. It is paid for by the public, and the public want to keep it. Hands off our ABC.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2534



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:18 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I love my ABC!!!!

i'm an ordinary Aussie woman, with a public education and hard working parents that could'nt afford to send me for further education after high school. The ABC became my educator with both radio and later television improving my outlook on the world. Your Party has always complained that the ABC is left wing and if that means biased towards people who care about plans and actions for our Country, so be it. Don't try and destroy our ABC, the results will be awful, imagine having to watch the sort of television that is available on the commercial channels, it's nothing but junk and an insult to our intelligence.HANDS OFF OUR ABC. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2330 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:18 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

The ABC is being starved and the effect is apparent. The loss of late Line leaves a hole in international news, direct from key figures around the world. I trust the ABC more than I trust the collective voice of Parliament where the major parties are beholden to corporate lobbyists and party donors. Do advocates of privatisation ever read literature, study and enjoy art and music or are they troglodytes to whom the \$ is all. What % of women are represented on this Liberal Council? Who funds the IPA? Keep commercial influence away from our trusted broadcaster!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3054



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:15 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the abc

Dear Sir

Being a Canadian and Australian dual citizen I have always been very impressed by the superiority of Australian television over anything that is available in Canada- no ads on the ABC, excellent programs like Four Corners, no solicitations for funds to keep a better quality program going. If the ABC is privatised we will be reduced to the low standard of television on Chsnnels 7,9,10- do you really want a population of the lowest common denominator?

Please do not privatise one of the few culturally superior aspects of Australian society or Australia will definitely become a second class

Country.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6020



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Continued and expanded government funding of ABC

My wife and I have always received most of our News and Current Affairs information via the ABC radio and television largely because the balanced and unbiased reporting provided. We would be very upset if there was any move by the Australian Government to try to suppress this reporting by directly interfering, or cutting back on its funding.

We also prefer many of the entertainment programs on ABC (and SBS) television which are Australian or UK sourced rather than the programs on the Commercial channels which are nearly all sourced from the USA (and which tend to very often have people carrying and shooting guns).

[REDACTED]

NSW 2121 


From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC is an incredibly valued Australian institution. In an era of ‘fake news’ where misinformation is commonplace, it is more important than ever that we have news that we can trust that acts in the public interest. The ABC provides hard hitting journalism on matters of public importance, including issues which would not be addressed or thoroughly investigated on commercial stations due to ratings pressures and other matters which drive/ restrict content in the commercial sector. The ABC also provides vital services to rural and regional Australia. In addition to news services, the ABC provides important educational programs for Australians of all ages. This includes cultural content which provides cultural diversity and teaches empathy and understanding. The value of these programs cannot be underestimated for the value they provide in positively shaping Australian society.

Despite the ABC’s unbiased journalism, the ABC has been subject to unrelenting attacks of purported bias from conservative politicians who object to the scrutiny the public expect of a public broadcaster. The government of the day and policy makers should rightly be subject to scrutiny for the decisions they make and policy they set for all Australians. The ongoing budget cuts, \$338 million since the Coalition took office in 2014, and calls from conservative politicians to privatise the ABC are also deeply concerning.

The ABC, much like the BBC in the UK is a valued public institution which should be properly funded and free of political interference.

It is respectfully requested that funding cuts to the ABC be restored and the further attacks including moves to privatise the ABC by conservative politicians in the Coalition and One Nation be wholeheartedly rejected.


[redacted]
[redacted]
NSW 2640 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:13 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Properly fund the ABC

At 75 I have been listening to and then watching the ABC all my life. From a Davis Cup match on the Birdsville track on a portable radio in the late 50's to more recently when I rarely stray to a commercial channel (except for sport) both the radio and TV provide me with Science, Good Music, reliable unbiased news, and the best drama and entertainment. Since the commercials were deregulate as to commercial content in any half hour their service has deteriorated and it got worse when they were granted many more channels which run re-runs of very old shows. Cutting funding to an Australian Icon and now seeking privatisation is a figment of the very hard right dogma and totally UnAustralian and against the ABC charter. Increase funding so more good Australian drama is created employing our best actors.

[REDACTED]

SA 5022 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands - no privatisation!

Having an independent broadcaster like the ABC in Australia, the BBC in the UK and NPR in the USA is vital for the good of democracy. The Liberal Party's policy to privatise the ABC is anti-democratic and a step in the direction of undermining democracy as we have seen in Turkey and other totalitarian regimes. The Liberal Party needs to take immediate steps to rescind this policy and disavow themselves of it. A public funded and independent ABC is essential to an informed and vibrant Australian society.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2112 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: NO PRIVATISATION FOR OUR ABC

I am a former employee of the ABC. Disclosure completed.

I spent more than 25 years of my working life in the organisation and feel privileged to have had the opportunity to do so. Like most Australians, the ABC has been part of my life from my earliest years as a child listening to radio 3LO & 3AR. I had country relatives all around Victoria, who lived and breathed for the ABC's dependable broadcasting - a tradition never to be broken. You could say I am passionate about the quality and service we receive from the public broadcaster and above all its integrity.

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy. Part of its charter is to provide:

“innovative and comprehensive broadcasting services of a high standard”

“to provide broadcasting programs that contribute to a sense of national identity “

“to inform and entertain, reflect the cultural diversity of the Australian community and broadcast programs of an educational nature”

The ABC was never established for economic purposes. It is a purely independent organisation. It takes no advertising because of this ideology, and consequently cannot be influenced by vested commercial interests. Its editorial quality and integrity is paramount. It is the people's broadcaster and is there to serve the public interest.

Working in the organisation I have observed critical governments come and go and budget cuts made that caused devastation from program makers wondering how the continued quality of their work could continue with lack of resources and shrinking staff. And yet, every employee maintained a spirit to do the very best under trying conditions and continued stress.

However this latest attempt to quash this wonderful organisation is another matter entirely. Never have I seen such hostility towards the national broadcaster as has been displayed in the last four years of this government and from the Murdoch press.

The fact that this has been occurring is just one more reason why the ABC must continue in its role as a trusted source of information for all Australians. It is committed to informing the nation of world events without fear or favour, in a balanced and intelligent form, and that is what it does.

Of course there are times when editorial judgements can be questioned, but there is a process to correct these instances, and apologies are made. No doubt the lack of a reliable and adequate budget does not help – demands are high and staff numbers are shrinking.

Lastly, the ABC has no any advantage over commercial outlets. It is a category all its own and as such deserves the respect and love that Australians have for “our ABC”.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3145



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

The ABC must be protected! Like many other I access the ABC every day and have done for more thna 40 years. Their independence from political influence and commercial interests (including no advertisements!) remains the core reason I watch and listen. The quality of the shows is also important and that is why I believe the ABCs independence and adequate funding levels should be protected.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2484



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

As for many people now in their 70s, the ABC formed my musical tastes and sense of humour. I still remember specific 1050's radio dramas and serialised books. We listened as a family to the national news, debating issues. The ABC exposed me to cultural and political ideas that helped me learn how to think. It still provides an astonishing range of information, music, drama and political analyses. For example, Background Briefing is world class, broadcasting in depth reporting, week after week. There is nothing like that on other radio or television networks. Successful parliamentary democracy depends on an educated and informed electorate. The ABC's contribution to our democracy is crucial.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2594 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

I am appalled at the suggestion that the ABC should be sold. In private hands, the ABC would almost certainly cease to be the intelligent, independent voice that it is, among the cacophony of commercially funded television and radio stations. With the ABC we have programming that covers a diverse range of topics, including many that dare to challenge the status quo - a vitally important function in a democratic society. The ABC encourages us to think, presents us with information and music to enrich our lives and thus provides a much needed antidote to the “junk” (materialistic) values that pervade every other (commercial) broadcaster, including, increasingly, SBS. This proposed sale cannot go ahead!

[REDACTED]

TAS 7000 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not sell the ABC

No way can you privatise the ABC. It is wrong and the government should not be able to get away with this. The ABC belongs to us, the people of Australia, it is there to inform us and entertain us. If the government doesn't like it that is there problem not ours.
Hands off the ABC!!!!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2079



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands do not privatise it.

We are in our seventies and have watched or listened to the ABC all of our lives. The investigative journalism is excellent. The news reporting no matter who is in government is not one-sided as is claimed. All politicians need to be kept on their toes

[REDACTED]

NSW 2456 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off the ABC!

Please leave the ABC alone! TV and esp. radio has so many education type of programme's would be shame if that is touched. Should be independent and tax payer funded! ALWAYS!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6262 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 4:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

Dear Malcolm Turnbull

I am deeply disturbed to hear that your government is considering the privatisation of the ABC. Apart from the excellent current affair programs on ABC radio and television stations, and the opportunity to watch news, comedy, dramas, documentaries without the harsh, strident intrusion of commercial advertising, the ABC is a national icon, whose services and broadcasts can keep Australia in the forefront in the Asia Pacific Region. The cancellation of the short wave service, which has furthered Australian influence in the region, is lamentable. Surely if New Zealand can maintain it's public broadcaster, our substantial country must do the same. The ABC cannot become a tool of commerce, when it is a tool of truth and integrity.

Yours respectfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3079



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep our ABC in public hands

It's so important to have a tv channel that is more impartial and represents the Australian people, not just motivated by financial principles. The charter means that it has to provide a broad spectrum of programs to fulfil this. Wha would happen if it became privatised?

[REDACTED]

NSW 2021 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC publically funded and ad free

As the father of two young children, the ability to have high quality, educational television programming WITHOUT ADS is so valuable. Please do not allow the ABC to be privatised!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3058



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC should remain in public hands, it should not be sold off

I rely on impartial, professional, trained journalists to deliver quality news, and that's why I want the ABC to remain in public hands. I choose to not listen/watch commercial broadcasters as I don't want ads because I know they're subjective not objective, so DO NOT sell the ABC as it's the only objective news source we Australians have -- even if I don't agree with every (clearly noted) opinion of its commentators!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2042 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the A.B.C. independant and in the public domain.

My husband and I are in our early eighties and have watched the A B C. since we were married 60 years ago. I must say the entertainment value has diminished considerably in recent years since the funding has been stripped drastically but it remains the only source of reliable news reporting, both locally and internationally. The country will be much the poorer if it is privatised and it will go down as one of the Government's most irresponsible actions. I think a desire to cover up it's errors or corruption would be the only reason they could contemplate such a move.

Thank goodness it appears the current front bench has some wisdom and integrity KEEP IT UP.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2067 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: [REDACTED]

I feel really strongly that the ABC should not be privatised, it is so important that we have a public broadcaster in Australia rather than another "media giant" telling us what to think. Public broadcasting plays such an important role in our society and shouldn't be allowed to be sold off.

I think the government doesn't like what some of the ABC and SBS shows say because they are independent from pressure that can be bought for favours by big business or big corporations.

So many of our wonderful television memories have been screened on the ABC. Our longest running shows, Play School and Four Corners are on the ABC, one of my all time favourite Sea Change (an Aussie Legend of a show) was made for the ABC. I certainly get my 8 cents a day worth!

I think this whole inquiry is wrong and we should all be very concerned about the possibility of privatising the ABC.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2079



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Save the ABC

The ABC has been an invaluable part of my life.

I grew up with great Australian programmes - from Liftoff to The Ferals to Heartbreak High - which wouldn't have found air time on any of the other commercial channels.

Blissfully advertisement free, and with content that was GOOD and supported Australian production rather than appealing to a popularist, lowest-common-denominator, what-sells-the-most-ads model, the ABC has been a gold standard of Australian media.

Public models are different to private models. ABC and SBS can exist first and foremost to give good media to Australians, to share ideas, to support Australian media production. Commercial channels are just... commercial.

The ABC has been such a significant part of my life and I would be heartbroken to see it go.

Don't privatise it.

Save the ABC!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3056 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

It is vital for our democracy that the ABC remains independent instead of joining the commercial race to the bottom. It is my preferred listening and watching, and I am 75 years old - hardly an extremist ! It is the place where I receive news which is never shown on commercial stations, and I learn to understand others points of view. Surely this is important for a healthy democracy.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7304



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

This is our national broadcaster, the place my whole family (eh-hem that's a lot of votes) watches avidly, for news and quality drama. I want my taxes going towards the ABC. Leave it alone!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3088



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in Public hands

As I rely on the ABC for a cross section of views and comments on all sorts of topics--arts literature overseas news (importantly) , informed debate etc I am devastated to think that this right is to be opened up to commercial interests!!!

It seems unreasonable to claim that the 'shock jocks", who have such a pervasive influence in the media, could now become the new norm for so-called standards in our community.

I work for community radio and am aware of the emphasis that is put on presenting an unbiased programme The right wing conservative voice is too loud and is well catered for already in the vast selection of existing commercial radio. The ABC a d SBS have a huge IRREPLACEABLE role in our democracy and should not ,in any way, be compared to commercial radio.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2075




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

I totally rely on the ABC for truthful reporting of news. They are fearless in their coverage of unpopular topics. Unpopular to all brands of politics. Four Corners, Q&A are constantly criticised by both sides of politics. They are able to investigate where a commercial channel will see no commercial benefit. The ABC operates for the public benefit not private benefit and I cant do without it!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3056 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:51 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Sharks and dolphins: Why the ABC must stay in public hands

I'm a 34-year-old writer and editor with a background in education. The Liberal Party Council's recent vote to privatise the ABC caused me great concern and prompted me to write this submission.

For as long as I can remember, the ABC has been a campfire to warm myself by. As a young child, I watched Playschool every day, after impatiently waiting for 'the mummies' show' PGR to finish. I was deliciously terrified by The Trapdoor and thrilled by the futuristic adventures of Astro Boy. As a young teenager, I adored the afternoon children's programs, from Captain Planet to Heartbreak High. (And why can't I find anyone else who remembers the cartoon MOT?)

In the evenings my parents would settle down to watch the nightly ABC news, followed by the 7:30 Report (and of course Four Corners on Mondays). Long before I understood what the issues were about, I learned to tell the time by the familiar music that played at the opening and closing of each show. Friday night was crime drama night. I've lost count of the number of times I sat down with Mum and Dad to soak up the latest bleak, fiendishly clever British detective show without the irritating interruption of ads.

It was strange and bewildering to visit friends' houses and find that they watched commercial news programs instead. It all seemed too loud, garish, aggressive and scornful, particularly the current-affairs shows with their constant 'gotcha' exposure of rip-off artists and bludgers. Alien to the cool blue tones and dignified demeanour of the ABC reporters.

Even so, the commercial channels had plenty of entertaining flash and zing. Disney cartoons, game shows, advertisements for must-have toys, the latest hit dramas from edgy North America as opposed to cosy Britain. To my youthful mind, Channels Seven, Nine and Ten were 'cool'.

The ABC wasn't cool. It was important.

In the last decade I've often worked at home, starting at lunchtime and finishing late at night. Before getting stuck in, I listen to ABC Radio National's Conversations with Richard Fidler followed by The World Today. They sell me nothing. They tell me everything. I learn more in those two hours than I did in a week at school. What commercial radio station would devote an entire fascinating hour to a leisurely chat with an ordinary Aussie about their extraordinary life? What commercial radio station has time to stop and think about complicated world politics amid the barrage of ads, wacky noises, competitions and gimmicks?

At other times I enjoy regular Radio National's discussions from political viewpoints as divergent as Philip Adams on the left to Amanda Vanstone on the right. I don't agree with everything they say, just as I don't approve of everyone who appears on Q&A or runs an opinion piece on the ABC news website. In fact, I often hear or read things that make steam come out of my ears. And that's how I know the ABC represents a range of perspectives. The Guardian, now: I agree with that paper almost all the time. It lines up with my personal politics almost perfectly. That's how I know it has a political bias... and that's why I try to double-check its claims on any given day. How? By seeing what the ABC has to say.

In 2017, housesitting for my parents while Cyclone Debbie drenched Queensland, I hauled boxes upstairs (in case the creek out the back overflowed) and listened to Radio National's nonstop emergency coverage tirelessly keep listeners across the state updated and informed. Nobody was trying to sensationalise the disaster. Nobody cared about getting the scoop or winning a ratings war. Just people helping people, keeping the lights on in the dark.

And over the last five years I've watched with sad frustration as the ABC suffers death by a thousand cuts. Ever since the Abbott-Turnbull government took power in 2013, they've been slowly but steadily chipping away at the ABC. Endless funding cuts. Sniping and complaining whenever the ABC's news service dared challenge them or hold them to account. I've watched my beloved ABC eroded until Lateline disappeared, and The World Today was cut in half, and the 7:30 Report was nationalised. I've watched as the ABC has weathered the storm and kept on trying to inform, educate and entertain in the face of gale-force winds. All because our leaders on one side of politics can't take criticism.

This inquiry seems to imply that the ABC (and SBS) enjoy an unfair advantage over commercial media outlets, and that this ought to be resolved in favour of the commercial media. This is like saying that all

dolphins should be killed off to make room for more sharks.

I don't mean to disparage sharks. They're a vital part of the ecosystem, just as commercial media is a vital part of a healthy democracy. I thought sharks were cool when I was a kid, too. I still do. But what matters to sharks is survival. They must swim constantly, forever chasing their next meal. Compassion and deep thought are luxuries sharks can't afford. They smell blood and weakness from far away, and savage their prey without mercy—yet flee the new and strange.

Just as evolutionary pressures have shaped sharks into survival machines, the profit motive shapes commercial media. Commercial outlets can't easily devote themselves to the public good. It's not in their DNA. They provide a service in order to make money. Anything that fails to make money must therefore be sidelined (unless wealthy backers happen to have an ideological axe to grind). Education and sympathy can't compete with the scoop and the front-page headline, because that's what sells, and selling keeps them alive. They must be wary of anything that makes their advertisers skittish—even if that means painting a warped picture of Australia that bears no resemblance to reality. And, of course, they're always tempted to keep their expenses down by lowering the quality of their service.

Brilliant panel ABC comedy shows such as *Good News Week* and *The Glasshouse* have migrated to commercial networks and mutated into crude, callous versions of their original cheeky selves, chasing shock value in a relentless drive for ratings. They can't help it. The imperatives are too different.

It's natural that commercial media outlets should resent the existence of public broadcasters. Sharks no doubt wish that dolphins would just go away and stop annoying them. Both swim in the same water. Both eat fish. Yet the world would be the poorer for the loss of either creature.

Dolphins are affectionate animals. They have time to play. They leap out of the waves for the sheer joy of it. They care for one another—and get into fights, of course. They're far from perfect. But they know what makes life worth living, as opposed to mere survival. They push drowning dolphins (and people) to the surface to breathe. Dolphins aren't cool. Dolphins are warm.

A dolphin fin might resemble a shark's from a distance, but I know which one I'd rather see when I'm trapped in a lifeboat in a stormy sea. In the same way, if a news van turned up outside my house tomorrow, I'd be wary... unless it was the ABC.

Public broadcasting serves the public good. You put money in and you get a service out. It's the polar opposite of commercial media. Public broadcasting is largely free from the ruthless 'swim-swim-hungry' pressures on private media. It has only one overriding remit: to ensure that taxpayers' money is well spent. That's why Australians trust it. I know I can rely on the ABC to keep people in regional areas connected, to pursue tough investigative journalism without the tempting distraction of sensationalist reportage, to examine issues in a balanced way—because its job is to benefit all of us. Not the left, not the right, not the fringes. Everyone.

