From:

Sent:
Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:52 AM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the ABC in public hands

I support and watch ABC for its eduction values, informative and enquireing programs ,I do not want to be bombarded with advertising and second rate shows . This is public money maybe the government should ask us

QLD 4810

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep your hands off the ABC

The ABC is the only radio station I listen to. I live in regional Victoria. The ABC is the only station I trust, it is the only local station that has talkback. It gives me local, state and federal news. I trust the ABC to give fair, unbiased information. This is because they are not commercial, and therefore not pressured or influenced by monetary considerations.

What about Radio National? Would this go? What about the massive amount of educational information on their programs, covering all aspects of our lives, e.g. medical, scientific, etc. ABC radio podcasts are very important to my day and night. I also need the night programs, with insomnia a problem, but listening to Trevor or Rod makes it so much easier.

What about ABC FM, the classical station? My husband would be lost without this. We have no other station that plays classical music.

I have the ABC radio on all day. I would be lost without it. Please do not privatise it, as it would not be the radio we all trust.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:52 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I believe the ABC is the only hope for true democracy in Australia. It still protects us from the "fake truths" journalism which is becoming so prevalent and damaging overseas.

I am apalled by the right wing bias of the Murdoch press (which is still allowed to hold 70% of our print media), of the Commercial radio shock jocks, and of Commercial TV.

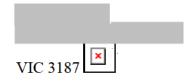
The ABC and SBS are repeatedly attacked by conservative parties who benefit greatly from this bias. The labor party is little better because they would secretly prefer to be free from any form of criticism. They do not seem capable of republicising anything which has be privatised, so would probably secretly like it to happen and would not reverse it.

While the ABC is rightly required to be balanced and has so far been found to do so in several recent "enquiries", there is no such requirement for other forms of information the public receives.

The ABC was the Australian originator of cultural broadcasting of art and music which will surety disappear if it is privatisedised.

The record of privatisation of banks, airports, electricity and gas is abysmal. It has led to the fleecing of the public while allowing reduced taxes, particularly for the rich.

The Liberal party once promised it would never introduce a consumption tax and did so later. The present promis never to privatise the ABC should be viewed in that light.



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:52 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Please keep the ABC in public hands

Please leave the ABC alone. It has already had major funding cuts. The ABC is the only station that my family and I trust to give us unbiased and fact based information.

We trust the ABC content and would be devastated if it became just another commercial channel.

It provides wholesome informative viewing for all generations and intelligences.

Please vote against privatisation at all costs.

Sincerely yours

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:52 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry ABC Credibility To:

Subject:

The ABC (along with Sydney Morning Herald) provides factual and credible information.

NSW 2099

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:52 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I hate the Liberal right wing, which is all of them

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:52 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC must stay in public hands, no privitisation

ABC is the most watched channel by far in this household. It is the very best channel for news & current affairs. A big plus with ABC is you are not bombarded with adverts every few minutes

NSW 2113

From: <<Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:51 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Our ABC must remain a public broadcaster start running the country for a change

Privately owned media has a proven political bias across the western world, including Australia. They can and do actively try to influence election outcomes which is totally against my values and upbringing. I have listened and viewed the ABC since I can remember and it is one of the main avenues I trust for political commentary. To lose this unique part of the Australian media landscape would be a national tragedy and provide the less than honest politicians among our elected representatives with free rein to subvert and corrupt our political processes and ultimately our way of life and values. If some politicians don't like the ABC commentary, then perhaps we should be taking a much closer look at their personal integrity and biases behind their actions.

QLD 4703

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:51 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry ABC must NObe privatised. To: Subject:

This is insane. This Government..... I don't even know where to begin. Aaaaargh!

From: < Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:51 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is our link to the public face of our country.

Through TV and radio they are the most trusted reliable unbiased media we have. We will fight hard and long to keep it as our public broadcaster.

NSW 2454

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The independence and freedom of the press of the ABC is essential to our democracy, and its ability to share information, opinion, and debate is a pillar of intelligence and compassion in Australia.

NSW 2482

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:50 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Sustain and nourish the ABC as a public service enterprise

The predominant voice in the Australian print and electronic media is that of News Limited and the alt-right ginger groups like the Institute of Public [sic] Affairs. At the moment, a member of the public reading, listening and viewing that material with a leavening of the ABC, might be inclined to strike a rough balance between the two streams. That rough balance would be biassed to the alt-right, now, because there is insufficient progressive and creative material coming from other potential sources. The ABC needs to be kept in public ownership and control and in addition there need to be other publicly funded sources for print, radio and electronic media, not only to counter the existing alt-right bias but to enrich public debate and the wider Australian culture. Further, there needs to be better accounting for income earned by publicly funded enterprise so that that income isn't crudely dumped into consolidated revenue but carefully recorded, credited to the source, and subjected to thoughtful analysis by more than two types of thinking.



From: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:50 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep ABC in public hands Sent: To:

Subject:

Seeing that rupert owns most of the news in this country. We need a strong ABC to stand up for the little people. By the way the telegraph is not even good enough to wrap fish and chips in

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:50 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: KEEP THE ABC IN PUBLIC HANDS

To privatize the ABC would mean not only that the nation's public conscience and independent commentator would be erxtinguished, but that another sponsored, biased commercial station would flood the country with useless crass material.

Do not let this happen!!



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:50 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

QLD 4879

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I'm a big supporter of independent journalism, especially journalism that successfully holds powerful people accountable. Our public broadcaster does just that. To sell it off is obviously a way to kill this very important part of our democracy.

From: <

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Our ABC should stay right where it is ... NO privatisation

The ABC is so important to this country. This voice should not be privatised or, we loose our voice. Don't sell us out. Once sold, we can never get it back. Would be such a death.

WA 6163

Subject: Save our ABC form commercialization.

In our democracy we need more than profit driven news and current affairs broadcasting in order to understand what is going on in our own country and the world. The ABC and SBS provide this in-depth analysis. My life would be diminished if their talented journalists were to be constrained by commercial interests. RN is my chief source of current affairs and human issues and I am full of admiration for the the work their journalist do.

Similarly ABC TV programmes such as 4Corners and Insight shine a light on many aspects of life. If our democracy is to survive we need more input into these services not further cuts or worst of all commercialization. PLEASE KEEP THE ABC AND SBS IN PUBLIC HANDS>



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC public. Do NOT privatise the ABC

Every democratic country worth the moniker should be entitled to have a Public Broadcaster unimpeded by private or corporate companies or by politicians. Freedom of broadcast and speech should not be ties to the whims of private views. I STRONGLY and fervently support the ABC being kept in public hands. And I am a swinging voter!

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent: To:

Subject: The ABC must be kept in public ownership

I want access to independent local and world news that is not skewed by commercial or political interests. I CANT GET THIS FROM ANY SOURCE EXCEPT THE ABC

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC under attack

If the coalition is stupid enough to think that their own supporters will back this, let them die by their own hand. Abetz, Abbot, Hanson and a few other yesterday's people will wallow in their own bile.

NSW 2037

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public Hands

Will the private contractors keep looking after the country people. Will they have emergency information that the ABC give. Can they STOP paying presenters so much money - then they can look after the people more. We only watch the ABC and the SBS as there are supposed to be less commercials and are free to air. They both play a part in our democracy which we seem to be losing by the day!!!!



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Our ABC!!

To whom it may concern,

ABC belongs to the people. We pay taxes to fund it. It is our right for it to remain in our hands. If you have nothing to hide you have nothing to fear from what ABC reports!

WA 6061

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Leave ABC in public hands

The ABC is my only form of communication media I do not wish to have it privatized and have to listen to a lot of jargin that will obviously happen if privatized

From: <

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:48 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must always serve people, and must never serve profit.

I have fifty years of experience as a journalist, broadcaster and author, working regionally, nationally and internationally. I have been based, first in Europe and later in Australia. I have worked in sensitive and difficult areas, such as Northern Ireland.

I am very much aware of the value of unbiased and accurate information, offered responsibly and regularly, where nothing is strategically omitted, where only truth (and not profit) is served.

Among those broadcasters I have worked with is the ABC, BBC, RTE, RTF. They have all, in their various times, brought stability to the countries they served. National publicly-owned broadcasters are irreplaceable. To privatise the ABC would be an act of anti--social idiocy.

NSW 2011

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:48 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC and private ownership

For more than sixty years I have relied on the ABC as a source of balanced information and I hope to be able to continue to rely on it. This will not be the case if the ABC is privatised and becomes a creature of political bias. The Murdoch media juggernaut already has an inordinate ability to influence public opinion and the political process at its pleasure. The loss of the ABC would mean the disappearance of another independent medium and a further gain for the barbarians inside the media gate.

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Don't destroy the ABC

The ABC and SBS are the knly channels I watch for the following reasons:

- * there are no distracting ads to interrupt the show (in the case of SBS there are fewer and none would be better.)
- *The journalism is of a high standard and free of emotive nonsense which is deeply ingrained in commercial tv.
- *The programs are diverse and thought provoking, unlike commercial t.v. which caters to the lowest common denominator, eg, reality and competitive cooming shows.
- *ABC is inclusive of all parts of society LGBTF, women, religious groups, races.
- *ABC can be trusted to present views on all sides of politics without bias, unlike commercial t.v. which may be influenced by the views of owners or directors (e.g. Fox). Obviously this offends incumbent parties on occasion.

To privatize ABC would eliminate these enormous benefits enjoyed by voters. PLEASE LEAVE THE ABC TO CARRY ON THE FANTASTIC JOB IT'S DOING.

QLD 4520

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Terrified Control Freaks Shutting Out Free and Open Dialogue

Shut down all dissent and you can believe you're always right. Choose to hear only what you want to hear and you will create lies you can believe in. The other name for it is Fascism.

TAS 7007

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:48 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep the AbcC in public hands

I, like the vast majority of Australians, am outraged that the Government is even holding an inquiry into the ABC.

Surely the Government must be aware that even those who do not tune into the ABC believe that the it should remain in public hands and be adequately financed to carry out its role as an independent broadcaster.

Public broadcasting plays an important role in our democracy and if it is under threat, then so is our much cherished democracy.

From: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Value of the ABC

I am a 70 year old grandmother who cherishes and values our ABC. Australia would be irrevocably diminished without this vital public institution.

The ABC is a source of truth and clarity in an increasingly confusing and fragmented media landscape. Let me set out some of the things I value most about our ABC.

I live on the Far South Coast of New South Wales. Three months ago a bush fire ravaged the local town of Tathra. Who did the community turn to in the crisis and the recovery? Our ABC. Local presenters told us what was happening, what to do and how we could help. In the days after our local ABC kept us informed of the many initiatives people could join, from the Mayor's fund which raised over a million dollars, to charities and churches, to local bookshops co-ordinating a campaign for new kids books for a pop up library. Auntie unified and galvanised us into action and healing in a way no commercial operation could. The ABC carries the DNA of Australia's head and heart.

Every week I enjoy programs like Gardening Australia and Landline which as well as keeping me inspired and informed reflect back to me the richness of landscape and communities of Australia. Back Roads is another uniquely Australian program which reflects the depth of the human and other resources the ABC has developed. It is the culture of the ABC which produces these programs and it is irreplaceable. A blow to the ABC is a blow to the heart of Australia.