The ABC's Q&A and *The Drum*, and SBS's *Insight*, allow topical issues to be discussed and politicians to be put on trial by ordinary Australians rather than just media personalities. When I watch these shows or listen to them on the radio, I hear from people from the left, from the right, from the centre, from fringes so far out I can't believe they exist; Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs; Africans, Chinese, Micronesians, Indigenous people, even those weird Americans; artists, polities, comedians, scientists, blue-collar blokes and sheilas, schoolkids and sex workers. People who aren't always conventionally good-looking or slick, like the ones I see on the commercial programs. Instead they show the quirks and complexities of real Australian life in a way the private outlets try their best to gloss over.

The ABC and SBS belong to the taxpayer. I might point out that those taxpayers include all the people employed by the private outlets as well. People who know firsthand the limitations of the commercial business model. I might have compared commercial media outlets to sharks, but I refuse to say the same of the people who work for them. After a hard day's work keeping the shark swimming and feeding, don't they too deserve well-funded, high-quality public broadcasting that can address aspects of their lives the private media can't or won't touch?

Don't they too deserve a 'Mental As' special week of programming that addresses common mental health issues and reassures them they're not alone? Don't they too deserve a Fact Check on news reporting, expert election night coverage, a thoughtful review of the week in politics on *Insiders* and a humorous shredding of their media rivals' excesses on *Media Watch*? Why shouldn't they too get to enjoy programming as whimsical as a Shaun Micallef skit show, dorky and metatextual as *Whovians* or hard-hitting as *Mystery Road*?

Consider The Gruen Transfer, an ABC show that dissects advertising. Surely here is an example of a publicly funded program that benefits commercial media. How could anyone reasonably expect a private media broadcaster to smear its advertising lifeblood under a slide and examine it under the microscope? That would risk offending the companies that keep its heart beating and endanger its very existence. Yet by studying the flaws and follies of advertising, and keeping an eye on its trends, everyone benefits—including the health of the commercial outlets that rely on it. From the perspective of their staff, Gruen ought to be the equivalent of a blood test or a pacemaker.

Public broadcasting belongs to all of us. Including you. Yes, you, sceptical reader of this submission. Do you really believe that Australia would be a better, fairer, kinder place if the ABC and SBS were privatised? If every media outlet behaved like Channel Nine, or Sky News, or Foxtel, hungering after ratings and putting money before people? If the sharks ate the dolphins and replaced them with more of the same? No, of course your inquiry isn't directly concerned with privatisation... but many people, myself included, suspect that it was set up as yet another step along that dangerous path.

As the inquiry itself notes, the greatest pressure on Australian media outlets comes from international corporations such as Facebook and Google—yet the inquiry seems more concerned with possible conflicts within the Australian media. It seems short-sighted to squabble over the proportions of meat and pastry in the Australian pie when the social-media giants are biting huge chunks out of it. They are the real problem commercial media outlets face. Blaming their woes on the ABC and SBS, with whom they have coexisted for almost a century, is nothing but a shortsighted tantrum.

I didn't write this submission to tell you what to think. I wrote it to make you think. That, in the end, is the ABC's job. That's why it should be left alone.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Brisbane, Queensland

[REDACTED]


QLD 4051 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No neg by turnbull

Keep our public broadcaster public..

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


QLD 4157 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep Auntie in the hands of Australians!

It is absolutely imperative that our National Broadcaster is not privatised! As a democratic country we must have an independent broadcaster. Every major source of Australia's News comes from a commercial source, businesses with their own agendas and allegiances. In a nation such as Australia, that prides itself on a fair deal for all must not lose its independent news source and the only real producer of quality, Australian drama and curator of the arts!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2449 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands.

I live in regional NSW and rely on the ABC as a reliable, unbiased news source. On any other radio or television station you are bombarded with advertisements. This is something I can no longer tolerate. ABC presenters are intelligent, informed and fearless - obviously not going to be tugged around by pressure groups and vested interests. Good taste usually prevails! And, yes, some of us do care greatly about such things, and will fight for their preservation. My life would be lesser without the ABC. The ABC needs to stay out of private ownership, where the need for profit and shareholders interests almost always prevail. If something is valuable (and the ABC is) why relinquish it? Our society would suffer enormously if this valuable service was privatised. Democracy itself would be under threat - ie. western and indeed world values!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2463 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep OUR ABC in public hands and reinstate the funding that you have given away to the wealthy so that we can ALL HAVE A VOICE!!

We need to have a public broadcaster so that we know that its reporting is not coloured by obligation to private/corporate interests. The fact that the liberal government and Young Liberal movement want to sell it off means that it is bothersome to them - to me this means that they are subject to transparency which of course they dont like. They forget that the ABC belongs to the people, and that they are only the caretaker - a caretaker, I might add which has reduced the ABC funding so as to reduce its capacity to function - this is called a failure of Duty of Care to the people they represent, whom they seem to have forgotten (unless your well off!!) Why does the government think it has the right to sell off our assets, especially without even asking us. Malcolm Turnbull and crew, be warned - out of all the Big Brother heavy handed stuff you are thrusting on the community that you are supposed to represent, this will be a fatal blow for you. Australians will not stand for a dictatorship - the more power that you give to the likes of Dutton, and the more that you fawn all over Trump, the more Australians will come to regret that you are our representatives - this will be amplified if you sell off the ABC. Shame on you.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3228 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please keep our ABC in public hands.

We are a lucky country to have such quality, unbiased journalism in public hands. Where else can a cadet journalist obtain this standard of training?. Also, Early Learning programs for kids, without commercial advertising, is so important for our future generations when you consider the quality of much of the content on the internet and other news organisations. I urge you to keep the ABC under government control and resist the push to privatize it. For the good of Australia and all Australians. With thanks.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2223 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

An independent ABC is integral to responsible, reliable, trustworthy reporting in Australia. For my entire adult life I have relied on the ABC to provide the facts and uncover wrongs wherever they occur. Now resident in regional Victoria I rely on this service even more to provide news and commentary as well as sport, talk radio and podcasting. Please don't remove this valuable service from public hands. I cannot imagine Australia without this institution. Privatisation will remove so many of the valuable things it provides across Australia.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3749




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public Hands

ABC provides a media outlet that supports creativity, arts and Australian perspective. Do not want it to become another main stream, privately owned channel as we already have several of these!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2483 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please do not privatise the ABC

Dear Inquiry,

Please be informed of my decades long affection and appreciation of the ABC. Be it TV, radio or other medium, they have been a reliable, trusted source of news and entertainment. Sincerely believe the ABC to be a National treasure beyond valuation.

The recent attacks on the ABC appear ludicrous and invariably fail on account of the ABC charter which mandates fair and balanced news and current affairs.

Certainly we do not trust US media moguls to conform to a similar standard and nor do they in practice.

One wonders about the motivation behind such ludicrous attacks. They appear unfounded and lacking in common sense. Nobody could seriously fathom an Australia with Sunrise in the morning and the Bolt Report for Current Affairs, both riddled with advertisements, as an improvement.

It is equally difficult to accept the "luxury we can't afford" argument when we are a wealthy Nation that is arguably wasteful in many other areas while fixated with reducing Govt Revenue at the same time.

Please do not privatise the ABC.

Am sure 8000 Telstra staff would not endorse privatisation either at this time so it is better to leave our treasured ABC in public hands.

Please do not privatise the ABC.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2152 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands at all costs

To all concerned


The reason the ABC has been continually hijacked is because our society is being closed down. Our democratic rights are steadily being eroded in a fine country which has boasted a personal, legitimate freedom second to none.

A healthy society depends on the freedom to give honest opinions and points of view even if they contravene personal bounds of comfort.

The ABC offers broad and unbiased perspectives backed by investigations with integrity. For a government to try to obliterate such a voice merely demonstrates its weakness and not its strength. We should never be afraid of criticism and must always be open to many points of view.

Please consider the long-term health of our great nation and foster not inhibit our ABC. Let's learn to be proud of its achievements not diminish them.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4068 

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:42 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
NSW 2463



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:42 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2463



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC inquiry submission

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to this inquiry.

To set the context and by way of a quick background, I am a retired businessman that has spent my entire working life in the commercial sector running a number of my own successful businesses, with the last one employing just under 200 staff.

It is my sincere belief that the ABC provides a very valuable and alternative counter-balance to the programming that is provided by the major commercial networks in Australia, all of whom are quite well-funded or have access to substantial financial backing. As such it is my belief that it is in the best interest of this country and the well-being of our social democracy that we maintain a well-funded public broadcaster that can provide an independent and different perspective that is not unduly influenced by monetary gain.

One only has to look at the revelations from some of the more recent government inquiries, including, for example, the Royal Commission into the banking sector, to see how commercial interest and monetary gain distorts the process of delivering services that are suppose to take into consideration the well-being and best interest of the public, and skews it to primarily serve either directly or indirectly the self-interest of the commercial entity.

In summary we simply don't need more of the same. Based on my experience in the corporate sector, I see the ABC as making a significant contribution to our society by providing a very valuable independent and complementary service that realistically will probably never be provided by a commercialised entity.

Finally, I am sure that I speak for a large and growing body of concerned and disenfranchised citizens that are utterly fed up with the push by our elected representatives to attempt to commercialise public assets and services with at times little long term regard for the best interest of the public.

Thank you for your consideration.

[REDACTED]

WA 6239 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Leave the ABC the way it is!

I am so grateful when I listen to broadcasters on the ABC that they are not mouthpieces of the people who pay them. They can speak their minds for the most part. This is a vital part of what the ABC is for me and most Australians. Please don't privatise the ABC. Free speech speaks for itself.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3134



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Against the privatisation of the ABC


I most strongly oppose the privatisation of our national broadcaster, the ABC.

A publicly owned broadcaster protects us from inundation by commercially motivated corporations.

A public broadcaster is and should be legislated to provide a balanced presentation on issues. Yes, this means that some of the content will not conform with government platforms, but this is what balance and free speech is all about. A commercial media source is free to present only one side of an issue.

Living in regional Australia, access to the three ABC radio stations is essential for me and my family's listening choices. Would a commercial enterprise continue to provide this?

[REDACTED]

NSW 2444 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not even think of commercialising the ABC

I am desperately concerned about the attacks on The ABC via unjustified public criticism and cuts to its funding and have been deeply pained by it for a long time now. I really cannot imagine why anyone would do other than admire the ABC, for its excellent quality, so have come to the inevitable conclusion that it's political and personal interests that are leading to these attacks. I listen every day to Radio National, have been doing so for some fifty years, and know that a good part of my education about what's going on in the world comes from this. In spite of cuts there are many deeply interesting and worthy programs each of which has involved lots of hard work. In comparison, privately funded stations, both radio and tv, are woeful, feeding pap to the general public as if they have no brains and no serious interests. This must be as a result of their content being determined by their owners, who have no interest in truly educating anyone. The commercialisation of the ABC would be the death of its excellent broadcasting, after generations of people have sweated blood to produce good programs at a low cost. It would dreadfully harm the thinking and right behaviour of many people in our community, and keep true knowledge of science, world affairs, the arts, history and society from them.

I urge all decision makers to look carefully and truthfully at what they are doing here.

In a state of fear and grief, for all of us,

I am sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3184 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I am very worried about the current attacks on the ABC from the Coalition parties and private media organisations. Privately owned Australian media have their own agendas to push. They have to keep their owners and advertisers happy. I am very concerned that if the ABC is abolished or privatised we will lose our only independent media outlet that is truly prepared to scrutinise our government regardless of whatever party is in power. The fact that both major political parties complain about the ABC when they are in power tells me that the ABC is very good at what it does. The ABC keeps the public both informed and entertained without having to kowtow to anyone. As such the ABC is an invaluable and essential asset to democracy in Australia. It must be kept as a publicly owned institution with a charter of independence and it must be secured from oblivion at the hands of any political party.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4551 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:36 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: DON'T PRIVATISE THE ABC

The ABC is the thinking person's free to air TV. The excellent sports programs, drama, and journalistic talent provide quality products unmatched by commercial free to air TV. The ABC also provides a foil to the excesses that totally privatised TV would encourage. The ABC has a good record of producing quality talent and innovative successful programs that, when transferred to commercial TV, could not be maintained. It's vital to have media organisation that is not subject to commercial or proprietorial influences.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

QLD 4163 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:36 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off OUR abc

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3204



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:36 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC as our public asset

The ABC should never be privatised. It is the most powerful tool that our population has to hold corporations and governments to account. It is essential for our democracy and for our improvement as a society. I can understand that the current government doesn't want to keep a healthy, strong voice like this in our society because it holds them to account too. If it wasn't for the ABC our society would be an awful place to live. I can't even count the number of issues that it has forced various state and federal governments to address because it is a public, independent broadcaster. Starting with the corruption of Bjelke-Petersen in Queensland, through black deaths in custody, domestic violence, national disability insurance, mental health support, drug reform - the list of its social good goes on and on and on. It is our asset, not a political football. It must be kept in public hands for the good of all Australians and for our national interest.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2112




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't sell off OUR ABC

I grew up in a conservative, rural family. My father refused to listen to any other radio station than the ABC. Even the cows were made to listen to it during milking times. I have many childhood memories around listening to the ABC particularly in winter, warming my face against the Bakelite radio while listening to childrens' stories. It was a part of my early education with Kindergarten of the Air and later was later used by my parents to extend my world view, to educate me about world affairs, and to increase my general knowledge. Many conversations and discussions were had after the news, This Day Tonight and other programmes. During times of fire, flood or storm the ABC could always be relied on to provide information and support. My brother and I rebelled inevitably and turned to commercial radio and TV. However, I returned to the fold with JJJ and even later still turned to ABC classic FM. I no longer live on a farm but continue to turn to the ABC in times of fire, flood and storm in the area I now live. During my 4-5 hour commute at the beginning and end of my working week the ABC is my constant companion. I no longer listen on a Bakelite radio but listen, read and watch through my phone and other digital equipment. And in case you think it is a generational thing, a work colleague, young enough to be my daughter, listens to the ABC and we frequently discuss our favourite presenters and programmes. The ABC is media for the people, by the people. It is ours. Please leave it that way.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2256 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise our ABC!

I honestly do not know where I would turn to without our publicly funded ABC television & radio!
I wake up in the morning to ABC National breakfast radio. I am informed throughout the day, in my car or on my home radio, about the world, politics, the environment, the arts, health, design, travel, society...the list is almost endless.

In the evenings I prepare dinner to the glorious strains of ABC Classic FM.

I watch the ABC news on TV every night, followed by the 7.30 report & Four Corners on Monday nights. I rely on the ABC for its, I feel, balanced reporting of current affairs. Where else can I find such a wonderful public forum for discussion as on Q&A? Where else can I find new & exciting Australian dramas such as 'Mystery Road'? Where else can I escape advertising & the noise of commercial TV channels? And the cringeworthy spectacle of chequebook journalism??

Please please keep your hands off our ABC or otherwise I will have to disappear completely into the silent world of books.

[REDACTED]

WA 6070



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC IN PUBLIC HANDS

We lived in a number of remote areas of Australia over the years & the ABC was the only means of outside communication. It has over the years always provided quality shows & wonderful documentaries that are very informative. It is comforting to know that it is an unbiased version of any stories that are broadcast by extremely talented journalists. Please keep the ABC the way it is but with more funding so quality shows can continue.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4558 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC publicly funded

I trust the ABC and do not want this inquiry to be used to make changes. They provide my trustworthy source of news and current affairs, and great educational shows and entertainment.

I strongly believe we Australians must keep the publicly funded media as they play a vital role in our democracy. I am most happy and proud to see my taxes used for this worthwhile purpose.

I a sick of them being attacked.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2226 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

It is essential that we retain an independent body to report on and analyse public affairs and to provide quality drama free of advertising.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2086 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

For as long as I can remember, the ABC has existed in some form. I grew up with it and its offerings woven into the fabric of my life. My adult children were raised with it. As a university-level trained pre-school teacher, I valued its educational programs, like Playschool and Sesame Street, for the intelligent contribution they made to their young lives. Now my grandchildren are being raised with the ABC, relishing again Playschool, BTN, the littlest dotting on Peppa Pig and other ABC- kids offerings. It is routine when I care for them to have the ABC- kids channel on for part of the time with the youngest singing along with Playschool presenters and wanting to carry out the 'experiments' and try craft activities.

As an extended family we watch almost no commercial television and find ourselves far from alone among our friends and acquaintances in this. We find commercial television riddled with advertising (rendering any quality programs almost unwatchable), heavy with 'reality' shows and formulaic comedy and drama which contribute little of lasting value to our lives.

We obtain all our news and current affairs from programs on the ABC, agreeing with the majority of Australians surveyed that it is Australia's most trustworthy source. In these days of 'alternative facts', opinion presented as fact, paid advertising masquerading as 'news' and celebrity gossip content, we do not trust commercial sources to fully inform us.


Much has been made of perceived ABC bias. We do not find such a bias. If it existed, it has been eradicated by successive, mostly conservative, governments. The ABC is constantly being held to account for its balance, unlike commercial media. I read that the proposal was to "sell the ABC to a mogul". Rupert Murdoch already owns the greater share of the country's mainstream media landscape and clearly supports through these outlets a conservative agenda. Putting the ABC into a conservative-supporting mogul's hands would further limit the diversity in what is already one of the least diverse mainstream media landscapes amongst modern western democracies. This would be very detrimental to our democracy and our way of life. Governments of any persuasion who purport to favour democracy owe it to their people to allow a balanced flow of information, to be held to account for their actions in governing the people who elected them and facilitate their making informed choices at elections. The failure to facilitate this is a failure of upholding democratic principles.

We are extremely concerned as to what else would be lost if the ABC were privatised and its operation dependent on a purely profit-based approach. Not only would important programs like 7.30, The Drum, Q&A, Media Watch, Four Corners, Landline, Gardening Australia (institutions all) probably go the way of Lateline but there is a strong chance that important cultural content would also be lost. Who would ensure that Australian voices and stories would not sink under the weight of more 'commercial' offerings? Who would protect Indigenous voices and stories? Stories of migrants, those of us who have been fortunate enough to call this land our home and arguably make it the most successful multi-cultural society in the world? Quality Australian drama? Art? Music other than the purely commercial?

We would not support a commercial ABC. Viewing such a cultural institution through a purely monetary lens is to miss the point of what the ABC stands for and the function it has played is making Australians who we are. Selling it would be tantamount to selling part of our Australian character. What monetary value can be placed on our national psyche?

For the sake of all the above and more, I would urge any inquiry to find for keeping the ABC in the hands of those who own it - we the people of Australia.




NSW 2773 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am 77 years of age and have been a devotee of "our ABC" since I was a young child. It has been such an important aspect of my life especially the many years spent in regional areas of New South Wales when it was the only source of trusted news and current affairs. My kids were devoted fans of Playschool and later Countdown and many other similar programs of quality aimed at the young. So many quality drama series have shaped our lives during this time when commercial contributions to the cultural life of so many Australians was non-existent. People of my age have so much to be grateful to the ABC for and the many newsreaders and amazing presenters have enriched our lives, to name a few..James Dibble, Peter Young, Ellis Blain, Ross Symonds, Phillip Adams, Andrew Olle, Paul Lynham, Kerry O'Brien, Richard Morecroft, Paul Murphy, Geraldine Doogue and too many more to name. For too long the Coalition have unfairly attacked the ABC, depriving it of funding and any semblance of support or encouragement for the remarkable achievements of our National broadcaster, accusing it unfairly of bias and hamstringing its effectiveness in every way it possibly could. And now to publicly come out and show their true colours and outlining their aims to privatise this wonderfully independent organisation of which we should all be immensely proud is truly horrifying and misses a crucial point, public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. God forbid that we should end up like the United States, no true public broadcaster, just relying on "fake news". I am very depressed about the possibility of this occurring as the ABC means so very much to me and my whole family.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2046 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I will never vote liberal again if you privatise our ABC

I will never vote liberal again if you privatise our ABC. This is the most quintessential Australian institution and must always stay in public hands.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2450 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC

Very few independent and honest outlets remain in Australian media. Most of it has been taken over by Murdoch interests.

The ABC is a public institution that has served generations of us very well. It is disgraceful that the government, any government, would contemplate privatising it because they don't like some of the opinions presented in ABC programs. More than ever we need a strong, independent outlet for news, information and the expression of opinion not fettered by commercial interests.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3146 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!


I don't want the ABC privatised. My son only watches the ABC as it is commercial free. It is the only channel he can watch where he doesn't have to watch fast food commercials, toy commercials, or any commercials for that matter! Also, we appreciate that the shows on ABC Kids and ABC ME are chosen carefully and are age appropriate for the kids watching.

The ABC is part of our history, part of our culture. There is a broad range of programming for all Australians. If it is privatised, we will be subjected to tv programming geared around the advertisers. The quality of the shows will be brought down to reality tv level which provides cheap/free talent for the tv stations with such low quality output.

There are people working on and off screen at the ABC that otherwise wouldn't get a job in the industry. Take Mystery Road for instance. I loved watching some of our wonderful indigenous actors acting in what was a top quality show.

The news reporting is fair and unbiased. I love that I can watch Leigh Sales interview any politician from any side of politics and interview them in the same way. The ABC provides excellent investigative journalism.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2026 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:28 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't Mess with the ABC

The ABC must not be sold off, or tampered with - it's one of the few remaining sources of independent news and information left to Australians, as well as continuing to provide entertainment (comedies, dramas) that isn't totally "dumbed down". The commercial TV networks nowadays constantly spew out reality-show garbage and not much else; the Fairfax papers are a shadow of their former selves; Murdoch's news and pay-TV outlets are mouthpieces for right-wing groupthink. In an environment like that, I'm more than happy to shell out my four cents a day to pay for the vital service that the ABC provides.

[REDACTED]

WA 6157 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:27 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't Privatisise the ABC!!

The ABC is my most primary source of radio, TV and internet information and entertainment. I love it because there are no ads in between programmes and also their informative and fact driven news and current affairs.


I get treated like an adult on the ABC and I don't have to put up with stupid reality shows and shock jock radio antics.

Iview and ABC podcasts are fantastic, much better than the commercial broadcasters, so why would you sell this fantastic public asset to the highest bidder who will most likely turn it into just another commercial entity where they treat people like dumbies?

We, the public, fund the the ABC and SBS so, among other things, we can have access to niche programming that commercial broadcasters can't or won't deal with because they cannot raise enough funds for them.

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2145 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:27 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC must stay in public hands!

For many years I have enjoyed the material broadcast by the ABC and SBS. More importantly, however, I turn to the ABC and SBS for accurate, spin free news and current affairs programs. The discussions viewed on programs such as Q&A have frequently astounded me as I watch members of the audience (usually a pretty even mixture of labour and coalition supporters) pose questions that ordinary Australians do not often get to ask of people such as the panel members. Panel responses are frequently revealing, but have also created change on many an occasion.

The recent statement by Ged Kearney (a non hard right person) re asylum seekers and detention centres is a case in point as she promised to ask questions about detention centres many of her cohorts have been too afraid to ask.

On top of this, I rely on the ABC and SBS, through programs such as Four Corners, to educate me on matters such as climate change, plastic pollution, social media and world events.


Of course, when it comes to radio there are very few reporters and program hosts on commercial radio who come even close to the high calibre of people such as Fran Kelly, Sabre Lane, Richard Fidler and Richard Glover, to name just a few.

The question is: What if the ABC and SBS became privatised? In my opinion the risk of such a thing occurring is huge. We would then be at risk of dumbing down the population through the broadcast of mindless, trivial programs. We would also be subjected to statements and spin so outrageous in their audacity that they could be described as propaganda in many instances.

The Australian population is entitled to better than this!

The ABC and SBS in private hands would be disastrous on many levels, including the probable manipulation of reports prepared for broadcast where these reports may affect the profits of vested interests.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2540 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:23 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must not be privatised

It is critically important that the ABC should not be privatised. It is precisely because the ABC is independent and publicly funded that it is a reliable news source unswayed by commercial - or political - interests.

It is deeply disturbing that the Coalition seems bent on either privatising the ABC, or inflicting 'death by a thousand cuts' - this creates the impression that the Government fears scrutiny. As Van Badham expressed it in The Guardian, "The ABC's independent oversight is to encourage governments to higher, better standards of public service. And this government looks to be actually scared of it."

Value is not defined only in monetary terms, and the value of the ABC as an independent broadcaster is irreplaceable.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7000 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:22 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

I am writing to you about the proposal to sell off the ABC. I have been an avid listener and watching if programs from the ABC for more than 60 years.

I cannot imagine how the wider needs of Australians can be served by selling the ABC to commercial interests

How will diverse views be presented with programs like the Science Show, Back Roads, Four Corners, the Music Show, AM and PM, Late Night Live, and QnA to name but a few interesting and thought provoking programs.


In contrast the commercial media is in the hands of too few owners with mostly unquestioning presenters who do little to challenge people to think and question.

I want to express my very deep concerns about the recent attack's and budget cuts to the ABC by the current government and am truly appalled at the thought the ABC could be sold off!

Sincerely

Professor [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3220 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:19 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC provides an invaluable service to the community, as it has for years and years.

No other station provides the variety of content and depth of community responsibility. At times of crisis, it is the ABC that keeps us informed.


We can turn to the ABC for a wide range of music - from classical, to jazz, country, and rock. It is also the ABC that invites its audience to participate in formulating "Top 100" lists.

For the latest in news and views, the ABC can be relied upon to provide up-to-date, relevant and (most importantly) unbiased reporting.

We know that the ABC will provide appropriate content for our children, as well as keeping the adults entertained with more edgy and satirical programs.

The ABC is informative, entertaining, plus is an excellent corporate citizen. This can be said of no other media organisation and is something that may well be lost or compromised if the ABC is privatised. This must not happen.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2130 

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:15 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

SA 5022 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please keep ABC in our hands..

The ABC is an integral part of our family life. From our three year old daughter delighting in Peppa Pig and Play School to us sitting down for some quiet time watching The Gruen, Grand Design and many more. Privatising the ABC would turn it into just another boring, commercialy cladded, tasteless, mind numbing station full of shows we will never watch.

If you are serious about thinking about what Australians want, it is certainly not to privatise the ABC.
Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

QLD 4227



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:13 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

Another Turnbull/LIBERAL?? (Read SOCIALIST/COMMUNIST) attack on the ABC - lets get rid of him & his party & KEEP the ABC !!

[REDACTED]

QLD 4879



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:10 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC - an essential light in democracy

Today we live in a world where the consumers of media are a product to be analysed, mined and sold off to advertisers and distributors of propaganda. The ABC provides a service that doesn't rely on advertising and so is able to offer people access to news, current affairs and entertainment without mining their data for profit. Without an independent media outlet like the ABC, then we will not have an informed electorate and democracy will die, auctioned off to the highest bidder. I fully understand that whoever is in government won't like the ABC - it is part of the ABC's job to hold government to account and if it does not question the government then it is not doing its job - regardless of who is in government.

The only true Australian investigative journalism on television today is to be found on the ABC, but it's not just investigative journalism where the ABC stands out. It's the only place parents can get curated children's entertainment free from advertising. If you have been paying attention, you may have seen reports about inappropriate content on the YouTube Kids app - this is where the commodification of audiences heads in an unregulated for-profit environment.

Triple J has provided Australian youth with a place where important issues are discussed in a way they can relate to. Hack provides a slant on news and current affairs not to be found on commercial media. Unearthed has given many Australian artists their break because commercial radio doesn't want to take a chance on someone who hasn't reached a critical mass of audience.

Landline is the only TV show I know dedicated to rural issues.

The ABC is the only station presenting thoughtful examination of religion in the world today (instead of just beaming evangelist preachers into people's living rooms) through Compass and the Religion and Ethics Report.

ABC Science (on Facebook and radio) provides knowledgeable commentary on scientific discoveries and happenings in the world - I can't think of any science-based shows on commercial media.

Drama - while commercial media does have some locally produced content, the ABC and SBS have punched well above their weight with this. Local content provides local jobs, not just for actors, but production crews, accountants, caterers and everyone involved.

Starving the ABC of funds is just as bad as privatising it. It needs to be properly funded to do its job. Its job is not to compete with commercial media - as I have shown it provides a different service to commercial media. We are all Australians, but commercial media will only cater to those it can monetise with shows that polarise and divide us.

Please fund the ABC properly and do not privatise it.

QLD 4035



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:09 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC is part of the common wealth of our country.

Having been to NZ and seen the disgraceful TV & radio they have our ABC is a public treasure. Pity it does not suit your right wing views. So much of our common wealth has been privatised you are dicing with many, many votes. I listen only to ABC radio and TV, how dare you try to sell of our public broadcaster.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2622 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: NO NO NO to privatising our precious ABC !!

neoliberalism at it's finest!! what else do you want to take away?? The ABC is the only source of our best Australian comedy, drama, documentary and political content not to mention the importance the ABC has for our children.. You're voting yourselves out of government- Pleeese leave our precious ABC in public hands so we can continue to enjoy such marvelous content that the ABC provides for ALL Australians..

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2646




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Paying for the ABC

Sure the ABC is financed by taxpayers, but so is commercial television. Commercial TV is paid for by advertisers and the cost of advertising is included in the cost of products which are bought by us, the taxpayers. We are all consumer, we have to consume to live so we all pay for the advertisement that pay for commercial TV whether we watch it or not. And advertising may well be included in the "expenses" that producers claim from the tax office.making it a double whammy.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5044 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatisation of the ABC

I was completely horrified when the Liberal Party Council voted to privatise the ABC. Where else can we get independent news and investigations. All private media is beholden to vested interests namely making financial profit for their owners. Do not rob us of our national, independent broadcaster.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2785 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Public ABC

please keep the ABC public and impartial at all times. thanks.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7025 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is crucial in maintaining and increasing the Social, economic and political awareness of the Australian people; it must remain in public hands.

I am now 66 years of age. I grew up in regional NSW in a town where ABC Radio was not readily available, however, since moving to the Coastal NSW in my adult years, Radio National is one of the main sources of my ongoing social, economic and political awareness and education. It has allowed me to continue the process of adult learning post tertiary education.

With regard to ABC TV, since the mid 1960's it has been a constant and reliable source of accurate news and editorial comment etc. In addition to this, ABC TV taught me about irony, satire, quality drama etc., and with programs like 4-Corners, about social responsibility and accountability. No commercial enterprise could ever match that, or dare I say it, even attempt to match it.

Without public ownership of the ABC, Australians would be a much 'dumber' and more easily manipulated people.

That being said, it also needs to be said that sometimes I have felt that some ABC news editors and journalists need to more fully appreciate the difference between being a journalist and a propagandist. The ABC must become increasing vigilant in adhering to its charter regarding balance and impartiality.

I would contend that commercial media has little awareness of the difference between journalism and propaganda, and seemingly little desire to become aware.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2250 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Do not privatize our ABC. It must always be in public hands!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2580



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public - our valued public independent broadcaster

The ABC is important to me and my community in Alice Springs NT, especially as we are in a remote area of Australia. It is our only source of more "local" news, pertinent to our area. (ch 7, 9 & 10 are broadcast to us from Qld).

We are also very concerned about truthfulness and trust in our news sources. We trust the ABC, and even if they ever make a mistake or misrepresentation of facts, they will do a fact check, and make the necessary corrections. This is important to me.

The biases on commercial tv, and as expressed by most of their frontline staff, are palpable and obvious - they are good journalists but they also want to keep their jobs. Consequently, their opinions and slant on news is obviously dictated by the private owners present biases, alliances and interests.


Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our fading democracy and should not be compared with commercial media, or forced into that business model. Therefore the very premise of the inquiry (to see if the ABC and SBS have any advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses a crucial point.

Their real advantage to us is that they are more trustworthy and reliable in the choices, coverage and delivery of news and social issues.

I am greatly concerned about the ongoing attacks and cutbacks on our ABC by the Coalition, as are many other people in our community. They already exert too much control, influence and get the support of commercial media - it is obvious.

Please keep our ABC independent, public and immune from privatisation and destruction.

[REDACTED]
Alice Springs NT

[REDACTED]
NT 0870 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC must remain public

No way are you going to win an election trying to commercialise the ABC.
Forget it.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2034 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No privatising or selling of the ABC.

The ABC is the only reliable and UNBIASED news source available to Australians. If there is no public funded ABC we will have to rely on commercial right-wing biased news organisations and radical left-wing biased websites for news and current affairs. Not a method of getting accurate news. The ABC has always been unbiased in its approach to either right or left issues and politicians from all sides get thoroughly grilled like they should. Hands off the ABC. No privatisation of the ABC.

[REDACTED]

WA 6153



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 3:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC should NEVER be privatised

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. It gives me unbiased coverage of what is happening in Australia and beyond. It is not influenced by 'big business' because it is not dependent on them for its continuation (UNLESS YOU GO AND CHANGE THINGS). It has provided in the past - less so due to all the budget cuts) quality programs and programs that are important to significant minorities - like those interested in the Arts, farming communities etc. Australia will be a much poorer place intellectually, emotionally and creatively without the ABC in Public Hands. PLEASE DO NOT DO IT AND PLEASE RESTORE SOME DECENT FUNDING TO IT SO THAT THE MANY GOOD PEOPLE AND THINGS IT HAS LOST CAN BE RESTORED.

Thankyou

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3068 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:59 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in our hands

The ABC is the only source of quality Australian media content in this country. I am sick and tired of Liberal Party/IPA/conservative bashing of our public broadcaster. They seem unable to handle any public scrutiny. Quality independent and local journalism is essential for an informed community. Don't hurt our ABC anymore than you already have!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3068




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:59 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is a National Treasure. It is the depository of all our Emotions.

The ABC is Australian! It has recorded all our joy and grief since the 1930's and brought Australians together as a Nation during external conflict and internal crisis due to acts of mother nature. We can't allow the people "who know the price of everything and the value of nothing" destroy our NATIONAL TREASURE!
The ABC is Priceless and must remain in the hands of the Public.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


WA 6018 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Inquiry

Recent proposals by members of the Liberal Party and the IPA pose a serious threat to one of Australia's great and enduring institutions, the ABC. I wish to add my voice to those Australians who wholeheartedly endorse the value of the ABC as a public broadcaster. Survey after survey finds the ABC among the most trusted national institutions in an environment rife with distrust. My own family, for several generations, has respected the ABC, its programs, programmers and personalities as a source of entertainment, information and diverse opinion. It is appalling that the voices of a small number who cannot cope with diverse opinions or indeed democratic and objective questioning - and here I refer to Senator Hanson, the Minister for Communications and other associates of the IPA in and out of parliament - to be given pre-eminence in decision making about this respected national voice. Indeed, I recently heard the Treasurer make the claim that 'I fund it.' It is the people of Australia who fund the ABC, via the government of the day, and I submit most strongly that the destructive voices calling for the privatisation of the ABC be treated for what they are - a noisy minority. Australia needs a strong, independent, well funded and fearless national broadcaster now more than ever. I ask the inquiry to consider my submission as a portrayal not only of my views but as that of many others including those who regularly express their trust in the ABC via surveys, and more close to home in my case, all members of my family from those in their 90s to those in their 30s. Hands off. Leave the ABC to get on with what it has done so well for so long, and allow it to continue to play its essential role in our fragile and precious democracy.

[REDACTED]

NT 0820 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands.

When one considers the devastating world events of the 20th century, a consistent feature of totalitarian nations was the lack of free press, the lack of independent critique, the lack of public debate. It is frightening how immature and short sighted is the current Coalition attitude to the ABC. The ABC has a proven record of a strong, rich, positive contribution to Australian culture and public debate. The ABC provides services to the nation that cannot be provided as comprehensively as if they were provided under free market conditions where profit is the bottom line. We are finding this in many other areas in Australia where utilities have been privatized. Australians have been proud of the ABC, and with justification. It is sad to see our politicians using such a national asset, an asset of such immense value, as a political football. The petty criticisms being made of late by government MPs of reputable journalists is embarrassing. Apart from forcing the ABC to waste scarce resources on the need to defend themselves against such pettiness, it is also highlighting how a government cannot engage in robust, healthy, free and frank public debate.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3717 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC on public hands

ABC provides an unbiased view on issues that affect all ordinary Australians. Programs such as 730 and Four corners allow ordinary Australians to participate fairly in the economic and social development of this beautiful country.

I am very concern with the attacks of the Coalition on ABC. Trying to privatise ABC is wrong and should not be allowed.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

QLD 4870 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep our ABC in public hands

My family were brought up on ABC radio and TV now that they are parents themselves they also see the benefit of the ABC for their children. It would be a loss to the Australian community to have the ABC sold off to commercial operators, one only has to look at commercial channels to realise what rubbish the present as news and entertainment.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


VIC 3150 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise our ABC

As a tax payer I DO NOT WANT the ABC privatised. I value its even-handedness, and question how this role could be performed by the private sector. Eric Abetz and his mates believe the ABC is biased, but independent reviews show this not to be the case. This indicates that any alternative they preferred would have an inevitable bias to the right which is already well represented by Murdoch and his ilk. I have grown up listening to the ABC, for its news services, its home-grown children's programs and its sports coverage. Now I watch ABC television where I can enjoy uninterrupted drama, fair and honest political reporting, and an unparalleled news service. And its emergency service broadcasting should not be forgotten either. It's my ABC, and I don't want it sold!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3130 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands.

No government has the right to privatise our ABC. Do so at your peril.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2580



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!


I am deeply concerned at the prospect of the ABC being privatised or in any way curtailed in its ability to offer a truly public broadcaster for the people of Australia.

The Coalition's attacks on our ABC is disturbing and will impact the balance of journalism and content in our country.

The very premise of the inquiry (to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses a crucial point. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. We have enough commercial media and don't need any more.

The ABC and SBS are an investment in our community and not a cost - they are irreplaceable and to lose them would be devastating.

[REDACTED]


SA 5074 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Potential Smashing of the ABC

Don't privatise our treasured ABC! This valuable and unique broadcaster needs to stay in public hands.

[REDACTED]


TAS 7250 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: proposal to privatise the ABC

I am shocked to think Members of the Liberal party can sink so low as to pander up to commercial interests. The ABC is Australia's greatest source of unbiased news and the most intelligent analysis of events. In addition it provides really intelligent talks on a wide variety of topics. I am particularly referring to Radio National. Television .has clearly been affected by funding cuts which conservative government have imposed. However it does not have advertising interruptions which are one of the greatest irritations of most other media outlets.
Do not privatise the ABC.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WA 6153 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am an avid ABC viewer and I am completely against the privatisation of what I consider a great asset.
Please don't change anything.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2287




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The government serves us, the people, and we want to keep our ABC in public hands

We need our much loved and respected independent broadcaster to remain independent - even if to rocks the boat from time to time. It is critical that our government, whatever party, is challenged to serve us, the people, and the ABC is an important part of that. Once in private hands we have lost our greatest media asset, the people's asset.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3182 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't Sell Our ABC !!