Play School, competed on predicting the window and enjoyed this icon together. I know mind are safe with Auntie. Children need media free from advertising and the ABC has worked hard to deliver it to us.

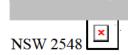
During my career I spent some time working in child protection and retired at the age of 65 suffering mental and emotional exhaustion. One of the ways I have worked towards healing is by listening to the calming music of Classic FM. I wonder how much this service assists in improving the mental health of other people. It is such a calming activity to listen to classical music and once again the ABC delivers at the highest level.

It is in the area of current affairs and national and international news that the ABC's role is most vital. In a time of 'fake news' and political lies it is essential to democracy that citizens have a news service that is well resourced and reliable as well as non-partisan. Despite accusations of left wing bias from extremists on the other side, the ABC has been shown in numerous reports and surveys to have reported in a fair, unbiased and balanced way. I watch The Drum, ABC News, 7.30 Report and QandA and hear the views of people across the political spectrum. We must have a free publicly funded broadcaster in these times of high risk of interference in our democratic processes.

I am inspired by the courage and professionalism of foreign reporting teams across the world. People like Sally Sara who risk so much to bring stories home to Australia from war and disaster zones. May they come back to us safe and sound.

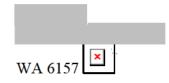
The ABC has also played a pivotal role in developing talent in the entertainment and arts sectors. I wonder how many successful careers have been launched from the ABC, making it a key contributor to national growth in this area.

Finally, I love the ABC because it reflects back to me an Australia that is intelligent and compassionate, that strives for the highest levels of achievement in often difficult environments. The ABC is part of the DNA of Australia and we are blessed to have it. It makes me proud to be an Australian.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

No Way!!! Please. The only stations I can listen to and watched without intolerable tacky advertising and petty ridiculous content. Please keep Australia intelligent with useful and interesting content aimed about primary school level. Please Ill have no media left. This is important



From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Stop reducing and disempowering our ABC - it's not yours to privatise

The ABC does a fantastic job of providing impartial, quality and critically important programing for the Australian public. It is not in Australia's best interest to allow companies with private interests to control the media. I do not support any decrease in funding nor the privatisation of the ABC - the mere suggestion is preposterous. The Australian public did not vote you in to represent us to take away our voice and trusted media representation. You don't get to have a say about our say - leave it alone. Shame on you!

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: To the ABC Board: Don't cut our ABC!

The ABC is a vital contact for elderly people who can rely on it's credibility and honest reporting. It should not be closed, it belongs to the people, it does not need commercial advertising and should be well funded by the government. Please return the funding that you have already cut and allow the the ABC to continue it's good work.

From: < Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject:

To the members of the government inquiry into our ABC,

I have been an ABC follower for all my life and I would urge you all to consider what Australians would lose if it was privatised. The ABC gives us a wonderful range of programs that are informative, diverse, and also non partisan, even though some try to say otherwise. The children's programs are high standard (my children and grandchildren have grown up with them), as are the radio programs, especially the musical programs.

What would we do without programs like Heather Ewart's 'Back Roads' or Annabelle Crabb's 'Back in Time for Dinner'? Then there's Q&A. While it varies from week to week, it is usually topical and thought provoking, and is definitely bi partisan. It always includes different political perspectives and the audience is across party divides.

The news service is comprehensive, especially during an emergency. I lived through the Pasha Bulka storm with only the radio to let me know what was going on. And of course there have been other events when the ABC was the major source of information.

What the ABC has been able to do with less and less money is remarkable.

I doubt if most Australians would like us to get to the place that the US is at now when the media is demonised by the government. Sadly it appears that the ABC is being demonised by some.

What happens if it is privatised? So many of our organisations and services that have been privatised have struggled to provide the same level of services eg Telstra. Please don't let this happen to our ABC.

NSW 2305

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in Public Hands

Please keep ABC in government hands, as it would be tragic if it became another Murdoch or similar mouthpiece. We need to know the truth, not propaganda.

WA 6026

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am a 70 year old Brisbane born citizen, a retired primary school teacher and a committed listener and viewer of the ABC. As a teacher I used the resources provided by the ABC in my teaching. Television programs such as Behind the News and Around the Twist among many others. I used ABC songbooks and CDs in my music teaching. Commercial media outlets did not provide such resources for our students. I trust the ABC as a source of information on many issues, current affairs, environmental/climate change matters, indigenous issues, the arts scene, among many others. I have no faith that the private sector can ever provide this wonderful service. The ABC is something to be proud of, to be trusted, to be supported by my taxes. So much for the reliability of the private sector, Optus couldn't even deliver the World Cup soccer, good old SBS had to bail them out. (They should have had the rights to the soccer in the first place.) Politicans and governments come and go and represent some people on some issues but the ABC belongs to all Australians and long may it continue as our public broadcaster.

QLD 4183

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keeo our ABC in public hands!!!!!!!

Publicly-funded media is accountable to the public and not to profits and therefore is a cornerstone of an inclusive democracy. We say a deafening NO to privatisation of the ABC!!

SA 5154

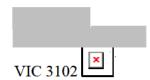
From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I don't want the ABC privatised because I won't be able to trust that its content isn't skewed to suit advertisers and donors' private agendas. We need a broad, inclusive platform to include content from and for sectors who don't usually have a voice including disabled and ESL. I also don't like advertisements disrupting my viewing time.



From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

We need our ABC to remain of and for the public Subject:

I wish to earnestly submit that the ABC must stay as a public service because we need it to remain independent and fair in choice of topics and programs. That will not happen if it is privatised. Our society is the better for having the ABC investigate our society and its systems, for better or for worse, and also to showcase us to ourselves, to hold up a mirror.

People like me trust the ABC not to be biased; I personally use ABC Radio only for my news, but also for the intelligent discussions, for interviews and analyses of music, literature, art, philosophy and religions. For television it is the programs that drive my choice but to move from an ad-free zone is a reluctant decision. Were the ABC to have ads I would rather use the internet.

We know that a privatised ABC would take the cheaper options of buying in more overseas programs. So we need the ABC to be the driver of locally made shows-dramas, comedy, children's programs - because that both reflects Australia and grows Australia.

As a regional dweller I am appalled at the idea of losing my lifeline to culture and unbiased information. Please keep the ABC alive and public – and stop bleeding it of funds. Already the cuts are showing in the number of repeated shows each week. I would happily pay more tax to help support our ABC.

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC is a jewel in our democracy, much more than just another media outlet

The liberal party as simply targeting the ABC to silence dissent, it is purely political in nature and has nothing to do with tax payers money. This is evidenced by the liberal parties eagerness to throw away billions in tax dollars to cut company tax for which their is no rational economic justification, only liberal ideology which to date has proven to be wrong. Trickle down economics has been dis proven to work. The recent attempt to silence not for profits from political comment is also proof of this. The question really is why is the liberal party so fearful of criticism, and why do they think they have the right to use law to stop it in a democracy? This is a disturbing abuse of power and more evidence that the liberal party has become and anti-democratic force only caring about looking after the rich at any price.



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:46 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC must always remain a Public entity - a Common Wealth

My Will is that the ABC always remain, as is, a Public entity - and NEVER be privatised. It is a fundamental source of information for All Australians - and provides independent investigations into bad behaviour of individuals, corporations and political parties.

The ABC must be supported and enhanced not destroyed as it is now and even further by Privatisation.

VIC 3059

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:46 AM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
It is OUR ABC, and must be kept PUBLIC!! To:

Subject:

I love the ABC, and the LNP must take their dirty rotten IPA ideological hands off it. Menzies would be horrified.

From: Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:46 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC

Since migrating to this country in 1986, and getting to know the ABC, I have come to regard it as a national treasure, comparable to other national cultural and educational institutions. The responsibility of Government is to collect taxes and utilise them for the common good. The common good that emanates from the ABC for the relatively modest subsidy of around 1 billion dollars, I would like to see matched by many other Govt supported institutions. As well as a plethora of arts, social, educational and cultural programmes, the ABC provides by far the most credible and impartial reporting on political affairs. It is therefore an absolute pillar of our democracy. And of course this is why the current Government is so ready to attack; they do not like being scrutinised or held to account by a team of journalists and commentators whose intellectual firepower so far outweighs their own. This Government is not interested in the common good - it is interested in itself and its dated ideology. Electorally they know they could never get away with privatising the ABC, at least at the moment. But they can and do chip away with sniping and budget cuts and who knows where that could lead in the longer term. Lets not become a country where the media and the Government are in cahoots. That would mean goodbye freedom and democracy.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:46 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC has to stay in public hands ...

... or we will end up like the media world in the US - profits first, sensationalism and lies, fear mongering and deception to suit the agenda of the rich and powerful! The majority of the population misinformed and unable to see behind the curtain.

We need the balancing power of a public broadcaster!

No government should ever have the power to sell public assets, especially not the power to privatise a institution that has an immense influence on public opinion!

Hands off our ABC!!!



From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:46 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry I dont want the ABC to be privatised. To: Subject:

I dont want the ABC to be privatised.

QLD 4350

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:45 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Public broadcasting is important! Leave the ABC to do its job!

I write in support of the ABC remaining in public hands, funded by the taxpayers it so manifestly benefits. I live on the south coast of NSW and rely entirely on the ABC for television and radio news. I have more faith in its providing reliable and non-ideological news and analysis, compared to commercial stations. The duty of commercial stations is first of all, to they shareholders, to maintain and increase the share price and secondly, in order to do that, to the source of their income - advertisers. The ABC's duty is to those who fund it - Australia's taxpayers, and in my experience are quite capable of providing opinions and analysis from the spectrum of political views in Australia. I don't agree with everything I hear and see on the ABC but I have no doubt that the motivation of all who work at the ABC is to provide an honest and reliable service. I don't have that faith in commercial providers and would no longer have that faith in a privatised ABC. Governments and parliamentarians of all political persuasions think they have reason to complain about and criticise the ABC. In my view that just means the ABC is doing its job - holding members of parliament and the government to account. The ABC must be allowed to continue to do its job in that respect. Thank you.

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:45 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent: To: Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I do not want the ABC in private hands. I value their unbiased reporting on the news and feel that if privatised I certainly would not get that. I am an avid ABC watcher because of this and very rarely watch a commercial channel on TV. I certainly will not be voting for the Coalition if this privatisation goes ahead

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:45 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC should not only remain in public hands, but should be properly funded.

Having travelled overseas and seen the results of a nation without a national broadcaster, I am horrified by the thought that the ABC could be privatised. Privatisation not only means that the public is bombarded with unwelcome advertising constantly interrupting programs; it also means that the content and editing of programs is decided by interests that cannot help but be vested and therefore biased. In a democratic country, regardless of the proportion of the population which prefers the services of the national broadcaster, EVERY citizen should have the right to the services of an independent, unbiased, fully funded media channel which does what the ABC does best, ie. investigative journalism into all sides of politics and all relevant issues, without fear or favour, and the generation of quality programs which are or may be of interest to all or any group within the population.