Submission to the ABC inquiry.

Thank you for accepting my submission.

The ABC in this country is a very longstanding , highly respected pillar of Australian culture. It is a publicly funded institution of the very highest repute, and gives back to the taxpayers funding it, incredibly insightful coverage of all aspects of life in this country and around the world.

All other commercial media outlets are bereft of similar diversity, scope, editorial standards, news, current affairs, political debate, rural reporting, arts and culture, etc etc...


To think of it in the hands of private profit driven corporations totally dependent on spruiking the ideology of its advertisers is abhorrent.

The ABC is totally supported by the vast majority of the community and time and time again comes out on top as the most trustworthy of all media outlets. It is the envy of the world in terms of public broadcasting.

It believes in intelligent debate NOT rampant ideology.

To sell it off would be nothing short of a crime and totally against the interests of Australia.

Thank You

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Dear Sir,

I am a first generation Australian - my parents having arrived in the 1950s from nations in which the media was nothing more than a propaganda tool for government. At the present time, the Australian government appears determined to rid itself of the ABC as we know it - a broadcaster which for millions of Australians acts as a conscience. They will - if unopposed - succeed, and we will have truly taken that first step on the road to totalitarianism.

The ABC MUST remain in public hands.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4053 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

The ABC is a cornerstone of our democracy where all views are aired and which is most trusted by the community. it would be a great tragedy to lose this exemplary organisation to private and biased minds. Please ensure the ABC survives as a publicly funded institution.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3052 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: It's OUR ABC

The ABC is a national treasure. It caters for the very youngest to the oldest of Australians. The ABC brings us Australian news, stories, kids content every day.


I love our iconic Classic FM radio station. I am a Playschool and Bananas in Pyjamas fan. I need to be kept informed by the investigative journalism of Foreign Correspondent and 4 Corners. I appreciate the sharp wit and truth of shows such as The Weekly and Mad As Hell. I would certainly want to be kept informed of natural disasters to keep me safe.

There is already too much Murdochcracy within our Australian media. Our ABC needs to preserve a strong and independent voice.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2287 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC must remain public

This government is blatantly working to remove democracy from Australia. This is just another ploy to achieve their goal. I am adamantly opposed to the Liberal Party and their consistent efforts to sell Australia out from under the Australian people. Boo.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7304




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public hands

Listening to Commercial Stations drives me mad as the Programs have no quality, particularly the music which can only appeal to the lowest common denominator. I only watch Commercial TV when they broadcast sport which the ABC should be doing

[REDACTED]

VIC 3103 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: A public and independent ABC

After 40 years in the UK, I learned to value the independence and broad programming of the BBC. Back in Australia, thank goodness I've found the ABC is still the national treasure that I remembered. TV and radio news and current affairs are balanced and intelligent; arts and lifestyle programs are thoughtful and perceptive. A commercialised ABC would be at the mercy of advertisers and vested interests. As a committed fan of ABC News, 7.30, Four Corners, Q&A, RN and Classic FM, I do NOT want my viewing and listening interrupted with commercials or dumbed down to inflate viewing figures. Public broadcasting is a vital element in a healthy democracy and we should be proud of our ABC.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2088 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Public owned broadcasting is important

I dont want the ABC privatised because then it wont have a point of difference from all the other boradcasters.

I dont want the ABC privatised because, it is more impartial when owned by Australians.

I want ABC to stay as it is, so that it can continue to be critical of things that occur, and it can continue to comment on injustice without fear or favour.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3015



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC away from commercial channel rubbish

It is the only channel worth watching apart from AFL games, privatise it and we will end up with the same endless rubbish you now get on the other commercial channels.

[REDACTED]

WA 6157



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No privatisation of the ABC

Here are some things I would miss if my ABC was privatised:

. Interviews with a wide variety of guests on a wide variety of topics thanks to Radio Nationals mornings program, Saturday Extra and the Government for funding them and other great programs such as:

. 4 Corners. Investigative journalism covering situations that deserve a good public airing because of their effects on Australian society.

. The Insiders. I like the informality of discussions between experienced journalists' analysis of current events.

. The Q and A format which allows audience questions to be answered by a diversity of interesting guests. I feel I can get to know that panelists and what is important to them in this kind of format.

For my money the ABC is as close to demonstrating the epitome of the ideals of a democratic society as a program can. A privatised ABC would have to be answerable to sponsors. It wouldn't be for the service of the public then.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2250 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

Please do not privatise the ABC as we have too many stations already with excess advertising that are making our nation fat. we also need good healthy documentary and drama's that give a good Australian content related to our culture and diversity. This takes years to build up and very little to dismantle with short-sighted poll-driven politicians. Ratings really should not be the bottom line.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2110



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: MY ABC FOREVER

Has anyone in "Government", their families or friends ever watch commercial TV programs only, even for part of a day or week?? If they did, they would very quickly come to the conclusion that all is not particularly well in that sector.

If the ABC was commercialised, who would then supply them with the blueprint for their ideas for a "new show" and their endless repeats of original ABC programs.

SAVE THE COMMERCIAL CHANNELS by decent funding for the ABC as they depend on it AND my sanity does too!

Why are these "PUBLIC SERVANTS" so afraid of MY AUNTY?

[REDACTED]

QLD 4370 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:29 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: don't sell OUR abc

we Australians don't want our institutions flogged off. the ABC is not a thing to sell. it is a part of our country and culture. sell the Liberal party instead- it is obsolete and useless.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2036




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:28 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC as a public broadcaster.

The ABC is one of the few media sources that you can rely on to provide quality information. Without the constraints of commercial interests the ABC is able to provide fair and impartial reports on all matters of interest to everyone. The ABC is a most valuable community resource that should receive more funding and support from all governments. I strongly oppose the privatisation of the ABC. In a world being changed by fake news, opinion and a disregard for scientific knowledge it is vital to keep the ABC as strong, robust community voice.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3228 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:22 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not sell off or sabotage Australia's ABC!

Democracy, working properly, remains a contentious and hard won privilege for citizens. In a complex society, citizens need to be able to monitor various channels of information regarding institutions and influences that are beyond their daily experience.


Wealthy, partisan or sectarian interests have proven prone, over too many years, to aggregate, slant and monopolise most channels of communication they operate. This frequently disadvantages citizens without sufficient means of reply in the communal discourse.

In the 2018 world, Australia's ABC is one of too few examples of independence, efficiency and open debate from many viewpoints that truly supports the processes of peaceful democracy.

Significantly, the ABC also provides entertainment and education services to children and adults, democratically available to all citizens regardless of their means.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

NSW 2515 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do NOT privatise the ABC.

The ABC is an unbiased (according to endless reviews) source of information. Its reporters do their best to provide true and useful information. It has none of the advertisements (lies) which make privately owned media intolerable to me. Privatising the ABC would remove a vital unbiased news source and create yet another unwanted lowbrow, ad-saturated, externally influenced mindless blather channel.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3016




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

An emphatic NO to privatising the ABC. This channel is the only one keeping me watch free to air TV. Its a great channel, once gone we will never get it back, it would be a great disservice to the people of Australia. Not everything is about profit

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2456 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:16 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is a shared public asset and as such, provides free information and entertainment for the populace without a focus on satisfying shareholders. Privatisation would change the focus to money making and possibly limit access for those who are unable/unwilling to pay for its services.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2782 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Dear Mr. Turnbull and Co,

The ABC must NOT be privatised We don't want ANOTHER station that has to cowtow to advertisers!
DON'T do this!

Jai Guru Dev ("Hail Divine Teacher"] this means I'm acknowledging the spiritual "spark" in you ! as we are each other's teachers),

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrs.) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3215



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Dear Mr. Turnbull and Co,

The ABC must NOT be privatised We don't want ANOTHER station that has to cowtow to advertisers!
DON'T do this!

Jai Guru Dev ("Hail Divine Teacher"] this means I'm acknowledging the spiritual "spark" in you ! as we are each other's teachers),

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrs.) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3215




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Privatisation

I am passionate about the ABC and have been listening and viewing the ABC for most of my life. If you privatise the ABC, we will lose intelligent discussion as well as the broad range of topics that it covers, that will be lost to the cheap profit motive of privatisation and it will be killed stone dead. It will then be relegated to the inane babble of commercial radio, that is radio for the brain dead. This will further add to the dumbing down of our society.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


VIC 3182 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Privatisation

I am passionate about the ABC and have been listening and viewing the ABC for most of my life. If you privatise the ABC, we will lose intelligent discussion as well as the broad range of topics that it covers, that will be lost to the cheap profit motive of privatisation and it will be killed stone dead. It will then be relegated to the inane babble of commercial radio, that is radio for the brain dead. This will further add to the dumbing down of our society.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3182 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Dear Mr. Turnbull and Co,

The ABC must NOT be privatised We don't want ANOTHER station that has to cowtow to advertisers!
DON'T do this!

Jai Guru Dev ("Hail Divine Teacher"] this means I'm acknowledging the spiritual "spark" in you ! as we are each other's teachers),

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrs.) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3215



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Dear Mr. Turnbull and Co,

The ABC must NOT be privatised We don't want ANOTHER station that has to cowtow to advertisers!
DON'T do this!

Jai Guru Dev ("Hail Divine Teacher"] this means I'm acknowledging the spiritual "spark" in you ! as we are each other's teachers),

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrs.) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3215



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Dear Mr. Turnbull and Co,

The ABC must NOT be privatised We don't want ANOTHER station that has to cowtow to advertisers!
DON'T do this!

Jai Guru Dev ("Hail Divine Teacher"] this means I'm acknowledging the spiritual "spark" in you ! as we are each other's teachers),

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrs.) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3215



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:12 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC!

It is with total dismay that I think of a privatised ABC. Some of my most treasured memories relate to experiences 'with' the ABC. Listening to the radio as a child; watching Playschool with my children; watching Peppa Pig with my grand children. If I want commercial media I currently have a lot of choice. Why is the Liberal Party so determined to restrict the diversity on offer?

I note there is never any complaint about Ian McNamara and his conservative views. I am left to conclude the privatisation is an attack on free speech and an attempt to control political debate.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3145



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC publicly funded

Every democracy requires oversight. Australia is no different.

Part of that oversight is a fearless and independent media body; a public broadcaster.

For exactly the same reasons we insist upon an independent judiciary (guaranteed by tenure and wages), so too must we insist upon an independent media.

Further, the ABC also fills a vital role of carrying programming which could not be well monetised by advertising, and definitely should not be monetised by advertising (all of ABC Kids and most of ABC Me).

Only those with something to hide would wish the ABC were privatised.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5152



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC must not be privatised

Growing up in country New South Wales, we depended on the ABC for both our news and entertainment and, in the 75 years since then, succeeding generations of our family have continued to find our public broadcaster our most objective and accountable news source, with a far higher reputation for quality, objective investigation and reporting than its commercial, opinion-promoting competitors. We believe that a taxpayer funded ABC plays a fundamental and irreplaceable role in our democracy and must not be privatised.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2611




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

Please keep the ABC in the public domain. It's a great source of unbiased opinions . And isn't dominated by shock jocks. It's my main way of being entertained and informed regards [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2046 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Selling off the ABC is 'Un-Australian'!

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation has been an important part of my life - my grandfather, my father, my mother, my sisters, my partner and I, and my children have all loved the ABC in different eras. We have grown up informed by its television and radio services, watched amazing programs for children - made in Australia - incredible Australian dramas, and kept abreast of current affairs - both locally and further afield - reported by amazing journalists. We have seen programs we would never have found on the commercial TV networks.

The thought of that broadcasting 'service' becoming a commercial enterprise is saddening - I can't understand what motivates this discussion?

Anyone who has travelled to the United States from Australia and tried to watch TV will wonder where they have landed - you are bombarded by people trying to sell, sell, and sell - blatantly and with more subtlety - there are public broadcasters, and once you find them it is with a sigh of relief.

Please preserve a great Australian icon for future generations!

It is the Australian Broadcasting Service.....

Thank-you for your time.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2578



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC has always represented for its ardent supporters, and for others who use its many resources, a reliable, up to date, objective, deep and wide source of information on all aspects of life in our local areas, states, nation and the world at large. In a world awash with information that ranges from truth through to flights of fancy and plain disinformation, the ABC is a beacon of high standard research and reporting, excellent journalism and valuable educational programming. We must retain the public broadcaster in its current form and role as the gold standard for reliable news and information in our precious democracy.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2025 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC has never been more crucial.

Fewer and fewer media outlets have the resources or will to undertake serious investigative journalism. The work the ABC does in this area is iconic in world terms. The recent Four Corners series on Russia is a case in point. So much of what the ABC can not be evaluated in financial terms. Should it be privatised so many of the vital contributions would be lost. Democracy faces threats on a number of fronts. The loss of our independent public broadcaster would greatly damage the democratic way of life we have enjoyed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2795 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

Privatizing the ABC risks losing the honest and open reporting on news and current events the ABC is known for. Privately owned commercial stations are known to present biased viewpoints when they are run and influenced by companies or people with a certain agenda, be it political or otherwise. Don't subject the ABC to this kind of risk. It is the wrong thing to do!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2042




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC as a public institution

I first listened to the Argonauts in 1950 at the age of 5. The ABC has remained an important part of my life ever since. I value the quality and integrity of its programs as well as their entertainment value. As someone with limited mobility and vision, ABC radio is my constant companion, in particular Radio National has programs on a wide variety of subjects which are unlikely ever to be covered by commercial stations. The online platforms have made many programs available on demand, thus adding to their accessibility. I also highly regard Classic FM which makes a unique contribution to the musical life of the country through its live music broadcasts and its promotion of local classical musicians.

It is simply not true that all these services are readily available through commercial providers. I have focused on ABC radio as many other submissions will focus on TV but I value it highly as well. The ABC has developed in line with changes in technology and consumer preferences. It should not be punished for doing a great job and fulfilling its obligations to the Australian people.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2031 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 2:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC as a public institution

I first listened to the Argonauts in 1950 at the age of 5. The ABC has remained an important part of my life ever since. I value the quality and integrity of its programs as well as their entertainment value. As someone with limited mobility and vision, ABC radio is my constant companion, in particular Radio National has programs on a wide variety of subjects which are unlikely ever to be covered by commercial stations. The online platforms have made many programs available on demand, thus adding to their accessibility. I also highly regard Classic FM which makes a unique contribution to the musical life of the country through its live music broadcasts and its promotion of local classical musicians.

It is simply not true that all these services are readily available through commercial providers. I have focused on ABC radio as many other submissions will focus on TV but I value it highly as well. The ABC has developed in line with changes in technology and consumer preferences. It should not be punished for doing a great job and fulfilling its obligations to the Australian people.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2031 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: DO NOT privatise the ABC

I would like to strongly protest against any proposal to privatise the ABC. I believe that independent unbiased content for the media is essential for our or any democratic society. The ABC has greatly contributed to all aspects of my life, and been an important part of forming who I am as a young Australian through education and entertainment.


I greatly value the News and all current affairs programs such as 7;30 Report, Four Corners, Q and A, Australian Story etc. I am also very pleased to have the regular inspiration from the Gardening Australia program. Growing up, the ABC childrens' programs, such as PlaySchool greatly impacted me and helped develop my creativity. Getting older, shows such as the Chasers War on Everything taught me the importance of questioning the media and current events. The drama ABC puts on is integral to growing Australian talent and providing us with inspirational or challenging television: something so important to have when alternatives are mindless and shadow programs like The Batchelor. The ABC acts as a platform for an artform in this way.

I cannot list all of the wonderful and important shows that have enriched my life! I really do not want to lose this.I

will not vote for a political party that chooses to privatise the ABC, which would make one of our greatest assets - our unbiased media - something that will shift and change by influence of making money and be open to bias.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3068 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

I love the ABC and their programming excellence. I like that the public can contribute to that quality and content. It is an institution of integrity and innovation. Don't touch it please!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2550 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public!!!!!!!

The ABC should never become a private corporation because it will aim to make profit, not to educate the public in a neutral manner and/or from a range of perspectives, including a critical perspective!

[REDACTED]

WA 6050




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do NOT privatise or sell the Australian Broadcasting Commission

I am a payer of tax in Australia and I am more than happy to pay my ten cents per day, or whatever it costs to properly fund the ABC. The ABC must not become beholden to commercial or other factional elements so it can continue to maintain its independence on programming, news reporting and editorial opinion. I value this independence because I feel that the broadcaster offers the truth, rather than some altered version that reflects the needs and opinions of the commercial owners and advertisers. It is essential that the ABC maintain its independence so that it can report truth without fear of commercial consequences. Do not privatize, or otherwise move the ABC into a position where it must report first to commercial interests. There is already too much political interference in the ABC, especially in regard to funding cuts and "efficiency dividends". Just keep the ABC as it is but double its funding so it can perform its intended function as an independent broadcaster.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2031 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

We need the ABC

[REDACTED]

VIC 3050 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:52 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

I am deeply concerned with the Government inquiry into the competitive neutrality of the national broadcasters.

This inquiry is asking the wrong question completely. Our national broadcasters should not be treated as competitors to commercial concerns. They should be treated as exactly what they are: Providers of a public service that is key to our democratic processes.

I place enormous value on the ABC and SBS as independent sources of programming and news. They represent the population of Australia. The same cannot be said of commercial stations, which represent the interests of their boards, their shareholders, and where ever the next advertising dollar can be made (but certainly not Australians). I also note that a) the social and economic value both the ABC and SBS far outweighs their cost to taxpayers and b) in spite of the whining of Pauline Hanson and the nasty right wing of the Liberal Party (Hi Eric!), both broadcasters are even handed in the criticisms of all parties.

If commercial broadcasters cannot succeed due to two national broadcasters that are operating on shoe string budgets, then the problem clearly lies with the commercial operators, and these commercial operators, in the interests of their shareholders, should exit the market.

This inquiry is a waste of tax payer money and should be ended immediately. the only appropriate recommendation from this inquiry is that the current funding for both the ABC and SBS is inadequate and should be increased.

However, if you need a response addressing the specifics of the inquiry: our national broadcasters operate in a manner that far exceeds the minimum requirements for competitive neutrality, and this inquiry remains a waste of taxpayer money (unlike the ABC and SBS).

[REDACTED]

WA 6012



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:51 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Its our ABC and its so good it actually needs more funding

I have always felt that the abc is a part of the fabric of the Australian culture which covers a wide range of the social issues & news and in my eyes seems the most unbiased of all the options for news and in depth conversation. If it was to be privatised or possibly worse starved of funds until its has to stop then it would be mark a point where Australia is truly changing for the worse.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2538




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:51 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep OUR ABC in public hands !