The ABC has historically excelled at the above-mentioned tasks, and its various services, and TV programs ranging from Playschool to Four Corners to dramatic series such as 'Redfern Now' and 'Mystery Road' are cherished and valued for their quality, their content, and the lack of advertising embedded within them. I urge the proper funding of the ABC to continue to produce such services and programs and to make them available to all Australians who choose to take advantage of them.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:45 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC is our only hope for independence in the media.

In my professional career as an (EDP) auditor I have had a close exposure to the ABC's activities. As an ABC listener/watcher I have enjoyed the privilege of listening to and watching the ABC's programs free from the interference of sponsors who dictate terms for commercial media outlets.

From both of these associations I have experienced the value that the ABC provides through its programming. We must retain this independent media outlet for the sake of the country.

The conservative side of politics can see how their conservative mates can benefit financially if they can determine what goes to air.

The ABC must not be taken over by commercial/political interests. The LNP only want to remove one of their "enemies" so that critical comment won't affect their political stance in the electorate.

QLD 4854

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:45 AM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC out of private hands

The ABC is a wonderful broadcaster - covering topics that are frequently overlooked by other commercial broadcasters - it enjoys the freedom to do this. Also the ABC's reportage of so many public issues has proven instrumental to bringing public awareness which has then instigated justice, and change. Long live the ABC

QLD 4151

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

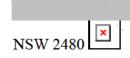
The ABC is tax payer funded - not government funded - and the network does not require political meddling by any government. It is the only news and current affairs channel the public trusts and the majority of Australians do NOT WANT the ABC or its charter tampered with by untrustworthy politicians!

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:44 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: News?

As you would well know ,the monopoly of press that Murdock has pursued has resulted in the world-wide "fake-news" debacle, where it is increasingly difficult to discern real information from the propagandist private media and the lies of Donald Trump and other right-wing/fascist government sources, such as , Liberal, National,One Nation ,Clive Palmer , Family First and all the political spiel common to all political campaigns .

The last bastion of credibility (despite politically motivated funds starvation) is in fact the ABC, even though in recent years this organisation, too, has been forced to champion the government line in regards to their war-crimes in invading countries such as , Iraq and Afghanistan. in time no doubt Howard will be brought before the Hague . Meanwhile the ABC must have increasing funds and be encouraged to question all political and social activity in this country, especially those that embarrass the government and any move to curtail independence, or force through funding cuts a compliant stance by politicians should be considered a crime against the people ,be treated as treason and punishable by at least ten years gaol. The ABC and public information is a cause well above the petty meanderings of crooked politicians ,often with allegiance to foreign powers.



Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:44 AM Sent: To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

The ABC is the most reliable and comprehensive network in australia.

It provides a unique service that would not be possible if it was privatised. If private networks wanted to they could undertake the same level of reporting and local content, but they don't. there is no reason to believe this would be different if the ABC was privatised

Losing this network would cause irreprable damage to australian society

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands, forever!

Dear Inquiry,

The fundamental health of any democracy is to ensure that there is a public institution which truly broadcasts unbiased information and holds discussions of integrity regarding issues of importance to the nation. The ABC brilliantly fulfills that function in our society. It does so because it is in public hands and its remit is set by legislation. Privatising the ABC will clearly damage the state of public discussion, knowledge and understanding across the Australian community. This can only affect the calibre and sophistication of how we as a society then decide how to plan, vote and handle concerns for our collective future as a nation.



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hands off my/our ABC

I'm 81 years young and have a lifetimes experience of relying on the ABC for quality product, commercial free, balanced and informative. I've raised my children with the best of childhood television, been kept informed of issues both local and international, and let abreast of fire, flood information. My life is based on more than money, and economic outcomes.

Please set your amazing minds to fixing so many problems we australians have, do constructive work not destructive. The ABC is part of the DNA of this country, not you Mr Abetz

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

To Whom it may concern,

I am a hard working mother of 3, registered nurse, wife and member of my community. ABC provides every member of our household with excellent quality programming, current affairs and current news (from all perspectives:local, federal, interstate, international). My children watch brilliant television without advertisements every 5 minutes, quality television which informs and educates whilst entertaining. ABC provides world class services. I realise that I am very fortunate to have access to lots of local community events and supports as I require them but what about those people who live in remote communities? How do our fellow Australians feel included in the conversation if the ABC is further eroded by politicians who want to deny the right to debate and protest?



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I beg you not to privatise the ABC. It is one of our last bastions. The ABC programs I have enjoyed for years and years. Lets leave our children quality programs. How else would us city dwellers have known of the life and times of our rural community and tales of wild life in Australia.

TAS 7000

From: <

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: THREATS TO ABC

Threats to privatise the ABC, and cutting its funding must cease.

It is vital that the ABC remains an independent source of quality news and investigative journalism. Commercial media simply do not adequately challenge ideas or expose corruption. Governments want to destroy the ABC to escape criticism and reasoned evaluation of their proposals.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC out of private hands

The ABC is for me, one of the most effective balances in our scales of justice. I know it keeps democracy alive by highlighting issues that the government of the day find embarrassing or inconvenient in their push for some measure or other. It is separate from the business self interests and can maintain an informed eye on the way business employs any tactic, irrespective of how dangerous these tactics are for the people. Corporations and individuals have repeatedly shown that they will do anything to gain their goal, from the tobacco industry false advertising to the hidden manipulation of the global financial system through auto toxic trading. Time and time again the free people of the world have been enslaved by propaganda and secrecy, maintained by a government. A government such as this in concert with amoral vested business interests already are having a disastrous effect on the biological entities on the planet. Capitalism is brilliant in the ways it manages exchange of goods and services. We, the people are not goods and services. Currently, Capitalism has invaded arenas that are not it's rightful providence. Nothing is a universal method, that includes Capitalism. This L,NP, Hanson group are the tools of choice in that their purpose is adherence to a doctrine that is toxic to people. Altruism, or even the ethically principled is a rare and oppressed thing among their ranks. Labour, of course is little better in so many ways, as are the Greens, et al. So this concerted attack on the independence of the ABC is a concerted attack on the strength of Australia's democracy.

The ABC and SBS are essential to the maintenance of the resistance to Fascist, Dictatorial and Authoritarian regime, and so peace in Australia. Can you imaging an underground resistance operating in Australia as it did in Europe in the early 1940s. As the VC did in Vietnam. As any current manifestation of underground revolt does. The outcomes are always death, destruction and a savage step backwards in the pacification of the globe. To be involved in the privatisation of the remains of the Australian public broadcasting system, instead of bolstering it for the sake of campaign funds in your endeavour to gain power, is to expose the people of this nation to an amoral, vicious organism that devours all the things that make being human so brilliant and beautiful.

In conclusion, get your filthy blood soaked hands of our ABC and SBS.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Don't sell off the ABC

Good Sirs can I just say, that when the President of the United States doesn't trust the news sources why should we!

There has never been a more important time for Australians to have a news source they can trust, free of commercial interests, free speech forums like Q&Aeven if you, the politicians do not like what you sometimes hear! A broadcaster that generally is speaking for the voiceless and the powerless.....if not them than WHO? Certainly not Murdoch press and their like.

Both political parties have been guilty if selling off everything Australian cared aboutwe don't own our telco; the power grid; our bank; our airports; and you're trying to sell off our ports! The list goes on and on. Disappointing results of privatised prisons both on and off shore.

We have Russia most likely disrupting USA elections, China vying for our internet infrastructureagain who's interest is it serving to privatise the ABC? Certainly not the publics, the voters are sick of watching the fire sale...it's been going on for too long and by both parties..... But if it happens under your watch it will be forever be on your record, you will wear the consequences at the ballot box!



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Value of a public broadcaster

For my whole life I have listened to ABC radio. My parents would play the local ABC station every morning and while cooking dinner every night. As I've grown up and moved out of home, I have carried on this habit, putting on ABC news every morning, as it is the news source that i trust the most to deliver objective and in-depth coverage of important issues. Every time I travel in Australia I tune in to the local ABC station, because it is the best way to get to know the region. Privatising the ABC would erode my trust in this news source. As a public asset, I can trust the ABC to be committed to supporting a robust democracy and fostering communities across Australia, as well as our national culture and community. It is a sad indictment on attitudes towards our democratic culture that the loss of such an important asset is being considered a viable option. I fear that with its privatisation, this invaluable cultural asset will be lost.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:43 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hand Off our ABC

An independent, well funded broadcaster is vital for our democracy.

Commercial channels operate for profit. A tax payer funded broadcaster performs public service. Profit is not everything.

Investigative reports by 4 Corners and The 7:30 Report expose many malpractices in private as well as government agencies. Restore Lateline as well.

The ABC is not Left Wing biased. The commercial channels owned by powerful entrepreneurs are Right wing biased. Control them.

Restore proper funding to our ABC.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must remain as a public broadcaster.

I did not intend to lend legitimacy to this enquiry by making a submission. The question as to whether the public broadcasters have an undue advantage over commercial outlets should not be asked as there is no sensible answer. A public broadcaster and a commercial broadcaster are two different animals and cannot be compared.

However now that the Liberal Party have voted to sell off the ABC I feel that some ordinary viewers like myself need to express a view as we have moved one significant step closer to what most of us considered quite unthinkable.

The ABC is one of our most important cultural institutions, a significant part of what makes living in Australia worth while. Together with a few other public broadcasters such as the BBC and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation it is the envy of the world. Its performance is enhanced with the existence of a parallel public broadcaster SBS which helps maintain standards by offering a continuing comparison.

While we have many favourites among the ABC offerings it is in the field of News and Current affaires that the existence of an independent public broadcaster is so important. One only needs to compare the commercial current affairs offering with the 7.30 report and 4corners to realise how important these programs are to the health of our society and the working of democracy. far from considering removing our public broadcasters we should be legislating to insure that these institutions are truly independent. A funding mechanism is required like the BBC licence fee so that the broadcaster does not have to look over their shoulder all the time wondering where the next dollar is to come from.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: J]Keep the ABC in public hands

I am most upset to hear that some members of our parliament want to privatise the ABC. I am appalled at the poor quality of programs on commercial TV, be it news and current affairs or 'entertainment' and the infuriating commercials shown every few minutes. I want a better alternative and we have it. It is the ABC. I appreciate their informative documentaries, their professional newsreaders and current affairs discussion programs and their quality dramas, albeit that they are forced to do many repeats. I use iView regularly to see programs I miss at scheduled times. I also enjoy listening to ABC Classics on my radio, usually for several hours per day. It will be very, very sad if this is compromised and dumbed down to the poor standards of commercial programs which definitely will happen if privatised. Please do not let this happen.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I grew up in a country area and have listened to the ABC all my life. When we bought a TV we would watch ABC. The ABC has always delivered important and relevant news and information, it has informed and educated us on issues from around Australia and the world. The ABC carries out its duty to present fair and accurate news and information. You cannot compare this with commercial media. Fund the ABC adequately and allow it to do its job.

Regards,

VIC 3149

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Rural Australia needs you

Try and watch commercial Television, like Channel 9 and 7 and you will desert the ABC

ACT 2614

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

I have long been a regular viewer of and listener to the ABC. It broadcasts reliable news and current affairs and is the most important source of Australian cultural content. It supports Australian TV and radio production and is the bravest of media outlets in terms of its investigative journalism. The 4 Corners program has revealed various subjects (e.g. Murray-Darling Basin water theft) which have been of national significance. In short I trust the ABC and do not similarly trust commercial networks. Regarding TV drama and comedy, the quality of ABC productions is higher than on commercial networks.

The Coalition's attacks on our ABC will demean our society and leave it a poorer culture.

The ABC needs to stay in public hands so as to maintain quality, independent journalism and good drama and other productions. The very premise of the current government inquiry (whether the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) is misguided. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

ACT 2602

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC a public entity - Privatization will ruin it

Please, please don't go through with this plan. Whenever publicly funded bodies have been privatised in the past, the end result of more prosperity/cheaper costs/better for the community have not occurred. The ABC remaining public is so important as it allows for such a different service to be provided that commercial services cannot. Rather than being driven by profit and what is 'best for the business', the ABC can currently provide what is 'best for the community'. The children's channels are amazing being advertisement free and age appropriate, as well as the associated online applications etc. The news TV channels and online outlets are also so crucial in a time when agendas of commercial news providers are dictated by those with the most money. These allow so many stories to be heard that otherwise wouldn't be, and this is so important if we are to maintain a free and democratic society.

Privatisation leads to whats best for the bottom line, and we don't need more of that.

Please keep the ABC in public hands where it can do the most good and give Australian's something not offered by commercial ventures.

Kind regards,

SA 5109 ×

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

I want the ABC and SBS to stay as is because I cannot stand the rubbish programs coming from the USA. Commercial television have purchased all the best shows from the ABC but we have already seen them so we will be forced to watch rerun after rerun. I could almost recite Heartbeat on 7two word for word. The increase in talent reality shows or rubbish shows searching for love is horrible and of no interest to older australians. Total rubbish. The best viewing is on the ABC & SBS and taking that away from us is unforgivable.

QLD 4011

From: < Thursday, 21 J

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

We need a strong public broadcaster to keep us informed with all the latest information and events in an impartial and unbiased way.

We rely on the high standards and impartiality that ABC provides to keep us well informed and educated about things that really matter.

This is particularly important in the closed media environment that we have in Australia today.

We do not need another private broadcaster in Australia driven by profit margins and commercial interests.

SA 5082

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

I moved to Australia 7 years ago and the ABC has been the backbone to my education on all parts of Australia that I have or have not been to. It's independence from commercial/political bodies has made it a trusted source of information.

Privatisation has not worked in Australia for any public utilities. Electricity/telecom prices have gone up and services slashed. It would be wrong to allow the market any influence in the ABC. It would become another carbon copy of the poor to we currently get from the commercial stations.

WA 6721

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep a trusted broadcaster.

Please keep the Australian broadcaster which gives my grandchildren such a varied and considered childrens program source. It alsoprovides us with trusted programs. Thankyou

SA 5700

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

My parents watched the ABC, I grew up watching the ABC and so did my own children. It is the only broadcaster that doesn't show you endless advertising between and during shows. It has quality programs, with good Australian content. eg Backroads, Landline, Australian Story. Good investigative journalism on shows like 4 Corners and 7.30 keep politicians and corporations honest. Great open discussion show like Q & A just don't exist anywhere else! With the cutbacks they have already suffered its amazing that Aunty can keep producing such quality shows. We don't call her Aunty for nothing, she's like one of the family yet she belongs to everyone. Hands Off The ABC!

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: DON'T PRIVATISE THE ABC

I am 78 and my husband is 85, we love and trust our ABC, we rarely watch other channels due to the commercialism and utter rubbish they call Reality TV. If you do the same to the ABC, we will have nothing to watch in our few remaining years.

Please keep our beloved Auntie independent.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Give the ABC MORE freedom and finance

My overwhelming concern with privatising the ABC is the shutting down of one of the only voices left which exposes, continually, the very subtle lies and deceit with which the private media steer public opinion. A privatised ABC will quietly be under the control of the owners, becoming just another voice for the Powerless rich. The state of the Murray Darling is a case in point. Also of potential regret will be the loss of the freedom of subject matter and, most importantly , the depth of research/exposure of that subject matter

The ABC continuing as a Public broadcaster allows this country the opportunity to grow up. To face issues, such as water mining, alternative energy development and Aboriginal dignity (to name a few) with some guts and with a viewpoint other than the capitalist dogma that continues to rule private media. We need this institution to stay biased against ignorance, to force us to wake up and question. What are the the Liberal Party Council afraid of here.

From:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Don't privatise the ABC - Keep it public!

The ABC is a national treasure. The public broadcaster provides unbiased news and great local entertainment which can be enjoyed add free! If you live in a regional area it is a life line to the rest of Australia as it is the only source of news. 4 Corners is a brilliant investigative programme. Bananas in Pyjamas and Peppa Pig are great for children. The ABC makes money from the merchandising. Privatisation brings in advertising - bad for children and bad for a balanced view point. The Coalition seems to attack the ABC when they disagree with it. The Coalition seems to me to want to shut them up - why?! Does the ABC do its job and get close to uncovering bad practices within the Coalition. A public ABC is essential for a fair society.

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

I would never vote for a government that privatises the ABC!

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must not be Privatised

The ABC is made up of a trusted, professional group of journalists who deliver our news and current affairs daily with true facts and deep interviews with experts in their field. The ABC must never be sold and today more than ever before we must ensure it does not pass into the extreme right wing which is developing in our country thanks to Rupert Murdoch's right wing news.

Australia is a "free" country which means free press and too many countries are attaching their journalists. We do not want to be dominated by an uncaring and evil right wing or Hitler will start to look normal. it is a wonderful organisation and the investigative research and journalism is invaluable. so many scams and corrupt instances are exposed by the ABC either on Radio or TV.

Malcolm Turnbull you must not pursue this madness. We have too many right wing news outlets already. regards,



From: Thursday 21 June 2

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Do not sell our ABC!

As we have seen from the privatization of public utilities in Australia, inevitably the corporate goals shift from serving the needs of the end users to satisfying the objectives of the investors or share-holders. Despite the frequent claims of bias within the ABC there appears to be sufficient statistical evidence to refute those claims. Only our ABC (for indeed it is the property of the taxpayers not the Government) that pursues the broadest cultural and education agenda. There is no evidence of which I am aware of any other private organization genuinely and consistently pursuing these agenda. Please do not sell off our ABC!

SA 5255

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:41 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

Hello,

I am writing to you to express my support for the ABC (and SBS) and the importance of keeping it in public hands

A brief look at what is currently on the ABC at the moment shows one of the best Australian made dramas from the last few years in "Mystery Road", which also showcases a considerable number of excellent Aboriginal actors - a program unlikely to be made by a commercial station.

The current affairs programs do present a balanced view of current affairs (despite propaganda trying to say they do not) and this is in comparison to current affairs presented on stations such as Sky News where the level of bias is evident and actively promoted. The ABC News station is trusted by the country to provide accurate and up to date information, particularly if there is a crisis and people know that events will not be sensationalised in a vain effort to increase ratings.

In rural areas, programs such as Landline are vital, but they are also important for Australians living in urban areas providing them with a window into a core part of Australian life that they would not otherwise see - the program "A Taste of Landline" is an excellent example of this, and such a program is unlikely to be produced in a privatised ABC.

The ABC is looked up to around the world as an example of an efficient and effective public broadcaster and the Australian Parliamentary Office in their 2014 report "The ABC: an overview" noted: "While no attempt is made to draw definitive conclusions about the future of the ABC, it is noted that the broadcaster continues to be admired and supported by a significant number of Australians who see it as a constant source of quality information and entertainment".

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/rp14 15/ABCoverview

I urge you support our ABC and to recognise the importance of our publicly funded broadcaster to the Australian people.

SA 5152

From: Sent:

To: Subject:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep our ABC in public hands

I am writing this submission against the idea of privatising the Australian Broadcasting Commission because the name says it all. It is OUR.. AUSTRALIAN.. Broadcasting Commission. We, the Australian people, already own it.

I have listened to and/or watched the ABC for over 50 years. And I've done that almost every day of those 50 years. The ABC is appreciated not only for the range and quality of the programmes and presenters but because the listeners know that the information broadcast is wide-ranging, well expressed and can be trusted not to be biased. I also appreciate the increasing employment of presenters and announcers from different country backgrounds ... important for a multicultural nation.

And, crucial for all country listeners, it is the ABC we tune in to during the fire season. THANK YOU ABC.

Biased? Sorry, I have thought very carefully about this and have come to the conclusion that that is just a garbage claim. On a visit to Sydney several years ago I was appalled at the lack of quality of certain wellknown announcers there. Now THAT is bias!

I am quite sure that an attempt to sell the ABC, by ANY government, would lead to great unpopularity for that government ... even from the very people who voted for it originally. The ABC is a beloved, almost sacrosanct institution. Hands OFF!

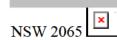
Yours sincerely,



From: Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

Keep the ABC the way it is and do not privatise it because it simply does its job.

It delivers independent, ethical and verified information unlike the commercial networks which want to be sensational and don't hesitate to spread around "fake news" for commercial gain uniquely. The ABC, with limited resources, does more than its job. It's the only real investigation journalism that this country has and needs. All the scandals within the government and commercial sectors wouldn't have been revealed to the public without the ABC impeccable journalism. Where were the lawyers, politicians and the justice department to unmask unscrupulous and corrupted leaders involved in cruel dogs racing, animal welfare, live export, banking system and environment malpractices? The ABC provides true information and does not hesitate to go to the bottom of any outrageous scandal. The public loves the ABC and wants to know more rather than less. I say to the Liberal Party Council, shame on you for hurting democracy, for taking away our existing rights to freedom of expression and access to genuine information - don't fear the truth, seek it instead, like a good ABC journalist does and has always done.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off the ABC

As an independent broadcasting authority, the ABC performs an important & valuable function in our society by maintaining an unbiased watch on activities by concerns that other broadcasters choose to ignore. Programs such as Four Corners and Q & A amongst others, alert the public to events that would otherwise would go unreported. If privatised, this aspect of it's activities would no doubt be whittled away. In other aspects of it's broadcasting, a lot of the content would not be considered suitable by a privatised management because it would not attract a big enough audience to satisfy sponsors and would disappear. Because the ABC is independent, it is free to broadcast in areas where the audience is small and of specialised interest and as such, a privatised broadcaster more concerned with profit than content would not go there.

The largest percent of my viewing & listening it focussed on the ABC. Any government that privatizes the ABC would automatically lose my vote. YOU WOULD BE STUPID, DO NOT DO IT.



From: Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

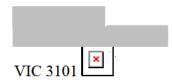
Subject: The ABC is our most important institution.

The so-called competitive advantage that may be used as a measure to either privatise or otherwise reduce the services provided by the ABC seriously misrepresents the role that ABC performs for Australian Society.

- 1. The services provided by the ABC are NOT provided by the commercial sector. The ABC provides independent and serious analysis of current affairs from both Australian and international spheres.
- 2. The quality of the services is demonstrably of a higher standard than anything provided by the commercial sector. From news and current affairs to the music programs.
- 3. ABC radio provides services that the commercials will never even touch. Can you imagine a commercial station providing an exclusively classical or jazz station? Can you imagine a one hour science or arts program on the commercials? In-depth interviews with significant cultural or political figures that go beyond the superficial?