I am sick and tired of governments trying to push through privatisation of the ABC. On the ABC's Q&A show last Monday night I was informed that only \$1.9 million was spent on the ABC per annum by the government. That is 'chicken feed' compared to other wastage of taxpayer dollars elsewhere in Australia. The ABC MUST remain in the ownership of the people of Australia, not by some private corporation. One of the many things I love about the ABC is the lack of advertising - it makes for an extremely pleasant TV viewing. Most of the shows I watch on free to air tv are on the ABC. Rather than cutting funding to the ABC, I request that funding be increased to ensure the high quality programming of the ABC is maintained and enhanced.
Keep the ABC in public ownership.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3199 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: why the ABC is important to me

I am a rural woman of ethnic origin who arrived in this country more than thirty years ago. Even back then and, especially now, I connected with the ABC (and SBS) like no other channel. The ABC's obvious commitment to values and principles in broadcasting, it's polite but firm interviews seeking answers and it's minimal advertising (which made watching its programmes a joy), are all reasons why the ABC resonated with me. As a woman who still lives in the bush alone or, as before, with young children alone for many months of the year, the introduction of the ABC's 'News 24', meant I could catch up on the day's news after the children were asleep. The latter grew up looking at 'Bananas in Pajamas', just one of many ABC children's programmes that hold memories of a childhood in which the ABC played a great part. With neighbours three or more kilometres away, life for them (and for me), was not as isolating as it could have been. Going to play group once a week (43km away) meant that the children weren't 'in the dark' when their mates talked about characters on the ABC programmes.
Sell the ABC? What price memories??!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

QLD 4380 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I am appalled that nobody at the Liberal Party conference last weekend spoke against the privatization of the ABC. Not one single voice defended public broadcasting.

As someone who grew up in regional Western Australia at a time when the ABC was virtually the only source of information it was a vital conduit of news and information. Now as a city dweller, it is still my "window on the world" for reliable news and quality entertainment, the likes of which are rarely seen or heard in the commercial media. Where would Australian society be without the fine investigative journalism of Four Corners and Media Watch. Or the view of the world provided by the likes of Foreign Correspondent. And the informative radio programmes like am, pm, Big Ideas, The Health Report, Counterpoint, Conversations with Richard Fidler. The list goes on.

The whole point of public broadcasting is to provide a service that others won't, that is free from commercially vested interests. It should not be expected to compete with commercial media because it provides a public service that others will not. And it is well worth taxpayer funding.

The ABC contributes so much to the intellectual and social fabric of Australian society. It is much too valuable to be cast off into private hands.

[REDACTED]

WA 6050



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is not for ANY government to privatise

Independent media is essential to an informed public and therefore to democracy.


I am convinced that the Australian federal Coalition government has lost its' ability to be impartial when viewing the ABC's productions. I think the Coalition is not interested in democracy where it is perceived to hamper the advancement of the right wing media and its' owners.

This is not a fair or impartial approach to politics and the advancement of any party's cause. I would argue that any party that wants to silence independent media has flawed policies because they cannot stand alone and survive scrutiny without the help of those in power to silence any opponent.

The ABC offers fair and revealing commentary on a vast array of issues; both national and international.

The ABC's appeal is universal and I am proud that it is the asset of the Australian people.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2196 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC will not be privatised!

I LOVE THE ABC. I do not listen to commercial radio stations, and do not watch commercial TV. Why? -- Because I cannot stand the jarring sights and sounds of the commercial stations, their ghastly advertising, their low standards of news presentation, and their populist pandering to the lowest common denominator which is necessary for survival in a cutthroat commercial broadcasting environment.

I NEED THE ABC. I need it to remain public for information both Australian and global, for a vibrant connection to Australian arts and culture, and for enjoyment.

The ABC needs to stay in public hands. The very premise of the inquiry (to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses a crucial point. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and should not and must not be compared with commercial media.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2340 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off our ABC!

I am extremely concerned about the LNP and various right wing associations that are trying to privatise and shut down the publicly owned ABC. ABC is the only independent, unbiased news source that I trust and basically the only channel I will watch because of the superior programs available and because it has no advertisements. It is an amazing services for all Australians and is a hugely relevant role in our democracy. There are no vested interest such as someone like Rupert Murdoch who has a strangle hold on other news outlets in Australia and if it was to get into someone like his hands we would have no diversity or impartiality. This would not auger well for our democracy. Just because the LNP doesn't like it's policies and politicians scrutinised is not a good reason to shut down the ABC. The ABC scrutinises all governments no matter which persuasion and it seems that the LNP do not like this. They must have something to hide. Nevertheless an impartial and unbiased national broadcaster is what the Australian people want and need. Long live the ABC!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2800 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC is essential to our democracy

It is a fundamental part of the role of government in a democracy to support free to air news services in order to ensure that the public has a trustworthy source of information on the basis of which proper electoral decisions can be made. Why would the government sell off this crucial part of our democracy?

[REDACTED]

NSW 2230



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC has been a crucial and highly valued source of information, social connection, education and entertainment all my life. I was born in 1960 and my some of my earliest memories revolve around the wireless set which played ABC all day at home. At school we listened to educational programmes; at home we watched ABC tv when we finally had a TV in 1965.

As I grew up, the ABC continued to be a vital source of news, information and education, with some wonderful entertainment as well.

We could rely upon our ABC to be impartial, to deal with issues that the government of the day might prefer to ignore or avoid, and to explore many, many topics over a wide range of themes and categories in depth.

My husband grew up in country WA where the ABC also provided a crucial role and continues to do so today. We now live in Busselton, and our local programming is perfectly tailored to meet our particular needs as regional listeners.

The ABC is an outstanding institution, providing a huge variety of programming on a multitude of topics and now using a range of different media platforms to appeal to a wide audience.

It caters for the highly diverse interests and needs of Australia's multicultural population, and does so in an impartial way that is only possible because it is a publicly funded institution that is not controlled by the financial interests of any particular corporation.

The production of many fine drama programmes over decades has only been possible because of the wise investment of our public money. The ABC has also enabled the many hundreds of staff who are responsible for providing the excellent programming to establish and develop their professional skills. The job security (although not as stable as it once was) provided by working for the ABC is particularly valuable for young media workers and technicians, who need opportunities to enter the workforce and follow their passion for a career in broadcasting, whatever form that might take.

The thought that this wonderful institution, set up to provide programming for all Australians and without commercial interference, might privatized absolutely appalls me. The difference in the quality of programming between the ABC and commercial media broadcasters is stark. There is simply no comparison between commercial radio programming, with it's limited format, and the richly varied offerings of ABC radio. It is also ironic that many TV programmes originally broadcast on the ABC are now being shown on commercial television!

Our ABC is of immense social and cultural value that cannot be understated. It is an anathema that one group of individuals with a clear political bias and personal agenda should seek to destroy an institution that is of immense value to all Australians, and to the extensive overseas audience who also value and follow ABC programming. If you listen to night time local radio, you will often hear from callers as far away as Delaware, and Tokyo.

I love my ABC. For me, as a stay-at-home parent, it is my window to the world. I have learned so much from my listening and viewing. I feel connected to my community and my country, I feel challenged, uplifted, sometimes very cross, but always enriched by what I hear and see. I cannot bear the thought that this wonderful and precious institution might be destroyed.

Please, leave Aunty alone. Restore the funding that has been eroded over the last few years and recognize the immense value and social good this wise investment will bring.



WA 6280 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please dont privatise the ABC

I trust the ABC to bring unbiased and well rounded news to the public. It would be a shame to lose that. Who could we trust for real news and culture?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2030 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC a PUBLIC ORGANIZATION

I believe the ABC belongs to the Australian people and not the government. Therefore the Federal government has no right to privatise or sell any part of the ABC. The ABC operates from a non-market driven platform that enables it to be without political or social bias. The ABC represents the voice of the people of Australia and the government has no business trying to muzzle our voice.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

QLD 4567 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

Since it's inception in more sensible political times the ABC has been a believable source of information as well entertainment for all of us Australian citizens and it still is!
An attempt by any political group privatize or muzzle the ABC so it cannot do the job it has done so well over so many years , will be condemned by all sensible voters.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2071 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Defend our Democracy by Defending a Publicly owned ABC

Dear Sir/Madam, I've grown up with the ABC as a unifying national and iconic voice of Australia. There is something incredibly reassuring about this institution. Maybe it's my early memories of watching my grandfather religiously turning on the ABC news every day of the week. Maybe it's my memories as a child watching romper room and then later Dr Who, Catweazle Countdown and now, Q&A, Four Corners and just like my Grandfather, religiously watching the news. Anthem and all. All of the National good that the ABC does, for all ages and for all Australians, not out of seeking profit, but in the national interest - a broadcaster of the people for the people, will disappear if the ABC is taken out of public ownership. Please don't let that happen.

Dr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep Our ABC in Public Hand

Every Australian pays for ABC to stay public and be their voice. This is people's company and is financed by mums and dads tax. Every Australian has a direct contribution and therefore should have a say in how the ABC should be dealt with. Australian people have never given go ahead to any party or government to decide how ABC should be run. This is a decision to be made by Australian people through referendum or a elected government with clear mandate. ABC is voice of Australian and people's voice can not be privatized unless they say so.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2072 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public ownership

This submission conveys an objection to any proposal to privatise the ABC. Do not label this submission as a comment and hence ignore it.

It is my will that the ABC not be privatised, and that its funding be restored to a level sufficient to carry out its charter.

The primary purpose of the ABC as codified in legislation is to provide a public service. This service includes the principles of

- nationwide availability
- programs for minorities, including the Indigenous population
- promotion of a sense of national community
- editorial independence
- little or no interference from vested interests
- qualitative programming rather than merely quantitative
- direct funding by the taxpayer.

I for one am entirely happy to devote some (or all) of my taxes to supporting the ABC (and SBS), just as I am happy to help bear other people's burdens by contributing to the Medicare system.

The cost of running the ABC is not large compared to other budget items. It is small compared to the cost of, say, defence or foreign aid. The benefits the ABC brings to Australian residents are large compared to the cost.

In a referendum in March this year Switzerland voted to continue financially supporting the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SRG SSR) by means of licence fees. They did this in spite of claims that the SRG SSR is out of step with modern media usage patterns. Its supporters see the broadcaster as a guarantee that all Swiss residents receive public information without any linguistic barrier.

The relevance to Australia is clear: everyone can receive important news and opinions regardless of where any media profit centre may lie, which would inevitably be the major cities. Rural areas would, of course, be treated as cost centres rather than sources of profit and given little or no service. Why is Telstra, what's left of it after privatisation, still required to provide a customer service guarantee in rural areas? Would the equivalent be required of a privatised ABC? If not, why not?

I especially value the ABC's role as a commercially- and politically-independent service. One of its tasks is investigate and report on what the government of the day is doing. If the government of the day finds this sort of scrutiny irritating or ideologically unpalatable, that is very good. It means that the ABC is doing its job and prodding those in power to stay honest.

A publically-funded broadcaster and its journalists are outside the control of vested interests and for-profit media. Ancient adage: you are the servant of whoever pays you; if the ABC is constrained to rely on private sector funding, it necessarily becomes the servant of the private sector. Its programming and reporting will inevitably be influenced by what the paymasters wish to broadcast. This is not a balanced, neutral situation.

What we have at the moment is a right-wing government chronically claiming that the ABC is biased towards the left. This is confirmation bias. My experience is that left-wing governments also claim bias on the part of the ABC. The goal of governments of all political complexions is of course to establish a bias in their favour, label it as 'neutrality', and circumvent the law by starving the ABC of the funds needed to

perform its statutory role. That's just too bad: the ABC has editorial independence and should be left alone to exercise it.

The public have historically shown themselves to be very supportive of 'their' ABC. Evidently they trust it. Any attempt by any government of any political orientation to damage or destroy the ABC (and SBS) has met and will meet with widespread popular resistance and electoral repercussions.

There are no guarantees that a privatised ABC will have the funds to keep up with changes in technology, nor even to meet such service obligations as may be written into a new charter. The current funding arrangement is comparatively simple and avoids the problems and pitfalls of tactics such as selling subscriptions and underwriting spots, holding on-air pledge drives and chook raffles, or program-by-program funding. In the US, studies by the Government Accountability Office and others conclude that for radio stations in rural areas private financing would not make up for the loss of taxpayer funding. Would the situation be any different in the case of the ABC? If not, why not?

The issue of competitiveness is a complete furphy, a series of breadcrumbs to lead people into the privatisation trap. With whom is the ABC competing? Its purpose is not to compete. The neoliberal ideology that turning over every aspect and facet of economic life to The Market will solve all our problems and absolve us from the need to plan and to think is patently untrue. For a start, witness the deliberately confusing telecommunications market, the inefficient electricity market, and the appalling and exploitative behaviour of the big four banks. The Coalition has wasted two years defending the banks against clear cases of widespread misconduct and poor or no enforcement of law. Would a totally privatised media industry have reported on this?

Has any government tried to introduce competition into the area of scrutinising and reporting on the behaviour and practices of government? No, it's the other way around: ever more the government of the day seeks to conceal as many of its activities as possible. Everything these days is categorised as either "National Security" or "Commercial-in-Confidence." Transparency is lacking. The public isn't consulted, it's advised.

It has become apparent in the light of experience that rendering up public sectors of the economy to The Market does not necessarily or ever simplify life for customers. To do so may satisfy some notions of efficiency or effectiveness, but seldom does the system become more resilient.

Privatising the ABC is no more than the confiscation of an asset already paid for and owned by the taxpayer and handing it cheaply to vested interests, who will inevitably prove to be rentiers and erect a paywall around all that it offers. Such a good idea: bleed the taxpayers twice.




ACT 2614 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC is about the soul source of informed debate and investigative journalism left in this country. The commercial channels have populous unintelligaent programming reducing this country to an uneducated mass. It seems to encourage thoughtless comment often decisive of people in our society. It seems to laud the unintelligent and encourages lack of respect for education in our society. We can't even afford to let commercialisation slip in like the weakening of SBS. The whole news department does such an excellent job in the ABC and has the most informative programs available through TV. Just Four Corners alone encourages our leaders to be accountable. Another excellent example in 2017 andcontinuing is the War on Waste. What initiatives have ever been taken by this Govt in the area of sustainability. I could go on and on. We just cannot be without the ABC and we cannot have it compromised by commercialisation. The only justification the Govt seems to come up with is - an equalisation in funding with the commercial channels. Reduced competition and a reduction to the lowest common denominator. Thank you. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

QLD 4217 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:28 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC

The ABC should NOT be privatised. What a stupid idea! The current government is trying to sell off the ABC so we have no independent voice. No media that is free to critique the government and its decisions. We live in a democracy - let's keep it that way.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3450 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:27 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

I have spent almost my entire life in rural and remote Australia. The ABC is fundamental to these regions, and in many cases the only source of news.

The ABC, especially radio is there when disasters like bushfire and flood strike, providing concise and accurate information to communities when the commercial broadcasters have turned it into a circus for the urban audience.

Remote and rural communities are small, commercial media will have no interest in servicing their unique needs because the financial returns won't or can't justify it.

My children grew up on School of the Air and Behind the News and programs like it were wonderful supports not provided by any other broadcaster even today and especially not in remote Australia.

Privatisation is proving to be a pathway not in the best interests of the Australian community, most particularly rural and remote communities. Services to these communities are being constantly compromised and eroded by privatisation to the point where today there are virtually none. The ABC is a vital link to these communities and has an irreplaceable role in their survival, not to mention in our democracy – which seems frighteningly obscured by the ambitions of a few.

Leave the ABC alone.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5440



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:25 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Retired Victorian farmer says keep ABC public

Having lived on a farm in Rural Victoria for fifteen years I know that The ABC is an essential service for regional communities that would be sorely missed.

The ABC has been my trusted news source for forty years. If it weren't for the independence and neutrality of the ABC, we would never see the majority of in depth interrogations into the government and private sectors we have seen through programs such as Four Corners and the 7.30 Report. The ABC is also critical in fostering Australian productions of extraordinary quality that would not be supported to the same degree by private ownership that puts financial interests beyond public interest.

Please keep this public good in public hands.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3352



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Public Broadcasters Essential for Australian Democracy

The ABC & SBS in all their formats, TV, Radio, Podcasts etc. are essential for our democracy. They are the only trusted, fair, quality and wide ranging broadcasters in Australia. Whether across essential services, research, reporting, documentaries, Australian content or pure entertainment, they are the only broadcasters that reflect Australian priorities, matters of concern and culture.

Our rural household is very happy to publicly fund the ABC & SBS and encourage our politicians to openly commit to this to ensure both public organisations are preserved in their entirety (not privatised either as a whole or in part) and adequately funded to build on their research and investigation journalism, produce quality news and cultural programs and utilise new media technologies.

This is a voting issue!

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3871



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I am registering a strong NO to ABC privatisation.

Abc letter

As a long-time viewer and listener, I was dismayed and alarmed by the effective funding cut of \$83.6 million at the ABC announced in Tuesday night's Budget.

This is yet another crippling blow to the ABC. Including Tuesday's announcement, almost \$400 million has been cut from ABC funding since 2014. ABC base funding has been cut in real terms by almost 25 per cent over the past 30 years.

These funding cuts have placed enormous stress upon the ABC which is again being asked to do more with less, and as a viewer and listener I fear for the future of the ABC in this environment.

There are grave implications for audiences seeking quality news and reliable information they can trust.

The timing of these cuts could not be worse: with a federal election on the horizon, it is critical that the ABC be able to continue to scrutinise policies and platforms effectively.

The hollowing out of local newsrooms, particularly of senior and experienced journalists, jeopardises the important role the ABC plays in holding society's leaders to account.

It is also critical for the ABC to be able to continue and expand the fine investigative work that is being done by its journalists around Australia and across all platforms.

These Federal Government cuts also endanger the ABC's ability to produce quality Australian screen content and fulfill its important cultural role in Australian storytelling.

I remind you that the ABC fulfills a unique cultural role in Australia and ranks among our most respected and trusted institutions.

I implore you to stand up for our ABC by defending its independence from political interference and fighting to protect it from any further funding cuts.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Robina, Queensland, 4226, Australia

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
QLD 4220



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC and support its maintenance as a publicly funded broadcaster

I listen to ABC radio during the day for programs on the arts, literature and multicultural issues. I love the in depth reports we also get on radio about political, environmental, business and community matters. There is always so much to learn and I value the work of the researchers and presenters. Interviews with public figures and experts flesh out the information I receive and consider. I am able to make independent judgements about positions presented.

In addition I really appreciate the opportunity to be entertained and I regularly listen to classical music (♪♪ on ABC Classic FM).

I mainly watch ABC TV and appreciate it for catch-up and the capacity to receive free access to programs at times which suit me. There are many fine dramas (though not as many as we used to have) made in Australia. There are also some interesting current affairs programs - for instance The Drum and 4 Corners - they provide in depth opinion and information not available on commercial TV.

I live in a large country town where there is less access to live performance and no independent newspaper. That makes ABC crucial for keeping me in touch with current cultural issues and opinion.

It seems to me that politicians, who have gradually been starving the ABC of funds for years and years, are demonstrating their self-interest in wanting to privatise the ABC. Who will it serve to keep the community ignorant of environmental, commercial and international decisions made by our politicians? The ones who fear the unbiased scrutiny the ABC can bring to bear on decisions important to the community.

The public broadcaster has been in support of the community with information, scrutiny, debate and entertainment all my life. I am a loyal listener, even when I think broadcasters and panelists hold views at variance from mine - a well- informed pluralistic society is supported by having a public broadcaster, as is our democracy.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2450 

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

ABC must never be privatized. It is undemocratic for people who wish to listen to quality broadcasting uninfluenced by commercial interests to lose the ABC

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
WA 6302




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is a vital avenue of non commercial media. I think Australia needs independent sources of media for journalism and entertainment. I implies you to keep the ABC in public hands.
Sincerely, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3550 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Public ownership of the ABC is in the national interest: Why?

To Whom it may concern:

This is a story about engaging ALL Australians in communal sharing of our stories, of sharing our needs. Of listening, and learning to better see through the eyes of others. No matter how much we disagree with them, in how much poverty they live, or how few in number- of at least *trying* to empathise and understand how and why they think as they do.

It seems clear to me that because privately owned media has to at least break financially even, the number of consumers who support that product has a certain minimum number. Hence it is competitive business practice to target those opinion- and needs-groups which are largest.

Moreover, it is human nature to only consume those things we like or are interested in: So the media companies produce material which appeals to the majority of their consumer base. This doesn't just encourage people to stick to their own way of thinking: It alienates each group from the others, so there is neither opportunity nor encouragement to grow in empathy with anyone different to ourselves.

I will illustrate this with 3 examples of cases where media coverage of minorities has changed my worldview.

Firstly, I grew up on a farm in a small rural community at a time when Keating's Recession "that we had to have" meant we could not afford luxuries even as small as a packet of chocolate biscuits. Hence I can appreciate how different parts of Australian society- especially in rural and remote areas- can feel alienated, ignored or forgotten by policy-makers in Canberra and other city dwellers.

Now, I find that I disagree with many of the ideas Pauline Hanson, Bob Katta and others have shared- and I do not understand why they think that way. But I want to understand: I remember what it was like to live far from the city and do it tough. One way for me to better empathise is by listening to their stories, told in their own words, without the hyperbolae and spin which private media and politicians so love.

Secondly: I am white, and growing up I had no contact with Aboriginal people. In fact, I was terrified of them. Yet by watching shows on ABC and SBS made by indigenous Australians about themselves, I am beginning to get a better feel for these people about whom I know almost nothing. It has brought me to the point where I am not afraid to smile at them, or to chat with them.

A final example: For many years I was aggressively homophobic. Indeed, for many years a majority of Australian society thought this way. Yet recently a majority of us voted as a nation for marriage equality. How did such a dramatic change occur? I believe that Australian dramas featuring Australian actors, and Australian media coverage addressing the human suffering caused by these beliefs, helped us to have this dialogue as a nation.

In each of these cases, it is probable that these people disagreed with me as much as I did with them. But I want to better understand them. I hope that some of those guys might listen to my own story, and try to understand where I am coming from too.

In conclusion, we need to hear the stories of people from minority groups and with whom we disagree. We need to be willing to listen to such stories. We need to hear them presented in a way that shows they are people just like us.

It has been my experience that privately funded media does not meet this national need: We *need* the ABC to remain publicly funded so that it can continue doing so.

By removing public funding from the ABC, the opportunities for us to meet on that bridge are much less. How then can *both* sides grow in empathy and caring for people with whom we'd otherwise- at best- ignore?

I believe that it is in our interest as a nation to have the greatest possible variety of opinions and needs engaged in empathic shared dialogue: Communal "storytelling". Only then will we retain such social cohesion as we have, while growing in empathy for the marginalised and alienated.

It is only by continuing to public fund the ABC that we will all have a chance to meet on this bridge and to grow together as a nation.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Adelaide, SA 5008

[REDACTED]


SA 5008 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC free from right wing interference

What is it about the ABC that so frightens the LNP, that truth must be silenced.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3185 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:12 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public (trusted) hands!!

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.
The ABC is many of my friends and family only trusted news source and by privatising it only shows you have more to hide than we well all already believe!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6011 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public ownership

I'm a 72 year old retired man and can't believe the possibility of privatising the ABC. Perhaps a more likely objective is to slowly squeeze the life out of it via cuts to funding which is plainly visible right now. I say "Hands off OUR ABC"

[REDACTED]

SA 5066



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

ABC is a part of Australian identity. From radio to television to community work. Please don't let our country sell out and lose what makes us a step above.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3162




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

Who are these "liberals" and what's in it for them? What exactly is it that they know and the vast majority don't? We get real reporting especially regards politics and big business. We get locally produced world class documentaries and saleable entertainment programmes. We get the best of education and children's programmes. We get in froth unbiased coverage of world events. How else would I know about our Government's unquestioned foreign policy when dictated by American policy. At home and abroad, Australians believe everybody should be entitled to a fair go. Specifically I refer to protestors being shot for throwing stones. Who are these misguided people making such focused calculated policies? Oops. I think it's about greed. I think they have worked out the true financial value of the ABC and have worked out a very profitable future for a select few. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2305 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

The ABC is my main source of information and in this world of 'fake news' it is even more important that it remains independent. Constant slashing of the budget is ensuring the ABC will be squeezed to the point where private \$ will be required to keep it functioning. Stop slashing the budget.

[REDACTED]

SA 5039 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 1:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Moves to privatise the ABC would reduce a world-wide unique and valuable broadcasting network to just another network producing similar programming to the existing private broadcasting entities. As a privatised network its activities would be subject to the political whims of its owners as has happened to a large section of Australian news print media.

I listen to ABC Classic FM almost exclusively and in my travels I have not encountered a classical music broadcasting network to rival classical FM. I am sure that a privatised ABC classical music network would not survive in the present form. At the most, one would expect that the quality of such a network would be considerably reduced, particularly if advertising was introduced.

On the political reporting issue, I believe that the ABC produces a balanced view of events, that is despite the bleating of the political right and the left. Australia needs a broadcasting network that is truly independent and, as such, not just a mouthpiece for a government or for the political king makers of this world

[REDACTED]

QLD 4879 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC the only trusted news in Australia

I am very disturbed that the Liberal Party policy is to sell the ABC. The ABC is the corner stone of our democracy and is the only trusted news source in Australia with no media mogul to answer to. This ensures that nobody in Australia or the USA has the power to influence the journalists at the ABC and have them project a particular view. Independence in reporting is paramount to a good democracy and needs to be preserved. ABC news, 4 corners and the 7.30 report give comprehensive journalism not available on any other news outlet. We would not have many important issues raised and acted upon by government if it were not for the ABC. We have seen some very good programmes that were axed due to serious cuts to the ABC budget and every Australian is the worse off for these cuts. The thought of this enquiry being politically driven is frightening when the ABC and commercial broadcasters have very different roles and the ABC is so vital to a healthy democracy with an independent view. Just because the aBC is not biased toward them is no reason for an enquiry with the waste of tax payers money. Regional areas of Australia rely heavily and some times exclusively on the ABC and those Australians should not be denied this important service. My kids have grown up with the ABC children's shows like Bananas in pajamas and my grand children enjoy the same entertainment from the ABC kids shows that are not available on the commercial programmes. One political party should not be able to destroy the ABC at the detriment of the majority of Australian community and I implore you to consider the view of ordinary Australians who rely on and enjoy the services of our only independent source of news and media shows.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4163 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep Our ABC In Public Hands!!

Why must the politicians of our country keep trying to sell-off public assets for short term gain?
The ABC must remain in the people of this countries hands to maintain a democratic broadcast of media,
that is unbiased and not controlled by private ownerships persuasions!
I grew up in Karratha, W.A. It was the ABC and I think channel 7 at the time - that was it. Sorry - SBS as
well.
Stop selling off Australia! We won't have anything left once "you lot" have finished!
Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

QLD 4102 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC IN PUBLIC HANDS!

The ABC provides the most accurate and unbiased national and global news coverage. Programs like Q and A provide a forum for all Australians to express a viewpoint without "fear or favour" This is part of our democratic right and should be celebrated rather than criticized by those with narrow, short term vested interests.

My niece who has an intellectual disability gains great pleasure from watching ABC For Kids every day. Being free from obtrusive advertising is a great advantage.

The ABC IS PART OF OUR DEMOCRATIC HERITAGE and should be supported and celebrated for all that it does in promoting the best cultural traits of this nation.

[REDACTED]

SA 5081




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Australia's ABC media must stay in public hands.

1. How ludicrous! Look at the directors and shareholders of the media other than ABC and community groups. Steered and manipulated by big business there is not one objection to this daily bias. Leave our ABC alone.
2. And not one of the above has the ability [or desire] to include the wide range of subjects covered by the ABC.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WA 6262 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC should stay public

The vast majority of the media I access is from the ABC, simply because its quality and trustworthiness far exceeds that available from nearly any other media outlet. ABC RN and the ABC news website are my go-tos for news, current affairs and thoughtful engagement.

It is increasingly hard for commercial media to make a profit, and the quality of their news has degraded substantially over the years. A strong media sector is vital to a thriving society, and the ABC forms the backbone of that sector. Without it, Australia would be a less informed, and our politics would be less considered and productive.

Keep the ABC in public hands, fund it well, and treat it with respect.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TAS 7004



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Protect funding to the ABC

Australia has a priceless asset in the ABC which is a uniting force for our nation as a democracy. It provides robust, independent, quality broadcasting, throughout the country to cities and towns, to rich and poor. It gives us an Australian voice, and an Australian perspective which is essential. It is at the cutting edge of so much of our cultural life.

The ABC is a part of my life. This week I have listened to conversations on medicine (The Health Report), Scientific discussion about the treatment of macular degeneration, (Science Show), reports on world discussions (Late Night Live) among a host of other things.

There is no access to this level of well researched in depth discussion through any other outlet. Television provides documentaries, new dramas, comedy that challenges, consumer information quality overseas programming chosen without the central concern of does it gain advertising revenue. It provides relief from the relentless commercialism offered elsewhere.


To continue to cut the ABC is damaging on many levels. America gives least of its tax revenue to a national broadcaster. It is a divided polarised society and not a model we want to follow.

To consider selling this major cultural asset is unthinkable.

Australia needs a robust independent voice, free from vested interest and commercialism. The ABC is that

Protect the ABC. Do not cut funding.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3102 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands!

The ABC is important to me as a public watch dog, a source of information that is not driven by commercial interests and delivers quality arts and cultural content accessible by anyone in our community.

As a resident in a regional area, the ABC is a secure and free means of sharing my news and concerns about how life here, often out of sight of or ignored by commercially based outlets.

Generations of kids love Bananas in Pyjamas and Peppa Pig as well as Playschool, all having a genuine concern for the wellbeing of our children.

Commentary programs like 4 Corners, Q&A, Insight and others are the most trusted sources, offering professional, expert observations, from across Australia and the world. Personally, I do not watch mainstream news bulletins yet gather informed opinion, information and insights that keep me up to date.

True, anyone can have an opinion, yet to have access to academics and otherwise inaccessible researchers and authorities is invaluable.

The Coalition's attacks on our ABC and what I think, means they wish to dumb down and commercialise our society values and interaction. Local and national links and reporting is what we need, not imported, profit based advertising and propaganda.

Basically, our world recognised and acclaimed public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and has no place being compared with commercial media. Outline why the ABC needs to stay in public hands.

The very premise of the inquiry (to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses a crucial point: we need to retain a broadcaster that is independent of corporate interests, given the level of pressure from them in all other facets of life here, these days.

One wonders about the existing relationship between government and international corporations already. Our ABC is essential.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2546



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC must remain publicly owned

I have always seen the ABC as having a strong ethical approach to its news and other programs. This will of course change if the ABS goes into private corporate hands.

I say NO

[REDACTED]

QLD 4881



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. I would be devastated if it ended up like the commercial stations with glib, 'dumbed down' and sensationalised reporting.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3340 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The public are entitled to be informed

The ABC provides me with the most true information of all media. If it is privatised you are taking away one of my basic rights. The community are entitled to hear all views to make informed decisions. Please maintain some semblance of our history,

[REDACTED]

NSW 2620



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The public are entitled to be informed

The ABC provides me with the most true information of all media. If it is privatised you are taking away one of my basic rights. The community are entitled to hear all views to make informed decisions. Please maintain some semblance of our history,

[REDACTED]

NSW 2620 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC must not be privatised

I am one of many Australian's who have grown up with the ABC radio and television broadcasts, while overseas I rely on Radio Australia - I know I can rely on the ABC for accurate, balanced reporting and quality entertainment and I am proud to say my taxes support the ABC which gives the corporation a greater advantage over commercial interference and corporate bias. Public broadcasting is critical for a healthy, well informed democracy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WA 6050 

From: [REDACTED] <branagancm@ml1.net>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public ownership

The ABC is the first port of call for me and my wife whenever we want accurate news, entertainment and fair opinion be it online, on radio or TV. There is nothing more comforting than settling in for the evening with the local news on ABC. Aunty ABC has always been there in our lives from watching Mr Squiggle as children to witnessing major Australian and world events as adults. The ABC is that rarest of gems, a media organisation which is directly responsible to its viewers and listeners, and not to shareholders and advertisers which compromise commercial outlets. It is a priceless asset to Australia. Its value cannot be measured in dollars alone. The ABC belongs to ALL Australians and must remain so.

[REDACTED]
branagancm@ml1.net

VIC 3146



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the excellent Public Broadcaster ABC

I and all my family and friends follow ABC, Radio National, SBS, Abc Radio News and always have. We live in the country and it goes without saying, it is a priceless asset. I totally reject the views of the Liberal Party that seems to have an ideological hatred of a public broadcaster and seems to worship at the foot of commercial media and the political bias of which accuses the ABC.

I cannot believe that Senator Abets has listened to Radio National programmes, full of interest in comparison to the commercial garbage and advertisements from the shock jocks and political hacks that abound.

This issue is profoundly important to our nation.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2632 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:47 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

Public broadcasting will be compromised if privatised. This is yet another attack on the freedoms of expression we enjoy in this country as privatization will mean the promotion of special interest agendas.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4428




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off the ABC. It does not belong to the government.

The ABC belongs to the people, and not the government. Politicians should remember who pays their salaries. The ABC is our only source of trusted news, presenting all sides (regardless of what the government thinks), who asks the difficult questions which politicians too often find uncomfortable to answer, try to by-pass claiming bias, or down right ignore. We absolutely need the ABC to remain in the public domain, not subject to the so called commercial interests, who try to manipulate the news and gag journalists if they do not follow the directive from people like Murdoch - who is pulls the string of the government of the day, for the sake of his own enrichment. Privatiesdare the ABC at your peril.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7155 

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is part of the fabric of our society, please don't tear it.

The ABC is part of the fabric of our society, please don't tear it. Commercial providers cannot be compared to the ABC, they can't compete – the ABC is much more, it contributes to our democracy, diverse society and helps to define us as Australians.

I am an aid worker and rely on the ABC for news (and entertainment) when I am overseas as well as in Australia. In the era of fake news, it is important to know that the news broadcasts are accurate and the in-depth programs like The 7.30 Report, Background Briefing will get to the real issues. The intense questioning of politicians without fear of favour, without concerns of how media laws are going to be shaped or which merger is going to be approved, means we get closer to the truth than commercial media providers. Holding politicians to account is an important part of our democracy and civil society and the ABC has a critical role in this because commercial providers are compromised.

The ABC has a distinctly Australian flavour but ensures diversity which is not seen on commercial TV or radio because they rely on popularity. This diversity is a reflection of our community and helps to build understanding between people and improves our shared society. With more influence of social media and the use of algorithms to ensure people only receive the information that they “like” reinforcing their own biases, we need a platform that is not based on popularity alone but presents different views, views that can build a shared understanding of what is happening in our world.

ABC radio is part of my day, every day with important education and learning programs such as The Health Report which I utilise in my work on health programs in PNG and Timor-Leste. My life is richer after listening to Richard Fidler on Conversations, exploring and explaining books through their authors for a whole hour! The Boyer Lectures, Classic Flow, Science with Dr Karl, Rear Vision, Santo, Sam and Ed's Total Football Podcast, Trace, The Science Report and many, many more make for a better world but would private operators see their value when driven by ratings?

ABC Listen is so wonderful and enables me to access the ABC whilst on the road and outside Australia. I know my sister, who lives in Mongolia running a shelter for homeless children (and is an Order of Australia recipient

[redacted] connects with Australia through the app as well.

It's an Honour - Honours - Search Australian Honours

www.itsanhonour.gov.au

Name: [redacted] Award: Member of the Order of Australia Post-nominal: AM Date granted: 26 January 2009 State: n/a Suburb: Mongolia Postcode: n/a Country: Australia Citation: For service to the welfare of children in Mongolia as the founder and director of the [redacted] and through programs to improve child health and ...

Australia needs the ABC and attacks like this inquiry are a concern where politicians want to weaken it and our democracy. The ABC makes Australia a better place and it needs to stay in public hands.

[redacted]
VIC 3183 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our A.B.C. in Public Hands

I have been a viewer and listener to the A.B.C. for many years. I believe strongly that we need a public broadcaster which is not swayed by the interests of commercial owners.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3337



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must be kept in public hands

Is there to be no respite from the all-pervading corporatisation, dumbing-down, marketing, advertising, mind-numbing right-wing uniformity that is the hallmark of all commercial media?

SBS is already on the way down that path and now the Liberal Party Council has voted to send the ABC down there as well. The right-wing already has nearly all print media, TV and radio, but clearly that's not enough for them. A healthy democracy needs diverse opinions to be heard - the ABC must be kept in public hands!

And not only that - the ABC's funding (and that of SBS too) must be restored to its former levels to enable it to fulfil its very important role in our democracy.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3134 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I have lived all over NSW from Lismore to Brewarrina, to Werris Creek, Portland and to Sydney and the Central Coast. I have always listened to the ABC wherever I have lived or travelled. They are honest and truthful and tell it as it happens. They are not biased. They seek the truth. The Liberals don't tell the truth a lot of the time and they are biased. We need the ABC to keep Australia fairly informed on not only politics but general news and happenings across the world. Liberals, leave the ABC alone!!!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2261 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: It's OUR ABC and always will be.

Listen to the people. Too much of our interests have been sold off. We won't let this happen.

[REDACTED]


QLD 4017 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

We need an honest and public media channel, the abc has time and time again proven its un bias by questioning any government on the day. This is a fight for a true democracy!
Democracy only works if people have to vote and if the people are truly educated

[REDACTED]

NSW 2500 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands, PLEASE!


Please do not submit Australians to more rubbishy programs and a constant barrage of advertising by privatising the ABC.

If necessary, apply a TV Licence for users to pay, to offset the costs, as they do in the UK.

Thinking Australians DO NOT want more commercial TV.

If this goes ahead, be warned, it will affect the voting for the Liberals and National Parties.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2089 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is excellent and essential for a functioning democracy


I was born in Argentina, a country that has had its share of fascist dictatorships and attacks on democracy and human rights.

One of the key things that protects a society from abusive governments is an independent and well-funded public broadcaster.

Attacking the ABC is really an attack on democracy and an informed public. Commercial operators have a very different role, that is, to provide audiences to advertisers. Commercial media operators don't care whether the public is informed.

Keep the ABC public and increase its funding.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3071 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands of my ABC

We need the quality, diverse, politically independent, creative and un-market-driven content that only a taxpayer funded TV can provide.

We don't need any more of the predominantly American utter 'lowest-common-denominator' drivel that commercial stations force down the nation's throats.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2259



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please Keep ABC independent.