Surely there is enough pressure for dumbing-down the media already; implicitly dumbing-down society.

- 4. The so-called left-leaning of the ABC is a perception by the right-leaning. Australians appreciate and respect media that is unafraid of reporting, discussing and analysing or criticising policies from any of the political parties or players. Left-leaning Australians' perception is that most if not all of the commercial media is right-leaning. It is obvious and understandable that the commercial media is driven by profit-making and represents the views of their private or corporate owners.
- 5. Australians hear the calls to be clever, resilient, inventive, entrepreneurial and whatever the latest catchcry wants us to be. A good start is to be informed. The ABC provides information and generally entertains in an intelligent manner. In fact the ABC should be funded to increase the amount of culturally relevant programming that Australians want. Australians receive enough American programs and American-inspired silly reality shows.
- 6. There is a reason Australians trust the ABC more than any of the other media and any of the political parties of any persuasion. This kind of trust can never be privatised.



From: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject:

Because of the dominance of the mainstream by corporate interests, especially the Murdoch media, discussion of ideas is becoming limited to the dominant neo-liberal economic/social/political ideology. The IPA which has been leading this charge of privatisation even has a has a large platform on the ABC as well as the corporate media to push its agenda. This is also the agenda of the so called Liberal Party which has a symbiotic relationship with the corporately funded IPA (which incidentally never reveals its sources of funding). Increasingly this world view is producing dramatic differences in wealth and social security as can be seen in the United States. I want a free ABC with the courage to present other ideas and to fearlessly investigate the consequences of political ideas and actions; not an organisation that simply pumps out more of the dominant paradigm. The constant threat that our neo-conservative government poses to independent speech is a threat to our democracy. We are facing the possibility of having a country run by oligarchs if we are not already there. I would further add that not only is the media silent on the looming threat posed by climate change, it is actively pumping our misleading information on the science in the interests of the fossil fuel industry. Handing the ABC over to Murdoch will leave the plutocrats free to profit at the expense of future generations.

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Why we need a well funded, public ABC? Subject:

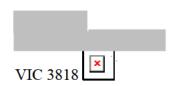
Why do we need the ABC as a public broadcaster?

Years ago I had a sticker on my car "Farnarcle for 7 cents a day" and I am still a firm believer that we need to support a public broadcaster. The reasons are numerous.

- 1. The ABC creates opportunity for our creative media community. Some of our most noted actors, comedians, documentarians, interview, arts and show formats have been fostered through the capacity to try things out without the pressure of commercial success. THE ABC CONSTANTLY WINS PROFESSIONAL AWARDS FOR THEIR JOURNALISM.
- 2. Many of the drama projects are truly high quality and display Australian culture overseas in an excellent light, also being commercially successful.
- 3 Political commentary and the level of intellectual analysis is not available on commercial television. Investigative journalism doesn't survive in the commercial environment.
- 4. Radio National is an excellent source of cultural information on a wide range of topics.
- 5. The ABC holds politicians accountable in a balanced way. The Liberal attack on the ABC is political. Taxpayers have a right to have at least one media organisation which can keep our politicians accountable. The Liberals have plenty of commercial outlets which are happy to put forward the conservative view. Where will the balance be if we allow our public broadcaster to be removed?, The ABC is accountable to the people of Australia, not a money making institution, catering to entertainment and low level short attention span programming.
- 6. As an ex English and Media teacher, I have taught analysis of Media to young people. We used commercial media for examples of sensational language, unsubstantiated evidence and claims and unbalanced writing.
- 7. The ABC provides safe media, devoid of persuasive advertising for my children.
- 8. My last point is the use of the ABC as a regional broadcaster catering to local and country interests. No one else will do this.

In short, I trust the ABC but couldn't if it were privatised. THE AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC DESERVES AN ALTERNATIVE TO PRIVATELY OWNED MEDIA.

I strongly urge you to protect the media source I suspect you view yourselves.



From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our abc in public hands

The Australian people rely on trusted programs like 7pm news, 7.30 report and 4 corners to keep us informed. Free of fake news. To privatise the ABC may be the one issue that could break the current government at the next election. The last straw. People are getting nervous, worried and angry. We need to feel that there is someone/something we can trust.

Leave OUR ABC alone!

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands!!!!!!!!

I don't mind the privatisation process per se,having worked in both public and private sectors throughout my life.But one thing I do know is that there is no viable alternative to the current (and past) ABC. SO LEAVE IT ALONE!

ACT 2906

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

There is a mountain of evidence that when media becomes privatized the CEOs version of political discourse is 'pushed' forward, and the public are duped into thinking this version is right or honest. It's not right or honest. The ABC 'public' broadcaster remains a truth teller delivering reliable 'critical' journalism only whilst it is a public broadcaster, should it be privatized it becomes as reliable as the Today Show or Women's Weekly. Not credible at all.

VIC 3550

From: <

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC SELLOFF OR IDEALOGICAL EXTREMISM

I have lived and grown up with the ABC. Not only reliant on it for essential emergency services but have been educated and amused by its many and varied guests. As in the ABC charter the guests are from a wide background including the IPA and other organisations. Unfortunately the few remaining private media organisations ,mainly the "AMERICAN" RUPERT MURDOCH'S empire with it's extremist and right wing agenda that is bordering on the unhinged and totally unbalanced and never seems to give a fair representation of the facts. Hence it is imperative for the ABC to remain strong and financed appropriately to give AUSTRALIANS a fair and balanced view. Since the ABBOTT/TURNBULL attacks on the ABC (and death by a thousand cuts to its budget) their has been a marked decline in the quality of programmes being produced by the ABC ,so I call for a restoration of funding and the BOARD to be appointed on a non partisan basis. NOTE privatisation of essential services really works well. THE SELL OFF . SEC/electricity prices through the roof , fragmented and disfunctional .GAS INDUSTRY/owned and manipulated by greedy multinationals paying little tax revenue. TELSTRA /very high prices and charges in a spiral of decline. MELBOURNE AIRPORT/ Highest charges and prices world wide.

As I have watched over twenty years of privatisation, I have watched great organisations sold off with greedy and idealogically driven politicians having scant regard for the public interest. Please do not sell off the ABC it is an ESSENTIAL SERVICE.

VIC 3912

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

The ABC should not be privatised, and the Liberal government should clarify its view on the ABC's future as soon as possible and before the next election.

With hundreds of channels whose primary focus is sensationalism, it is more important than ever for the ABC to act as the counterweight to a commercial system more likely to chase ratings than to cover the breadth and depth of viewers' needs.

More than ever we need a creative, spirited and independent public service media.

We need to democratise the ABC and ensure it has:

- a new and transparent funding regime
- an independent appointments system
- · more digital engagement
- more regional television and content aimed at audiences such as those from Aboriginal and ethic minority communities.

A commitment to provide diverse programming must be accompanied by the money to do so.

The Liberal government has already lost votes by cutting ABC funding; to privatise it would sway an election.

Stay Brave and True to the ABC.



From: < Thursday 21 June 20

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC must remain in public hands

I trust the ABC far more than any other source because of its independence. They have a far more broad range of content than any commercial source in Australia, which would not be offered if they were driven by commercial interests. I spend at least 1-2 hours every day consuming ABC content and my life would be the poorer for a privatised ABC. I will fight to keep it in public hands.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

In an era when news can be manipulated to fit any manner of political agendas, and the concept of "truth" is becoming more and more elusive - and when so many news outlets are in the hands and effectively serving the interests of global oligarchs, it's increasingly hard to know who to trust as a reliable source of balanced information and research. I love the ABC - both TV and radio - and believe passionately that a properly funded, public broadcaster is a vital bulwark against otherwise biased, vested interests in the private sector (not to mention the freedom it offers from all those boring and tedious ads!) But more importantly, a public broadcaster of the calibre of the ABC is a pillar of a robust democracy: to privatise it would be a massive folly and ultimately tragically shortsighted. Please don't let this happen.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I live on a rural property and would be totally bereft of quality entertainment and information I trust on the many subjects that interest me if this appalling plan to privatise the ABC goes ahead on the ludicrous grounds that "public broadcasters have a commercial advantage". Public broadcasters provide a service we rural listeners value and ratings-driven commercial broadcasters would never provide.

Does the Liberal Party really want to go down in history as the party that ruined an organisation envied, admired and listened to by people all over the world?

I feel so strongly about this and the shameful attempt to appease Pauline Hanson by stripping the ABC of funding that if this plan goes ahead, I promise I will never vote Liberal again.

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:38 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Our ABC needs to remain ours. A Public Entity owned by the people.

The idea of selling off the ABC for Privatisation dhould be rejected outright, to maintain an independent entity not in the hands of the likes of Murdoch and those others who do not present independent ideals but just follow their own trails to a select few. We need a public entity to maintain access to the majority of the population to present unbiased opinions and honest details so that electors can form opinions based on truthful information without bias in any direction.

We submit our objection and rejection of the proposal to privatise the ABC so we can still retain an indepent news source.

Regards

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:38 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC belongs to the public!!

I grew up with the ABC & is probably one of the only media outlets I believe can be trusted. The number of quality tv series & shows that has created or boosted our home grown talent is immeasurable. I grew up with & my children grew up with incredible shows ABC Kids produced. I trusted those for my children too. There is nothing in comparison. This will be a valuable Australian asset destroyed if taken from the Australian public. It's ours - HANDS OFF!! Please. And thank you.

QLD 4870

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:38 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is for thinking people

Do we want educated well-informed people in this country? Do we want a balanced presentation of news and current affairs? Or do we want our media spit into more and more extreme positions driven by the politics of media moguls? A breakdown of society as is happening in the USA? How is it possible that a party founded by Menzies wants to depart from the great British liberal tradition and commercialise our version of the BBC?

WA 6082

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep Our ABC in Public Hands

I am an elderly lady. I listen to ABC 621 every day. I never listen to commercial radio stations. In the evenings I watch ABC TV, sometimes SBS. I rarely if ever watch commercial TV because I simply hate the interruption of advertisements. I appreciate the quality of ABC news broadcasts and commetaries. They keep me informed and I consider that they give a balanced view of home and overseas events. I would be bereft if the ABC were to go commercial. Than you "our" ABC,

VIC 3125

From: <

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:38 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC public!!!

The ABC needs saving. My two children watch, enjoy and learn from the many children's programs that the ABC produces. No other television service produces or broadcasts quality children's content. I only watch ABC and SBS because I trust these news services. If the ABC were to be commercialised my options for television viewing would be cut in half. Please save the ABC, it is an Australian institution and needs saving.

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:38 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must remain Public!!

The ABC is the voice of the people. It is the ONLY free press unfetted by corporate greed and power. I submit to the current and future governments that the ABC must remain a public institution and continue to provide quality media - radio television and online, and continue to produce Australian programs for and about Australians.

My vote will be with the government ensuring this.

South West Rocks NSW

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:37 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Do not privatize ABC From: Sent: To:

Subject:

The intellectual life of Australia will be impoverished if the ABC is privatized .