Hi there

Selling ABC and SBS to private parties would diminish the independence it enjoys now. This will deprive me and other millions of Australians of independent viewpoint on matters of Public and National interest. Could you please not privatise ABC and SBS.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3192




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <kwills@activ8.net.au>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I live in a regional area and the ABC is our best source of news both on TV & radio. Our kids love Bananas in Pyjamas and Peppa Pig? 4 Corners is our most trusted news source. ABC has plenty of Australian content which we dont get on the commercial channels. I want to watch television that is ad free. I cannot stand the constant interruptions ads.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2429 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC has been my trusted news source since my teenage years. If it weren't for the independence and neutrality of the ABC, we would never see the majority of in depth interrogations into the government and private sectors we have seen through programs such as Four Corners and the 7.30 Report. The ABC is also critical in fostering Australian productions of extraordinary quality that would not be supported to the same degree by private ownership that puts financial interests beyond public interest. The ABC is also an essential service for regional communities that would be sorely missed. Please keep this public good in public hands.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


ACT 2612 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I think in these days of "fake news" and vested commercial interests it is more important than ever to have a publicly funded, trusted source of news. Privatising other public assets has not lead to better outcomes for the public. The ABC would be the same.
The ABC represents excellent value for money at 11c/per person per day. And should be kept in public hands.

[REDACTED]

SA 5067 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Independence

After seeing the influence corporately owned media can have in the USA I'm surprised any thinking person can consider privatizing the ABC . The so called ABC's left bias at least helps to counter balance some of the Newscorp / Sky reporting.

[REDACTED]

SA 5242 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:29 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Care.

Please do not privatize the ABC. Living regionally, it's the most important source of news and entertainment with local content. It is an extremely vital part of entertainment and information for families. I'm very happy with it in its current form and resent constant chipping away at their budgets. All nations needs a reliable, trusted news service that doesn't see the need to sensationalize everything interspersed with ad breaks every 50 seconds. Please halt the demise of a great institution. Fund it properly and stop chivvying away at it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2474




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC forever !

The ABC is one of the most important and meaningful parts of my life, particularly Radio National. I start each day with RN current affairs and listen to whatever other longer shows I can. I really value the carefully researched, detailed discussion of complex topics. Radio National has been a staple topic of conversation amongst my family and friends for decades. My father would ring and just say, "Radio National. Now!" and give one word on the topic hang up before he missed any more words. It kept my husband stimulated through his declining years with cancer, more use to him than any support group! It made my days at home with young children full of intellectual stimulation. Those grown children now also listen to RN. There is simply no comparison with anything on a commercial network. A robust ABC is vital to our democracy, our society, and the daily life of many thinking Australians. HANDS OFF!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2107 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC out of commercial hands

The ABC is extremely important to me as I trust the news given by the ABC on TV and radio above all other media outlets.

I applaud 4 Corners, the 7/30 Report and mourn the loss of Late Night Live.

I am extremely concerned by the Coalition's attacks on the ABC. The ABC gives us a reasonable, balanced and fair view of events and issues for us all to be informed and more able to make up our own minds about situations as we have been given an unbiased view. Too many other media outlets are severely biased eg the Murdoch press.

I think it would be an irrevocable loss to our society if the ABC was privatised.

The premise of the inquiry misses a crucial point.

Public broadcasting plays an important and unreplaceable role in our democracy and should not be compared with commercial media.

It is OUR ABC and is not swayed by commercial ownership.

If the ABC is privatised I will NOT VOTE for the Coalition and will vote for whichever party keeps the ABC as a public broadcaster and will fund it accordingly. Stop cutting funding but increase it!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3142



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

We need an independent broadcaster which isn't controlled by either the left or the right. It needs to be free from the political pressures that private ownership will bring.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5352



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

As commercial news media ruthlessly cut back on their investigative journalistic staff and activities, the ABC stands as one of the few remaining sources of investigative journalism and BALANCED current affairs reporting (regardless of claims of leftist bias by conservatives, due to their own preference for confirmation bias). As such, it is more important now than ever before that the ABC remain in public ownership - even if that requires the re-introduction of some form of Licence Fee or advertising revenue.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4207



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is my most trusted source of news and drama. Mystery Road and a number of recent dramas have been brilliant and I look forward to more. I trust information from the ABC and often check stories to verify them. My grandson relies on ABC for kids when he visits and I trust their content without the worry of advertisements.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2615 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:19 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC will not be privatised

Save our ABC

[REDACTED]

NSW 2017 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:19 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

I start my day listening to ABC Radio so as I can be informed of what is happening locally, nationally and internationally. I watch the ABC news because it is focused on the important news in Australia and internationally. It is my only source of news. I use ABC Kids for quality television shows for visiting children. For myself and my partner, the investigative journalism is second to none and exposes issues that affect Australians that otherwise may never be heard.

I am concerned about the Coalition's move to privatise our ABC. We cannot trust a commercial operator to value the ABC's non-commercial focus for the benefit of Australians. The ABC must stay in public hands. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2026 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:17 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

The service provided by the ABC is essential to national well-being and cultural life at all levels.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3450 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:16 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Since coming to Australia nearly twenty years ago I have relied on the ABC to supply me with good news programming, current affairs, documentaries and dramas. I divide my viewing between SBS and the ABC and never watch commercial channels. I do not have foxtel (or other) and have never felt the need to subscribe because I have public broadcasters that I wholeheartedly trust, one of which has no advertising. The advertising on the other channels is so detrimental to viewing pleasure and I am after the content that the ABC covers not the 'tabloid' nature of what channels 7, 9 and 10 cover. I am appalled that the ABC's purse strings have been so tightened and those cuts are apparent in the loss of content and staff. We need to cherish the ABC as our public broadcaster not chip it away nor privatise it.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4066



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

A recent trip through the Pilbra & Kimberly districts of WA and Outback Northern Territory reinforced to me the importance of the ABC to these areas, among other things I feel there are balanced programs and interviews that are not be available from commercial stations.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3934



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am writing to explain why the ABC must not be privatised. This is because the ABC has a unique role to play in providing access for all Australians to an unbiased and broad-ranging educational, political and social knowledge base that you would simply never get if it were to be profit-driven.

I have been a committed ABC watcher and listener all my life. I watched as my child smiled at the antics of B1 and B2 and learned so much from the wonderful Play School gang. When he was older I was comfortable leaving him to watch alone, knowing he could learn and be entertained at the same time as being safe from the consumerist brainwashing of advertising.

I have watched national and international conflict play out on its channels knowing that what I was watching or listening to was informed, and untainted by political or commercial imperatives. The crucial difference between a news service offered by the ABC and a commercial operative is that I know I can TRUST the ABC news, 4 Corners and the 7.30 Report, because only the ABC has a commitment to unflinching, in-depth investigative work that does not have to satisfy its shareholders.

The very premise of this Inquiry misses the point. The job of Australia's public broadcaster is to serve Australians by providing a means to build and maintain community for all citizens, regardless of whether they are regional or urban. It cannot be compared to the imperatives of commercial media. We need to be sure we have means to access the TRUTH about issues which affect us, sure in the knowledge that what we are being told is not being compromised, ignored or even hidden by corporate self-interest or political influence.

-
As our public broadcaster - in its current form - the ABC provides me with unbiased, authoritative, and in-depth information necessary to be an informed, involved member of this society. I am truly concerned at the Coalition's constant attempts to stymie the effectiveness of the ABC and give way to the mercenary cravings of the existing media - who already have such a pervasive and subversive influence on our politicians and decision makers.

A healthy and fearless public broadcaster is a vital sign of a healthy and fearless democracy. Any weakening of the ABC's strength - which the need to bow to the profit motive will do - is to critically weaken our precious democracy.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2074




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:08 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't shoot the messenger - Retain a strong and independent ABC

I'm distressed to hear that there is some government support for the idea that my ABC should be privatised. This is an absurd proposition. The ABC is the only truly independent voice in the Australian Media today. The other broadcasters are subject to strict editorial control by owners and or extreme influence from their Advertising Clients. It is rare to see truly balanced reporting from the private media arena. Even when stories may be factual, headlines frequently highlight minor facts as "the story". I do not always "like" what I hear reported on the ABC and I often feel that too much significance is placed on some facts and that "implied reality" which fits with the reporter's theme is truly too frequent. However, there is a meaningful mechanism whereby I can have my opinions heard and considered by the ABC. Such feedback to the commercial media is unlikely to even be seen by anyone in whom influence may be vested. There is NO validity to any argument that supports the proposition that with modern technology, the ABC is irrelevant. Quite the contrary, it's more important than ever that there should be a independent voice. I would point out that ABC "opinion" and "discussion" shows, such as "Q and A", "Insiders" etc. always have speakers from both Left and Right leaning journalists They also have their in-depth discussions with Ministers and Opposition Spokespersons in equal measure. Even "Media Watch" can and does criticise the ABC when criticism is due.

I'd be very happy to elaborate or discuss my position as required. I'm a 66 year old Farmer and Grazier and former Financial Planner. I do not support the editorial slant the ABC takes on many issues but I will defend the ABC to the full extent of my limited resources.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2462 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:08 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC for the people

The ABC is a core asset in the conversations, knowledge and story of the Australian public. It should always remain in public hands, be well funded and valued as per its role in the Australian voice and public thinking, and be free from private interests which would change the character of that identity. Why shouldn't that identity have an advantage over more biased interests that may or may not have the public interests at heart? I say that there should be a competitive edge between public and private media systems, with an appropriate advantage given to publicly funded and maintained knowledge infrastructure rather than private.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 1001



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatising the ABC

The conservative party has voted to put the ABC into commercial hands. The country needs a public broadcaster, the same as many other countries have.

If the ABC is run by a commercial interest it will be required to capitulate to the political bias of whichever commercial company runs it. As the ABC now stands it is not influenced in any political direction. The conservative government seems to think that the ABC is biased towards the left but the fact is that the public broadcaster has always tended to show any of the government's shortcomings, no matter which political party is in power.

It seems to me that many right wing politicians are displaying sour grapes because they have been criticized (unfairly in their opinion), by the ABC and of course they have the backing of all of the right wing organizations.

[REDACTED]


WA 6172 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands!

ABC currently has some of the best journalism and programs in the world, Four corners, Q and A, You Can't Ask That, Australian Story, Backroads, Compass to name just a few. It would be an incredible loss to have just another commercial TV station with conflicts of interest unable to provide unbiased fair journalism. I realise ABC is a rare commodity in the world today, BBC has deteriorated as have other world class TV stations because of the need to become commercial entities. It is so important to keep ABC in public hands for everyone. Please just tax us more if you need to!
Regards, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3103 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC - Don't Privatise!

Pollies! Hands off the ABC!!!!

You guys are already chipping away at democratic rights and freedoms in so many ways.

Privatizing the ABC would mean loss of freedom of speech simply because any private corporation is primarily aimed at keeping their shareholders happy; not the general community.

With ABC, it would mean that anything controversial; anything exposing political shenanigans; anything beyond the "accepted paradigm" would simply not be aired.

A privatized ABC would mean loss of objectivity, and a huge loss to democratized free speech in Australia.

Yes, I know that many pollies hate the ABC, and would love to get rid of it altogether, but that is simply because the ABC keeps you guys to account, and calls out your Spin, deceit and frequent lies.

That's exactly why we, the community, love the ABC – and need it to remain intact and functional!

Keep your mits off the ABC!!!!!!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2031



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I don't want the ABC privatised

I am happy to pay taxes towards the ABC, it and SBS are the only news outlets in Australia that provide consistent quality non-tabloid journalism.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

QLD 4169



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise ABC is a National Treasure that needs MORE fundng not less

The ABC is my lifeline to the world, it informs, entertains, educates and enriches my life through its music, current affairs, news, documentaries, science, health, history, drama, sport etc etc. Commercial media is anaemic in its contribution to my life, Do NOT turn is into a commercial biased, business controlled entity. We as a community will go backwards in social evolution and education I will be voting for the party that funds the ABC as it should be funded.

Yours Sincerely, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


NSW 2570 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:59 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off the ABC

. I am over 80. I have relied on the ABC for commercial free unbiased news, intelligent comment and challenging material for many years. I do not app.-twitter- facebook- tweet. I need the ABC to be left alone with its "undue advantage' With out an idependent braodcaster Australia will be the poorer. Hands off please.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


VIC 3220 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:59 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC

Short term financial gain for long term quality is NOT a good move...! ABC & SBS are the only 2 channels with quality, & with any sense of decency & morality. The commercial channels are mostly rubbish: Rubbish which is fed to the viewers non-stop, until the lower standards of morality & decency become the 'norm', and this is what our next generation are growing up on. Plus, we all know from experience that when privatising companies the focus becomes money and corners are cut in quality to make and/or save money. 4 Corners....

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WA 6015 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:59 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: An independent ABC

All my family listen to and watch ABC news and current affairs programmes because we trust the fairness and independence of the organisation. We also value free-to-air radio and television unhindered or compromised by sponsorship or advertising. I and we know that any privatisation of ABC functions would result in a lower standard of programming and a commercial bias would affect many aspects of the organisation.

The ABC, independent of government and commercial interests, should remain properly funded to carry out its present charter.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3136




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:59 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Having immigrated to Australia 30 years ago from the USA, I consider the ABC to be one of the most beneficial organisations in the country. They provide balanced and insightful information through their news and panel discussion programs. Loss of the publicly funded ABC would be an asset that would be impossible to replace. It is the most impartial news source in the country. It must not be dismantled for the benefit of any political party.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WA 6330 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:58 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do NOT privatize the ABC!

Federal Government

It is ludicrous to think our Government is considering privatising the ABC. Our rural and regional services (especially radio) are too important to jeopardise. My children watch outstanding content and I know they are not being bombarded with commercial messages and inappropriate content. They love Octonauts, Playschool, Bananas in Pyjamas etc. These are the stories of their childhood that they will remember forever. I am constantly amazed at the quality of drama that is on the ABC. I love seeing Australian stories retold to us - Rake, Mystery Road etc. I also watch ABC news every morning. What the ABC is able to do is incredible given your harsh cuts. DO NOT PRIVATISE OUR ABC.

[REDACTED]
Queanbeyan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2622 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:57 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: My Grandchild wants our ABC to remain in Public Hands

Why should we keep our ABC.

I could sit here and go over the pros and cons and the for's and against keeping or offloading the ABC. And in all honesty both sides have some merit, I have to admit this.

However its time that we really sit down and consider tomorrow, not today, not yesterday, but tomorrow. And then ask ourselves the real question - Why? Why is it important to keep the ABC in public hands, and Why are so many trying to sway the pendulum the other way.

The answer itself to this question is complex, yet still simplistic in comparison.

Keeping the ABC in public hands ensures that those in rural areas obtain key information without commercially based bias, as well as the obvious educational base that has brought up millions of Australians all over our fine country for decades upon decades.

To allow biased input into programming and the content of that programming, as well as the information of the content itself, being that the content itself may in fact lean so dramatically in one specific commercial direction as to suggest that the information itself is real and truthful, when it is just information portrayed in a way that suggests its reliability when in fact the information may contain lies and untruths sets a dangerous precedent.

It's this type of setting which has allowed tyrants and dictators the world over the ability to run campaigns that have brought down governments. Now of course one may say that this is Australia, but we have to be real and remember just that. This is Australia, and we like it the way it is, why? because we have such freedoms that we all enjoy, and it's these freedoms that institutions like our ABC have helped to maintain. To destroy and dismantle some of the structure that has kept Australia great only ensures that the commercial and political interests of the day obtain an uninterpreted voice by excluding all outside truths.

One can say that I and those like me are barking up the wrong tree, this is just paranoia; yet when we look around at the public arena we see millions and millions of bits of information every day that exists to expose and exploit a specific outcome. The problem with organizations like the ABC is that its gain is in the promotion of information and not the exploitation of a commercialized agenda.

Thus because of this one truth and because it's set that standard in reliable reporting, when the ABC has something to say the public stands up and listens. Why? Because they know that the information provided is untouched, it hasn't been played at by the owners of a specific network, no-one has been able to threaten individuals into encouraging a specific outcome, not political influence is present, thus the ABC itself exists as one of our country's finest institutions, it ensures that ALL interests have a voice, but when required will voice the opposite opinion of those in power, of those who will gain in the area of commercial interests (being money).

I know that there is much going on behind the scene to paint a dirty picture of the ABC. Many groups and many with political and commercial interests have spent much time collating information and promoting such in a manner which will enable them to throw mud at the wall of the ABC. It's plain to see and in fact we see that this started some years ago and has maintained momentum in recent times.

So the question one needs to re-ask is why are those in power and those with commercial interests so

invested in this process. The answer is simple. If they can achieve an outcome that allows for the commercialization of the ABC, thus taking it out of Public Hands, it means that they have an ability to lead the general public around in whatever direction they choose, allowing the few to control the many for political and commercial gain, there will then be no real stop gap in our country that will voice any opposition, thus allowing bias and untruths to become the topic of family dinners. It means that without knowingly knowing our grandchildren's grandchildren in the future will be discussing and absorbing information collected and being portrayed as truths without any knowledge that such truths are in fact untruth.

This is not the Australia I and many others want for your great great grandchild.

yours

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

QLD 4132



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:56 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

I depend for truthful and independent news on the ABC.
I also value the science, literary, musical and other programs the ABC produces.
It is hard to imagine what harm could be done if unscrupulous, selfish, moneyed, people were controlling what was broadcast over the ABC if it were to fall into private hands
the ABC is publicly funded and should not be compared with commercial outlets which are funded by the business world.
The ABC is a very important part of our democratic system.

.....

[REDACTED]

VIC 3923 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:55 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: A publicly owned and run ABC is critical to Australia

Public broadcasters serve the public good, they operate independently of commercial concerns and this should be protected. This is a service for Australians that should be as fundamental as accessing power, water and telephone services.

It is not appropriate to compare commercial media with the role of public media, please do not proceed with this inquiry and instead fully fund and protect the role of SBS and ABC as our public broadcasters.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3051 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:55 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC in public hands

Having grown up with the BBC in England, I was appalled when I first encountered commercial radio and TV in Australia. I only patronise the ABC and SBS.

I have a radio in every room set for Radio National, how else would I learn about Australia/Politics/International/Environmental/Cultural and Social affairs??

The variety of topics and the high standard of reporting cannot be equalled. SBS is a unique service and should not have to have commercials.

I am appalled at the continuing cuts in the funding. I WANT THE FUNDING RESTORED AND INCREASED. I want much more local drama.

I want much more investigative programs like Four Corners, Background Briefing, Landline, Back Roads.

Shame in you Coalition dinosaurs for not fully supporting the ABC and SBS.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACT 2607



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:55 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC in public hands

Having grown up with the BBC in England, I was appalled when I first encountered commercial radio and TV in Australia. I only patronise the ABC and SBS.

I have a radio in every room set for Radio National, how else would I learn about Australia/Politics/International/Environmental/Cultural and Social affairs??

The variety of topics and the high standard of reporting cannot be equalled. SBS is a unique service and should not have to have commercials.

I am appalled at the continuing cuts in the funding. I WANT THE FUNDING RESTORED AND INCREASED. I want much more local drama.

I want much more investigative programs like Four Corners, Background Briefing, Landline, Back Roads.

Shame in you Coalition dinosaurs for not fully supporting the ABC and SBS.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACT 2607



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:51 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keeping the ABC PUBLIC

Without the ABC, investigative journalism would be rare, discouraged, limited effort. Whole truth, nothing but the Truth would pretty much disappear. Viewers would be trained to dumb down. Our pride in having award winning stories would drop to 5.