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:37 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: NEVER EVER privatise our ABC

I am absolutely astounded at the LNP's decision to privatise our public broadcaster. It is totally against the interests of our national security, our national well-being and of our democracy. What tiny little minds would think otherwise?

Who on earth do you think you're representing with this sheep-like partisan policy, which certainly doesn't do you or your party any favours, even in the short-term?

From: Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:37 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Protect the ABC, the most important Australian social and cultural institution

The ABC is not just a "broadcaster" but a social, cultural and educational institution essential to the solid social foundation, fabric and strength of Australia and the lives of Australians. It is one of the few, or perhaps the only "institution" left to provide Australians with a sense of shared ownership and with such high levels of support, respect and trust. That value is not only relevant to regional and rural Australia but it is much more obvious here, eg in Tasmania where I have lived almost my entire life of over 70 years. Local ABC radio and TV connects, informs, supports local news and activities in a way which a commercial "broadcaster" can never achieve. RN plays a bigger role as informer and educator on so many issues particularly enabling lifelong learning. Like so many others, I trust ABC news and current affairs journalists even when I disagree with their approach to issues or interviews. Like others I've availed myself of the opportunity to have a say and have comments and complaints treated with respect. The cuts that have had to be made to so many programs already are having a very negative impact on the ABC's broad role as a key source of information and education. The value of the ABC in its mission, goals, innovation and achievements will all disappear if it is privatised. The cuts to funding must also be stopped and adequate funding restored to enable the ABC to carry out its critically important social, educational and cultural function adequately.

TAS 7000

From:

Subject:

Sent: To:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:37 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Not voting for anyone who sell the ABC

Dear Sir/Madam

Anyone who tries to sell the ABC has lost my vote. I am very vocal about this on both social media, in my business and with friends.

This is not simply an "I love my ABC" letter, this is also a matter of national security.

Australia needs to have full control of one media outlet that can be trusted by the public. The national security groups are currently deeply concerned about Chinese telco's and their infilltation, imagine the damage they could do if a tv/radio/internet news service like the ABC was compromised?

Its not a matter of the government needing the money, if that was the case, the government would cut fuel subsidies to big corporations or cut negetive gearing. Its about getting rid of something that irritates them and asks the hard questions in time when the rest of the media has gone soft.

Do not do this. I expect the back lash will be far larger than the Liberals expect.

regards

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: OUR A B C

An independent public broadcaster is essential for all public interest reporting of news, current events and social issues. The evidence for this is not just Australian but global. Many of us have witnessed this also in Europe and North America. Please preserve this great asset.

ACT 2612

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:37 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

As an Australian taxpayer, I am more than happy to fund the ABC. Apart form being able to present and air very useful informative programs that otherwise may not be funded by commercial television.

It is also imperative, in my opinion, that we have an unbiased, non-political news and information resource where opinions are expressed freely.

Please ensure the ABC is retained as an independant, public entity.

I also enjoy a viewing platform that does not have advertising. BLAH!!!! Sincerely

From: Thursday, 21 June

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC should never be privatized

The ABC belongs to the people ALL OF US.

It is the way the ABC approaches critical topics that make this organisation SO UNIQUE.

For me ...

it is the only station that today still allows those learning in the field - industry opportunity. My son is studying screen and media and ABC have a professionally organised program for industry experience, scholarships, trainee programs. Now the other stations DO NOT. The odd ones have exclusive partnership with a university. We are not talking any old students, specific ones studying in the field. They are currently the only station that has a wide breadth of educational opportunities for our next

generational students/professional in the screen and media. Honestly no one is doing what ABC is doing to this extent. if they are its "jobs for the boys" and that's it.

I am proud of these such small amount of opportunities to still exist at least in the ABC. I could go on... this is really only one of the many reasons ABC should not be privately sold off.

VIC 3194

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!!

I am 93 years of age, and the ABC has been my chief source of reliable, responsible news reporting and commentary for the whole of my life - I've had a lifetime of opportunity for comparing its offerings with other available sources and there has been no evidence to make me believe that privately owned sources would provide me with better informed news and necessary data, as well as quality offerings of arts and entertainment. I'd much prefer to rely on a publicly funded outlet than some arbitrary commercial body which is primarily interested in financial outcomes. To my mind, public ownership of the ABC is a vital aspect of our democracy.

ACT 2607

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I find it very hard to trust commercial news, I still read them but it is good to have the ABC out of a controlling entity. This makes me feel secure in that I have more than one source of information and I don't feel as controlled. Also what will happen to playschool, and all the kids programs running which has been wonderful for my daughter? Q&A, and all the programs that are made by the ABC which have a special place in my heart? what about triple J? Will it just become another commercial station and lose everything that makes it great?

I really want to know where these complaints about our broadcaster when labour were government? If it that they just don't like anything going against them?

Anyway the privation of the ABC really has me dreading the future.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:36 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatise the ABC - No way!

I rely on the ABC, both radio and TV, for news, entertainment and unbiased, objective commentary. Shows I value on radio: The Health Report, The Law Report, the Science Show, The Music Show, Late Night Live and The Minefield. On TV I value Q&A, Four Corners, Media Watch and the numerous comedy shows that are available on the Comedy channel.

I have no faith in the ability of the market to provide these shows and many others in an unbiased way and without being influenced by advertisers.

The ABC has come under attack from Labor and Coalition governments for many years but never so much as at present. With the commercial media being so polarised we need an independent, unbiased, objective and well funded ABC more than ever.

I urge you to resist current calls for the privatisation of the ABC

ACT 2600

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:35 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!!!

I value the fact that I am not prompted to purchase products; especially during a program. We are already bombarded by advertising everywhere we look. I love the ABC for the Australian Drama content and the news / current affairs. Shows such as Landline would never be given the light of day on commercial tv but this show is a staple for country viewers. As a child, my parents watched channel 2 for the Australian perspective and unbiased reporting and to this day I sit and watch with my children for the same reason.

WA 6061

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:34 AM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
The ABC must remain public

The ABC has been the most significant source of day to day information and news in my adult life. I deplore the move of the Liberal Party Council to privatise our national broadcaster. I listen to Radio National daily for news and information. I send publicity material to the ABC in my job as a music presenter and promoter. I work for a community based organisation which supports and presents fine multicultural music from within our own community and from international touring groups. NO commercial broadcaster would ever consider giving the music of my agenda any airplay! The ABC is a critical player in my areas of interest in my professional life and my personal life. Commercial broadcasters are incapable of representing me, my areas of concern, and those of the people I deal with. The suggestion that the ABC be put into private hands and commercialised is deplorable!

There are already more than sufficient commercial broadcasters offering what they do in many ways undermining our Australian culture by presenting cheap foreign imports, and simplistic interpretations of the issues of the day. They are also one more element in the disastrous shift of community values towards consumption, and away from consideration and care of others.

Government has a deep responsibility to the Australian people to keep the ABC in public hands, and to support its major role in the community.

VIC 3068

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:34 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Privatising our ABC! To:

Subject:

Keep your grubby hands off our ABC!

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:34 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC in public hands!

The ABC is one of the very few channels i bother to watch. When I want to be informed of important issues, I watch ABC. When I want to watch quality Australian television, I watch ABC. when I want informed reporting on important social and political issues, I watch ABC. ABC provides informed and appropriate programs for a variety interests and age groups. Give any day of the week and any time during the day the first channel I tune into is ABC and it will often determine whether I bother to watch the tv at all or switch it off. More money needs to be invested in ABC, not less.

QLD 4870

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:34 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in private hands

Without the ABC there will be no truly impartial news organisations left in our country. People say it's left leaning but that's only in comparison to the far right organs like the Telegraph & the Australian.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:34 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC should never be privatised!

Private media has an agenda that can bought. The ABC is ultimately more neutral and fair meaning it contains great content that is better for the Australian public. I will vote against any party that tries to privatize the ABC

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:33 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC keeps me sane.

The ABC and SBS are all I watch. No cooking reality pap or cheap soaps for me. I love Democracy. I love Art and Music and Good Drama. I need 7.30 and 4 Corners and Q&A more than I need coffee.

From: < Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:33 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: The ABC belongs to me too !!

Having lived in Australia for nearly 60 years my wife and I have come to rely on the ABC for the most factual reporting. If there is bias it is in the eye of the beholder and in the mind of the listener.

We are happy to fund the ABC and expect to be able to receive thoroughly investigated reportage without bias be it commercial or political.

Provide more funding so that we can have independent coverage of events both political and sectarian.

NSW 2250 ×

From: < Thursday 21 June 201

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:33 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC

I strongly disagree withe privatization of the ABC. The ABC has professional journalists who, when interviewing, give both sides of a discussion the opportunity to express their views, This is as opposed to commercial Shock Jocks who confidently state unsupported and biased statements. Australians look to the ABC for two sides of a story and accurate reporting

QLD 4520

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:33 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Retain the ABC in public hands

The current United States Presidential campaign criticising 'fake news' published by CNN, PBS and MSNBC while Trump's own cronies at Fox and Friends are represented as the source of objective news is the greatest argument for retaining the ABC in public hands. The ABC is a jewel in the international media because it remains in public hands and is captive of no vested interest. All of the privatisations of public resources have resulted in the dominance of vested interests over the public interest. There has been no exception to this trend that is pursued for ideological reasons.

The ABC must stay in public hands or our polity will suffer the same fate as now so clearly evident in America. We need to retain that much of the 'commons' that is still in our possession and we must go to the barricades on this issue.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:33 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Don't sell off the ABC!

The ABC is a precious commodity for all Australians. A selfish select few want to take it away, just as the Coalition has been trying to take away other important social services that benefit our society.

I grew up watching the ABC as a child. I have fond memories of my favourite TV programs as a child that could on be seen on ABC as children's programming wasn't profitable enough for the major networks.

Soon, Australia won't have any public services left as the wealthy will control everything. Don't let this happen!

SA 5159

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:32 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC please protect this little spot of sanity on our air-waves!

The ABC is the only radio station I listen to. I cannot stand any of the others! The ads. are irrelevant to me, the attitudes of presenter are offensive, and the content is trivial beyond words. If this privatisation plan goes ahead, I may as well throw my radio set in the rubbish bin. Why must everything we love be destroyed? It is impossible that the ABC would retain its independence, service to the public and beautiful programming once other interest groups gain control of it. Please do not even consider privatising our own radio station!

Yours sincerely,



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:32 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

News and public broadcasting should be free from both corporate and government interests. Therefore, having a publicly funded broadcaster independent of government interference is essential to our democracy.

VIC 3182

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:32 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Protect the independence of the ABC

The ABC belongs to the people of Australia in all its diversity and should not be used by politicians for their own political purposes. Keep the ABC in the peoples' hands.

VIC 3131

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:32 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Australia needs an independent broadcaster more than ever. Subject:

The ABC caters for many diverse interests, not the lowest common denominator. Before the brutal funding cuts incurred by the current government, we had quality broadcasting almost equivalent to its mother, the BBC. ABC radio continues to offer quality diverse programmes, ABC TV is being squeezed out of competition.

The Australian taxpayer deserves to have the choice of a quality broadcaster unencumbered by vested interest.