Honest, think outside the box talent would go overseas. The low level journalism would be a joke to laugh at on English TV.

Our elected officials that are selling quality public products are dishonest people too willing to sell themselves first.

These public officials are not patriotic, loving country people.

Don't copy America in planning a future Australia.

Most unhappy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2114



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:49 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am mainly housebound and I love watching and enjoying the honest, unbiased, professional, news that rely on are factual. Too many news items on commercial television are fake. I also enjoy the stories, drama and entertainment without the interruption of advertisements.,

[REDACTED]

ACT 2602



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:49 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off our ABC - it's not that Government that funds it but the people of Australia who are overwhelmingly proud and supportive of the ABC

The ABC and SBS are the only TV Channels I watch (with the exception of some AFL). I can't stand the mind numbing plethora of reality TV that seems to have take siege of the commercial channels. My kids and grandkids have grown up with the ABC. My eldest grand-daughter loves Peppa Pig. The ABC and SBS excel at investigative journalism unlike their commercial alternatives who have endless re-creations of neighbourly disputes, financial ripoffs and scams, threatening diseases - all designed to create and maintain a culture of fear. The ABC and SBS are not perfect but they do present a good coverage of drama, comedy, culture, science and nature, sport and politics.

I am concerned by the persistent, unwarranted attacks on the ABC by the Government and Pauline Hansen. The cuts to the ABC have affected not only our local TV programming but our standing internationally. All because some political elements feel they are protect, unaccountable and definitely not open to fair analysis and criticism.

The very thought that the ABC have an advantage over Murdoch and other commercial outlets is not only ludicrous but it also display complete ignorance of the important and irreplaceable role in our democracy that public broadcasting plays - it should never be compared with commercial media!

Your Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5253 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:48 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Submission to the ABC Inquiry - Keep the ABC in public hands

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to express my alarm upon hearing of the Coalition, One Nation & other vested interest parties push to privatise our ABC. The ABC, as a public broadcaster, is an integral part of the lives of my family, friends and, the people of regional and remote areas, in fact all Australians. There are many that do not have or are not capable of accessing the internet, who rely on the ABC. It is imperative it stays public, as it plays such an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy, which privatisation would undermine.

Play School and other children's programming have brought much joy, and education, to children and adults of many generations, engendering strong bonds between same. I have fond memories of mum watching and singing along to the Bananas with her grandson and, great grandchildren. Also, the many conversations about various ABC programs with family and friends. There is also a sense of pride that our public broadcaster encourages Australian talent and, has launched many careers.

The ABC's provision of quality, ethical Australian content across all areas is unsurpassed. It is where I go for trustworthy, informative, entertaining quality media, without sensationalism or, interrupted by inane repetitive commercials. Therefore, the ABC should not be compared with commercial media (which is influenced by, in some cases non Australian, the individual or corporate owners).

I again request our ABC be kept in public hands.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2031




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:47 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

Can you imagine a situation where there is no ABC? All we would be faced with is the mindless fare which is doled out by the commercial free to air channels at the moment. The ratio of adverts to content on current commercial television has got to be the highest in the World. If the ABC is privatised then any semblance of a balanced political view from broadcasters would go out of the window. I thoroughly enjoy programmes such as Q & A and Four Corners, especially the standard of investigative journalism of the latter. Already, we are seeing the impact of cuts to the ABC by the Federal Government, I was particularly incensed at the axing of Late Line. The ABC must remain in place as is and properly funded by the tax-payer. The ABC is an important player in the democratic process in Australia and must be protected at all costs.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2330 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:46 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC.

I am appalled at the Liberal Party's apparent intention to privatise the ABC. The ABC is the only TV and radio network that isn't forced by commercial pressures to deliver the most popular and marketable material. The commercial networks are barely distinguishable from each other, as they must respond to the pressures from advertisers. The ABC is able to provide material according to criteria of intrinsic value rather than simply popularity. However, constant funding cuts and attacks on the ABC are gradually eroding its public service function and represent death - or privatisation - by a thousand cuts. SBS has already been subjected to commercial pressures through its requirement to raise funds through advertising, though it still manages to provide some worthwhile broadcasting. I find it hard to believe that conservatives - as opposed to libertarians or doctrinaire liberals - would destroy an institution of such obvious public importance in Australia.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2602 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:44 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am most concerned over the Coalition's continued attacks on the ABC. Its calls for the ABC's privatisation and the like are an insult to ordinary Australians and the democracy we supposedly live in. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

A government inquiry into the ABC is not only a waste of money but further proof of the anti-egalitarian ethos pervading the Turnbull government. Privatisation has been shown to further disadvantage the poorest time and time again. This must not happen,

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5212



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:44 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC is Public hands

There is enough manipulation and exploitation by big global giants, and other private entities, whose only motivation is the dollar. They are ruthless, lack morals and are happy to spread false news whenever it suits them. We need the ABC to stay publicly owned. It is an expression of Freedom and independence of expression. Privatising the ABC would be wrong. It would seem out the Australia public. It would be a dog act, and should not be tolerated.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2096



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public hands

I just DON'T TRUST Turnbull and his PIRATE Band to tell the truth. The ABC is PUBLIC PROPERTY--to let it slip into "Private Hands" would be catastrophic--and to be honest I just DONT TRUST the so called "Covcervative Govt.

[REDACTED]

WA 6330



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:43 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3000




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is and must remain a public broadcaster.

i came to this country as a young man in 1973 i worked all over this Nation the ABC was everywhere to keep us informed in a unbiased way in all those years a majority of people in this country have become reliable on this information provided in emergency situations ,news as things are happening world wide ,information to local people in remote areas as well nation wide.
it has provided good coverage of events off all kinds .politics, sport , music off all types talk back shows in a fair spread of views information to people when no other organisations are or were interested. and on and on it goes. the tv programs in current affairs can not be understated as it gave us all including our political leaders information based on solid research and checking that information was correct this would not happen any other way by commercial operations and none of us would know the terrible treatment of young people in prisons the failure of our political cohorts with the water theft.the terrible actions by our financial operators our failures and lies by by people so called to represent the public and i can go on and on educational programs on radio and tv high class documentaries ect ect.dear senators this country would be a loser if we lost the ABC.
never privatise the ABC

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3803 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Definitely a wonderful ABC with the best people who are always clever and helpful

This is the only radio station contact I listen to, especially 7.45 a.m. news and midnight "The Challenge". Also occasionally beautiful classical music.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2153



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:41 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I oppose the privatisation of the ABC.

I heard Turnbull talk at Writers Festival event at the Sydney Town Hall some years ago when he argued passionately and persuasively about the importance of the ABC and the necessity to have an independent broadcaster as the cornerstone of democracy. This is a view with which I totally concur. Any suggestion that a 'commercial' interest could be 'objective' in its approach is purely fanciful; one that can only have credence in this 'post truth' age. I am totally opposed to the current defunding and proposed privatisation of the ABC.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2041 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:40 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: [REDACTED]

Please keep our public broadcaster in public hands. My family and I have grown up and enjoyed the ABC all our lives. I believe this is an important issue for all Australians to have our own public Broadcaster if only for the following issues:

Educational children's programming

Fair and informative current affairs programming (4 Corners, and Q&A)

Fantastic Australian produced sit comm's such as ('RAKE' and the new production 'Mystery Road') Which gives employment and exposure for our outstanding Australian actors. Especially our superb indigenous actors.

Free to air Sports broadcasting.

No PAINFUL, IRRITATING, TIME WASTING, Advertising.

These are just a few of the programming issues that make the ABC an important part of my life. Please let us not see a privatization of our Public Broadcaster.

Regards, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2528




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:39 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is important and precious to me. I live in a regional area and the ABC is my only source of news and cultural soul food! Shows like SBS news, Insight, Insiders, 7.30, The Drum and 4 Corners are my most trusted news sources. I can't imagine how tedious life would be without quality, stimulating drama with Australian content, such as Mystery Road! I feel SBS's foreign and art house movies and the ABC's culture shows like The Mix mitigate my isolation.

I'm concerned. I'm worried about the Coalition's attacks on our ABC and what it means for our society. The ABC needs to stay in public hands for a free and fearless media; for an informed democracy. The very premise of the inquiry (to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses a crucial point. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2441 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must always remain independent

The ABC is very precious to us all. It does not have the same repetitive advertising every eight minutes.
The ABC is the only truly independent investigative journalists.
It is NOT biased as every government insists.
It produces great Australian drama, comedy etc

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3151



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in our hands!

How can we be a country to be proud of if all of our news is owned by someone?

[REDACTED]

NSW 2482 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

The ABC is fine as it is. The programs are generally much better than those on commercial TV and having no advertising is a big plus. It also has, in my opinion, the most objective coverage of the news.

Regards [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2090 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:35 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is something that belongs to all of us and is the last place where politics, education, news, entertainment is delivered advertising-free. We need to have a space that delivers content only. Do not sell the ABC - it would be a short-term gain for a long-term loss.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2134 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:34 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

Independent media is essential in this day of neoliberal bottom line focus broadcasting and Fake News and biased corporate agendas.

The IPA's agenda is acutely apparent - and having an independent voice to question the government in a democratic society - not a fascist regimes.

Giving a voice to the minorities is important today a or country is no longer white decentant - represent the ethnic diversity of this country is overdue!

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2423



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:34 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is a highly valued part of my and my family's life.


I have seen how vital Classic FM was to my mother in her latter years when she lived alone, especially when she lost her mobility. It was excellent, uplifting company for her, almost as if the presenters were in the same room. She loved the beautiful music and warm and interesting commentary, and especially enjoyed Margaret Throsby's interviews.

Classic FM is stimulating company for me too. To listen to a Classic FM concert broadcast is almost like being there. And Classic 100 events and coverage of SIPCA (Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia) are very special occasions with pairs of presenters sharing their insight and building the excitement of the countdown/competition as well as the excitement of the music itself.

I'm also a fan of Double J which introduces me to new and interesting music of other genres. But on Monday nights it's difficult to choose between The Tower of Song on Double J and a big night on TV with Australian Story, Four Corners and Media Watch. These television shows are cultural icons which have long played a significant and positive role in Australian life that no commercial media does or could.

The ABC is woven into the fabric of so many Australian lives. It really is a huge public service, a strong contributor to Gross National Happiness and Enlightenment and worth very much more than the estimated four cents a day it costs each Australian.

Public broadcasting has a vital role to play in Australian life that commercial media cannot play. It is therefore wrong to view the ABC/SBS and commercial media as competitors.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2088 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:32 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

The ABC is a lifeline for me

[REDACTED]

QLD 4121 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:30 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: [REDACTED]

The ABC has always meant that in Australia there is a news service that is independent of the media moguls. To throw the ABC into the private arena means that the same influences will bear on this service. Every incident of privatisation has resulted in a massively inferior service. Please don't destroy the ABC.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6275 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:29 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not Privatisise the ABC

The retention of an independent national broadcaster which is not profit driven is an essential safeguard for democracy in Australia.

While the ABC does not always get its reporting right and is not always balanced, overall, it does a good job. It holds politicians, corporations and individuals to account better than most media outlets with the possible exception of the Fairfax papers with which it frequently co-operates.


While I am agnostic about the funding model for the ABC its retention is essential.

Privatising the ABC will destroy its uniqueness rendering it much like other profit based media companies.

It will also significantly disadvantage Australians living in more remote areas which rely upon its services heavily, particularly the fire and weather warnings it offers at present. It is unlikely commercial media outlets will undertake these essential services as they would reduce the profitability of their enterprises.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2137 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:28 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The A.B.C. must not be privatised.

There is a need for good radio programmes. Blind people expect to be able to hear sensible, informative and entertaining programmes , not the rubbish and advertisements that come with the other stations. I would rather pay a T.V. license fee each year than lose the ABC Station as it is now, though one does tire of all the repeats.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2611



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:28 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Whenever surveys are conducted about the viability of the ABC in its current form the broadcaster comes out with majority support for its reliability, integrity, quality and value to the Australian public. It is vital that the ABC remains publicly funded, especially at a time when the media in general has become dominated by sensationalist and populist reporting. The ABC represents the very best of Australian investigative reporting as well as very high quality commentary across a range of areas and interests. The Australian public needs this resource if we are to continue to remain well informed and critically engaged in both domestic and world affairs.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2605 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:27 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands of our ABC!

It is vital for the ABC to remain a public broadcaster. Any commercial enterprise is subject to loyalties to its financial backers, the quality of the service gets diluted by the private interests of those who advertise and sponsor, independent investigations will become non-existent. All this jeopardises the freedom of press and freedom of speech. We do not want to be beholden to the interests of those who have enough money to lobby for the outcome they desire. So hands off our ABC! And please stop your spineless bowing to the far right in the Liberal Party. We don't want you, we don't need you, we don't agree with you! Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5352 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:26 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Submission for the Retention of ABC Television, Radio & SBS

ABC Television, Radio & SBS are my major source of independent information. We find the commercial stations news and current affairs programs to be more 'infotainment' (which by the way are neither informative nor entertaining). Commercial Stations news tends to be a sensational take on events and does not tend to be well researched and reported. ABC Television, Radio & SBS provide a more professional, independent, factual and analytical approach to news and current affairs. The ABC is a crucial source for the distribution of important and independent information and discussion.

ABC programs such as ABC Breakfast, ABC News Mornings, Evening News, 4 Corners, Checkout, War on Waste, The Drum, National Press Club, The Business, Media Watch, Late Line, Insiders, Offsiders, Landline, Parliament Question Time and Q&A are our most trusted news and information sources.

We also love ABC documentaries & Drama, Gardening Australia, One Plus One and many others. ABC Radio Australia, Local 720 & Classic FM are the only radio stations we listen to. We listen to Classic FM every day, as this is the only station that broadcasts Classical Music. We would be lost without it!

ABC Television, Radio & SBS provides an independent and alternative source of information and entertainment which we would not like to forego. We believe that it enriches our lives and gives us content that we would never receive from commercial stations. Also living in a rural area it is often only the ABC Television, Radio & SBS that is available to us.

Any Government that thinks about selling off these stations or reduces funding will not get our vote. These assets definitely need to stay in public hands unlike the debacle of privatisation of public utilities that has occurred in Australia in the past. One only needs to look at the energy sector to see the effect of selling publicly owned utilities and assets has had on the delivery Government Policy. These assets are too important to our democracy and way of life to be sold and they should never be compared in any way with the commercial media.

Please do not touch our ABC Television, Radio & SBS.

[REDACTED]
WA 6567 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:26 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC independant.

I am a self employed small business man who has struggled to operate my business all my life. Never has it been harder to operate a small business. From my experiences running my companies, I have been routinely cheated and threatened by larger organisations that understand how to abuse the system. I have taken these crooks to court, and won, but at huge costs to myself and others as it has resulted in great financial loss for myself and collapse of my company and the jobs for the people it employed. It also resulted in suicides due to the damage done by these unethical corporations.

The ABC is the only organisation I have any respect for in that they perform award winning journalism to uncover large organisation such as I have been exposed to.

I am deeply concerned with the proposal to reduce funding or commercialise the ABC will only result in more abuse by larger companies and government. Without the ABC, these corporations will be able to perform these acts with impunity. This will result in great harm to or society and even more erosion in the ethical and far go culture that Australia was once known for.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3025



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:21 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't Privatisise the ABC

Democracy is a frail beast. In a country with an over- concentrated media its health would be almost certainly be destroyed with any move to privatise the ABC.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2090




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:18 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatised and I would never vote for the Liberal coalition again.

The ABC has science and other cultural content not available elsewhere.

[REDACTED]

SA 5022 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:18 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands Off The ABC!

From Playschool and Adventure Island in my early childhood, educational programmes at school, local news (now cut to the bone), Australian and BBC drama, Dr Who and Countdown, to its excellent current affairs - 7:30, The Drum, 4 Corners - plus Australian stories on Landline and Backroads (I could go on and on), the ABC has been the trusted backdrop to my life for 55 years. The only time I watch commercial channels is for footy, cricket and the Olympics, and oh for their return to the ABC when commentary was intelligent and, in the case of the Olympics, covered competitors from other countries!

I cannot bear the commercial networks. Their commentary is biased and shallow, sensationalised and unintelligent. The few decent programmes are interrupted by ads and shortened accordingly.

My radio listening habits are similar: Local Radio with news every hour, switching to Radio National for The World Today at midday (annoyingly now only at 1pm so I miss it), Afternoons and Drive for local happenings and the traffic, News Radio for more news and parliament. We even buried my Dad to the strains of Charles Williams' "Majestic Fanfare", so often did he listen to its strains at the top of the ABC News! Oh, and I used to like The Inside Sleeve before it too was cut.

I read ABC online every day, particularly for its excellent analysis of politics. As for iview, it has become a staple in my house. It leaves all the other streaming services in the shade.

The calls to privatise the ABC have nothing to do with cost and everything to do with the government of the day wishing to avoid scrutiny, and vested interests wanting the field free to push their biased agendas. If the ABC did not exist it would be necessary to invent it. Democracy would be the poorer without it, dare I say almost impossible! Hands off our ABC; reduce its scope or privatise it at the peril of all of us!

[REDACTED]

TAS 7170



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:18 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatize the ABC

The ABC and SBS are the primary independent news outlets in our country. They are also amongst the small majority that adhere to strict journalistic principles. A strong democracy needs an investigative and independent media to hold it to account.

Privately owned media organizations tend to favour the owners agenda. This is not conducive to good outcomes for the broader population.

There are few issues that would get me off my backside. this is one - I will march in the streets to protect an organization that aims to uncover the unsavoury behavior of our politicians.

[REDACTED]

WA 6008 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:17 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC provides a vital service for all Australians. It is an unbiased media provider that offers a fair and informed voice in a world heavy with self-serving financial influence. If the ABC was privatised it would automatically gain a bias of some kind.

From news to entertainment, the ABC generates media that is inclusive of all Australians and dedicated to Australian values. These inclusive qualities and values would likely be removed under a private organisation.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2043




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:15 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Fools - don't privatise the ABC.

Our family exclusively watch ABC or SBS now (except for the footy) because of the unbiased, balanced, critical reporting. They also produce fantastic drama series supporting our local industry. Media watch is just one show that highlights the pitfalls of private media. Have the Liberals not learnt anything from the banking fiasco and big companies?

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our society and for our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. It celebrates what is Australian by calling out disadvantage, discrimination and ensures we all have a fair go.
Lay off our ABC and give them fair go!

[REDACTED]

WA 6155 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:14 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please don't sell the ABC

When my daughter was a baby, having ABC radio on all day kept me sane! Intelligent, warm, rational and independent commentary cannot be found on the commercial channels. I cannot bear the outrage and bile that is the format of so much commercial radio. Please save our ABC, it's the only bright spot in a media landscape that is descending into misinformation and 'alternative facts'.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2077 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:13 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't sell off the ABC

The ABC is a essential part of the fabric of Australian society . For my kids growing up in regional QLD it was essential going from the quality kids shows to feeling like a part of the nation as the graduated to JJJ.

The ABC needs to stay in public hands so we have a strong stable free source of news, and a supporter of Australian arts and entertainment, which of course is a huge part of the economy.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2780 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 11:10 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Australians need the ABC!

The ABC has been an integral part of my family's life since I was a child. My children have grown up watching ABC2 & now ABCMe. The ABC is a trusted source of news & current events. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in Australia's democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. Please do not privatise the ABC.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2031