Governments of all colours should accept criticism as an incentive to remember they represent the Australian electorate and to endeavour to improve. Valid criticism is not bias. They are protected by law against misinformation should they feel the broadcaster has misrepresented them.

Let us continue to enjoy informative debate, beautiful music, stories, sport, quality drama, interviews without the rude interruption of advertisers.

Please do NOT privatise our ABC. It is and hopefully will remain a cohesive force for all Australians.



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The Public Broadcaster must remain PUBLIC

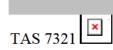
The independent ABC performs a number of very important functions which are NOT adequately performed by the corporate broadcasters:

- > Honesty and accountability checking and tracking for politicians (thinking particularly of the ABC's Fact Check, Promise Tracker, and Current affairs programs)
- > Social issue coverage (thinking particularly of the coverage of the Gay Marriage and human induced global warming issues)
- > public education (documentaries in various areas, the ABC thankfully has many excellent programs)
- > disseminating and documenting history as it happens keeping the Australian public accurately informed regards events in the world they live in local and wider afield

and importantly

The ABC should have a guarenteed funding stream with oversight and governance completely independent from government, to prevent the politicians interfering with public knowledge to their own benefit. We know from past performance political parties, powerful corporations and foreign powers will take every opportunity to untruthfully skew and distort to their own benefit the information available to the Australian public, and without the important function of independent journalism we would be unaware of their lies, their crimes, and their perfidy.

Without a well funded and independent ABC the Australian public will have no accurate public record, no relevant and truthful information on important issues, and no effective voice for disseminating information.



Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC Public

Free and independent media are bulwarks of democracy. The ABC as a public broadcasting service is an essential aspect of this and must not be privatised.

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM Sent: To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC

The ABC is a great source of talent in the media industry. Where the workers are trained to be the best in the industry. Keep your hands off the ABC.

QLD 4053

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

The ABC's relevance has never been more important in the ever increasing exposure of corporate fraudulence we are witnessing in the inquiries undertaken over the recent past. The ABC investigative journalists are our lifeline to probity where the media moguls' empires are constantly exposed to 'false facts' and manipulation.

The independence and integrity of our national broadcaster must be preserved.

From: < Thursday 21 lun

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Maintain the independence of the ABC and keep it in public hands with adequate funding.

I I strongly believe the ABC provides the most balanced news and current affairs available in Australia and it is imperative that this remains so with sufficient funding. I strongly believe the ABC is non-political, unbiased and at the top of investigative journalism.

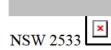
QLD 4812

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

I love having the ABC as my channel / station. While I don't always agree with what is said I know that I can influence the outcome. The Australian shows are amongst my favorite. Please give me a break, you want another commercial dominated channel? You have to ask what is the purpose of having another channel / station? It won't be impartial if privatized, who is game enough to show women's sport - look at netball it got its start with the ABC.

I don't understand why the ABC is under constant scrutiny?

Please save my ABC!



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC public

The ABC is a public institution answerable to the public, serving the public, representing and responding to the public. As such, more than any other institution, company or enterprise it does not exist to further its own ends at the expense of others. At a time when the 4th estate is dogged by misrepresentation, "fake news" claims, sensationalism, manipulation, and vested interests it is imperative that a network exists that can stand apart, strive for impartiality and talk about the elephants in the room. Privatisation will totally undermine this role and compromise an important part of what it means to be a democracy. The very fact the ABC has been targeted reinforces the importance of its role as an independent voice not beholden to any particular political, commercial or social agenda.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

PLEASE ALLOW COMMONSENSE TO PREVAIL AND DO NOT EVER CONSIDER PRIVATISING OUR ABC!!!

One of my biggest regrets is having voted for the Liberal Party because it and the Nationals have proven over and over again the Coalition has no scruples what ever and can not be trusted. Never, ever will I vote for the Liberals again!!!

TAS 7300

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:31 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Maintain the ABC as a funded public broadcaster

I have listened to the ABC almost exclusively for 72 years. It was the one place where I expected that the NATIONAL good would be in the forefront. I heard Blue Hills advocate for social justice, I learnt about music and science and literature from The Argonauts. I loved listening to English for "New Australians" on Saturday morning. Now ABC FM is a frequent companion, I listen to pod casts on science, history, the mind. My husband's dying days in a remote town in Northern India were soothed by Conversations with Richard Fidler. I listen to Amanda Vanstone and Tom Switzer and Phillip Adams. How could a privatised ABC guarntee the independence of the medical information I learn from Dr Norman Swann. And yes sometimes I watch television but only the ABC unhindered by the intrusion of advertising. I am a big user of Iview. I value its free access to quality drama, particularly Australian programmes Redfern Now, Mystery road. I was so lucky to bring up children on a diet of TV completely free of the pernicious influence of advertising, fast food, toys, clothing, or that stupid dancing bear. The ABC is integral to the lives and culture of Australia. Keep it in public hands. Guarantee its charter and fund it appropriately.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:30 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our Australian Broadcasting Commission in public hands

I am horrified that you would even consider privatising our ABC! I love many of the programs and absolutely love not having to endure commercials.

What's happened to the Liberal Party? It has changed so much that it is barely recognisable as the Party my family voted for my whole childhood and youth. Now you have become so facist that you can't even tolerate a bit of criticism and some challenging interviews.

I really don't want to vote for Labor, but this ridiculous behaviour has certainly lost my vote for the Liberals in the next election.

SA 5022

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:30 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: We can do better

The ABC is important to me as someone who has lived in a regional area because it was often my only source of news. My kids love Bananas in Pyjamas and Peppa Pig. 4 Corners is one of my most trusted news sources. This is extremely personal for me!

I'm concerned about the Coalition's attacks on our ABC and what it means for our society. 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 shouldn't be compared with commercial media.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:30 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC Privatisation

I am writing to add my voice to those calling for the ABC to remain in public hands. I have lived in both country and city. The ABC is indispensable in the country. In my view it is also indispensable in the city, educating both city and country people on rural issues and providing a window for all of us to a broader life of the mind. Subjects that no commercial station would touch provide a much needed broadening of horizons. From health issues to science and religion, the ABC provides different perspectives and a quality education on a range of topics. It provides first class Australian drama that encourages Australian culture to flourish by providing a pool of expertise and talent that is up there with the best. It provides food for the mind with its podcasts like Conversations with Richard Fidler. Some of the best listening you could find. To lose this rich cultural asset to commercial interests would leave us all poorer. Please don't do it.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:30 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

The ABC is the only mainstream media (TV and radio) I use. I enjoy and appreciate it's informative and entertaining programs. There is already enough commercial media. If the ABC is privatised it will be destroyed. Please do not allow this to happen.

VIC 3927

From:
Sent:
Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:30 AM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Please keep the ABC in our hands

My wife and I are almost 90 years old and we are both appalled by this turn of events. The ABC has been out trusted guide to world events and to local events for most of our lives. We would never again vote for any party which put this trusted institution into private hands.

TAS 7140

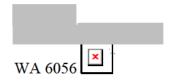
From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:29 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

ABC, a public broadcaster is most important in a democratic society. The 4 Corners is the most reliable and unbiased source of news of importance. There is no commercial channels in Australia like Media Watch to scrutine fake news. I have stopped watching the commercial channels for years and only watch the ABC and SBS.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:29 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC should NOT be privatised

It is in our nations best interest to have a fully publicly funded, fully empowered ABC. In today's world of clickbait and and media monopolies it is crucial to maintain this bastion of journalistic integrity. The ABC is a national treasure and resource and should be owned by the Australian people in perpetuity. Do NOT privatise this institution.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:29 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: We need a News Source that can't be Bought

I was raised watching the ABC and my parents explained to me pretty early on that the ABC is different to all the other stations because it doesn't have to worry about upsetting companies that would withdraw sponsorship. If I could understand this at 12, I don't know why so many Australians don't.

I have continued to watch the ABC, through my twenties and I find great comfort in the fact that I can still get news from a place that isn't beholden to corporate or government interests.

Shows like 4 Corners, the 7.30 Report and Q&A are incredibly well produced and entertaining whilst being informative.

For anyone who wants a channel watered down by consumerism, junk TV and the interests of big business, there are at least three other channels they can switch to. Please don't do this to my ABC! It must remain an independent public broadcaster.

SA 5072

From: < Sent: Thursday. 2

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:29 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: PLEASE, PLEASE- NO to privatising the ABC!!

I am a primary school teacher and mother of three. I care deeply about what children view on TV.

Our household solely watches the ABC, from the whole range of children's programs both educational and 'fun' to 4 corners, to Media watch, Q and A and comedy programs (when the kids have gone to bed), just to name a few.

We frequently access iview where I can preview programs for use at school. As a mother and teacher, the educational programs are indispensable. From BTN to My Place to Backyard Science and Fierce Earth - again, just to name a few - these have been great discussion starters, or as a help to introduce or round out a lesson or simply as an engaging, educational option on a wet lunchtime or when we have 10 minutes to spare at the end of a session.

One of my children has ADHD and whilst I limit screen time to 20mins on average a day, the quality of that time is paramount. Commercial TV with ads will not do.

My eldest is now in year 9 and made the comment recently that, "The only thing good on other channels is the netball. The rest is all crap and ads!"

A discerning viewer in the making!!

We have such an important obligation to the next generation and ourselves as a nation.

We simply cannot shoot ourselves in the foot and allow for the commercialisation, silencing and, dare I say, "dumbing down," of our national broadcasting space. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and simply does not compare with commercial media.



From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Why we need the ABC in public hands

There is nothing wrong with My Kitchen Rules, The Voice or Bachelor as as shown with their domination of the ratings on free to air TV. However, if you enjoy dramas like Mystery Road, The Code or Back in Time for Dinner, Utopia, Foreign Affairs, The Drum, Rage etc then you want the ABC in public hands to help protect our culture, heritage, way of life & fairness. The other stations are profit based & if programs on say culture don't rate (advertising) higher enough we loose that & that's why we need an ABC.

WA 6004

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:29 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC IS AUSTRALIA. Hands off

The ABC IS an enormously respected broadcaster. Streets ahead of any other media. It is a good example to the world

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject:

I strongly oppose the privatization of the ABC, as this would seriously undermine our freedom and democracy. The ABC often brings to light that which many in authority would prefer to stay hidden from the public. A privatized ABC would only further silence the voice of accountability in this county, allowing many rich and/or powerful to control this land more and more with less and less scrutiny; a far cry from governance for the people by the people.

The ABC is often a voice for the voiceless, a forum for broad spectrum opinion, robust discussion and investigative journalism; an expression of freedom and democracy. These qualities would be severely compromised should the ABC be in private hands, as the owners would promote their own agendas. Privatization of the ABC would truly be a great loss to our nation eroding its freedoms and democracy, replacing them with a growing autocracy.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

The ABC is ALL I watch and listen to - I rely on the independence of their journalism to keep abreast of current affairs. I find so much new food for thought in watching and listening to their programming. There is NO OTHER source that comes anywhere near to them. I keep in touch with wider reality through the ABC. DO NOT PRIVATISE- enough is enough!!!!



From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the Australian Broadcasting system in PUBLIC hands.

Please the ABC has served Australia so well over many many years and through many changes in Government so please no more talk of privatising this world well respected organization that has served us all so well.

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Don't touch the ABC

I am nearly 75 years old and I have loved and needed the ABC as it is for most of that time. I am beyond appalled at the thought of the ABC being privatised and becoming open to commercial abuse and exploitation, leaving me and many without a very important alternative broadcaster. I need a fair, balanced and thorough media outlet free of big money and the bias that brings. Yours sincerely

VIC 3437

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC - Our most important cultural institution

The ABC is an essential support for Australian democracy, for free speech and for making all Australians, from the far reaches of the continent to the metropolitan centres, participants in a common culture - through TV, but especially through radio. It is our most important cultural-educational-community building institution bar none. Keep it, strengthen it, support it.

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Privatisation of the ABC

To all members of our Australian Parliament

I am personally appalled that the Liberal party has voted to privatise the ABC

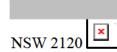
I watch a great deal of my TV viewing on the ABC and its loss would be devastating to me.

If sold it's content would not be kept at the same high standard. The ABC serves not just to entertain and inform but also a strong community service, especially to our country population.

I also only listen to ABC radio. Commercial radio I find either crass and vulgar or boring.

The selling of the ABC to a commercial entity is another nail in the coffin to our free society

I do not want to live in a society purely dictated by greed, corruption, ignorance, self serving and morally bankrupt practices. The Banking Royal Commission is testimony to this. Please keep it as it is.



From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep our ABC in public hands To: Subject:

Retired always watch ABC

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep The ABC in Publiic Hands

The ABC has been part of our families lives for 3 generations involving all of us Children's tv,documentaries,balanced views on politics and policies,entertainment, and the well handled personal stories of people that help us to be more understanding and compassionate also Landline keeps a in touch with our people on the land. ABC is a totally necessary part of our Australian lives give it more funding and stop trying to commercialise it. The ABC is totally necessary to us nationally to ever lose it.

VIC 3190 ×

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC independant

The Australian public needs an independent voice, which CANNOT be violated with cliques who have biased opinions. ALL sides of any argument should be free to be heard.

From: < Thursday 21 June 201

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC pillar of democracy in the safe Australian public hands.

I do not have a TV so I listen closely to ABC RN, which deals with a very broad range of topics in depth-something which is missing in today's internet world where superficial 'surfing' is the norm. The public broadcaster is too precious to let commercial interests loose on such a national treasure. Do not let one of the few remaining voices of reason be silenced by the cacophony of material greed!

From: Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep our ABC in public hands

I have watched the ABC regularly for 40 years or so. My first memory is Sesame Street after school. I loved this show and Big Bird and Oscar the grumpy grouch were my favourite. I started watching Doctor Who when i was 8. It was scary at that age. I still love Doctor Who. I also remember Bell Bird. I have so many memories of ABC, i still watch at ABC most evenings and even with competition from commercial stations, foxtel etc it is still my favourite station. Any attempt to privatise it will undermine the philosophy of the public broadcasting and compromise the quality. For regional people in particular. I lived in the country when i was young so ABC was really the only option. People love the ABC. It must remain in public hands, we own it and we don't want to sell it.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I have been listening to and watching ABC radio and television as long as I can remember and that is more than sixty years. During the many years of living in rural areas, some of them quite remote, the ABC was often the only reliable source of news and entertainment.

The ABC provides

broad, factual, timely, comprehensive coverage of local, national and international news; considered, intelligent, well researched analysis and opinion;

effective investigations into important issues affecting our nation and society;

a broad range of informative, educational and interesting programs with appeal to many diverse communities:

a selection of high quality entertainment; arguably the best children's television in the world.

The commercial media cannot provide the same breadth or depth of coverage. By their very nature, commercial operations are constrained by the need to satisfy the market priorities of their advertisers. At its worst, the political influence of major owners can become pervasive.

Without an impartial, publicly funded broadcaster there is a very real danger that the reporting of events would be subject to the control of a very limited number of people. The media set the agenda for public discussion by selecting the priorities for their coverage. What's not in the news, didn't happen.

Social media cannot entirely compensate for this and is demonstrably unreliable as a source of news. Those who argue that the digital media are virtually free ignore the fact that you still need people to collect, analyse and report the news.

However the news is transmitted, if you want it to be done accurately and objectively, you need to pay for it. The ABC has proven, over many years, and despite persistent attacks and funding reductions, capable of doing this. To suggest that public funding gives them an unfair advantage over commercial outlets is mischievous. The purpose of the ABC is to inform, educate and entertain, in that order, the people of Australia. The purpose of commercial media is to make more money for the owners. If commercial media believe the ABC is a threat to to this, they should improve their own standards.



From: Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep the ABC in public hands To:

Subject:

A Public Broadcaster, completely independent of Government, is one of the utterly necessary guarantees of Democracy

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:27 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must remain a public broadcaster.

I rely on the ABC to provide me with fair and balanced reporting of events and a diversity of quality entertainment and current affairs. Any move to privatise the ABC would undermine the independence of the broadcaster and significantly undermine its role in our democracy. There are plenty of examples from other countries where the removal of public media has been tied to anti-democratic movements and the subjugation of government oppositional forces. This would be anothema to Australian values. It is deeply disturbing that the LNP Council has a majority of members who believe that such anti-democratic actions are to be supported. It would seem clear that those LNP members do not support the basic democratic values of our country or the mechanisms which support it. This is a sad endictment on the LNP as it reflects a decline in their understanding of democracy and willingness to uphold the freedoms which flow therefrom. The ABC is not a competitor and should not be placed in competition with commercial operators. If commercial operators perceive the ABC as a threat, then surely this should be motivation for the commercial operators to improve their performance. The fact that the ABC is publicly funded sets it apart within the field of broadcasters as being free from commercial influence and bias, essential to sustaining a democracy. I note the LNP's \$30mil undocumented taxpayer dollar donation to Foxtel and am deeply concerned that the LNP see fit to support commercial broadcasters without any justification. That \$30mil should have been taken off the recent cuts made to the ABC, none of which I support. So, whilst the Prime Minister has spoken publicly against the LNP Council vote, I remain deeply concerned about the LNP harbouring such ignorant and anti-democratic sentiments and seek reassurance from the LNP, and indeed all political parties, that keeping the ABC in public hands remains a key aspect of maintaining our healthy democracy. Thank you.



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 AM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

The ABC is a vital part of the cultural life of the nation and should not be in private ownership. Attacks on the ABC in recent times have been answered with measures to ensure its unbiased presentation of news and opinions. There needs to be no more checks. The operation of the ABC should be left to its professional staff, who operate in the interests of the nation and not of any one private operator.

In my professional and personal life, the ABC has been an invaluable source of information and entertainment.

As a primary school teacher and later as a high school English teacher and Head of Department, it was a rich source of teaching material. I cannot imagine a private organistion providing the programs that support the work of primary teachers or that enrich the work of English teachers. It would not be a commercial proposition. Many programs which attract criticism from certain sections of the community actually provide stimulus for discussion of a broad range of opinions and encourage critical thinking among students. I found Media Watch particularly useful in senior English classes. It demonstrated that there was a range of opinions to be considered apart from those in the tabloid press. Q & A is often much-maligned, but invariably represents both sides of politics and other community views. I cannot imagine this balance in a commercially operated media company.

The ABC, free from commercial interests, provides balance, variety and depth, which enhance our national life.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands.

The ABC is iconic to Australians because of its unbiased reporting and coverage of news, arts and creative drama to our communities. ABC leads in exposing the rorts, corruption and deceivers in society, often leading to prosecution and government action. ABC is vital to the Australian way of life.

VIC 3429

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

I have enjoyed the ABC and its investigative journalism approach to topics that none of the other stations are set to tackle unless there is some sort of financial gain. I am 61 years of age and have been a conservative voter all my life and if the ABC is touched I will have no hesitation in changing my position. The conservative right are only interested in short term gain without an eye for the future and balance of the world and leaving something for our children. The ABC looks at all facets of any argument and can take its own criticism, greed is not the answer to everything here...Leave Aunty Alone!!!!!

QLD 4065

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC should never be privatised because it's the people's and not the governments property. Bring back treason laws and hold governments accountable for public theft.

QLD 4114

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Please don't privatise our ABC, our ABC is so valuable as it has informative programs that are an education for adults and children, we love our ABC the way it is.

ACT 2602

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC privatisation

Commercial radio and television interests are bound by private ownership to maximise the thrust of any opinions they care to broadcast. It is in their interests to shareholding interests. It is in their interest to reduce or remove competition to increase profitability. That never changes. The ABC is answerable to the whole of the Australian population and politicians sometimes forget they represent us because commercial interests are constantly pressuring them at Parliamentary level to gain an advantage. The only consideration that they are well aware of, is they face their constituents on elections. The big change in today's politics is the massive exposure through social media of their deceits in the name of good governance. This new paradigm is the new normal and politicians are demonstrating by their daily actions, they still don't get it. The combative melees that are now the norm in the House demonstrate they no longer represent the best interests of the Australian population. All the surveys support a universal disgust of the majority of us who naively elected them in the hope they would develop our countries broad interests to a common good. It is incredible to think that hard right interests in our, I hope, temporary government, blatantly want to remove the ABC thorn of wide representation of our multiculturism, fairness, accountability and impartial reporting. They don't see they are the ones out of control not the people who empowered them, at great cost to govern wisely and fairly. They perceive the ABC is wrong and don't realise they are, in effect, telling us all we are wrong to expect better.

What we do need is to enshrine the role of the ABC in legislation that can't be dismissed by any government.

SA 5341

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not mess with the ABC.

Finally the Liberal Party has gone too far and pushed a moderate voter over the edge. In my fifty years of voting I have always voted for the candidate with the views most closely aligned with mine but this time the conservatives have gone too far. For them to complain about media bias is beyond the pale. Do they really expect us to believe the commercial outlets are not biased? The ABC is what sets us apart from countries like Russia, North Korea and China. A free press is the foundation of a free society and it should be publicly funded to ensure it is free of commercial and political pressure. As an ex press photographer I will now offer my service to any party or individual prepared to campaign against the Liberals. Enough is enough. I have not mentioned the Nationals because I suspect their voters might not be a fan of this idea either. As for the party run by the red head ratbag (or James Ashby), well we can give them a sheet of paper with PTO on both sides. That will keep them busy until after the election. The Greens? Bring back Bob Brown.

QLD 4810

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: It should always be the people's ABC

The ABC is Australia's only media organisation, that can be relied upon to give a truly independent view of world issues. Because of this it would be a tragedy if it was sold off. In addition it provides another aspect of entertainment to the commercial channels. Let's make sure it always remains the people's ABC.

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

In my view the ABC has made an essential and trustworthy source of news over many years. This will be lost if it is privatised and subject to market pressures.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

To the Liberals who want to privatise MY ABC! The ABC remains one of only two television stations that the public can trust to report in an unbiased and fair way (in spite of your right wing rhetoric). It is the only station where I can watch Australian content drama, news and social commentary without putting up with advertising, reality TV or re-runs for the thousandth time (although since your budget cuts to the ABC this is a disconcerting trend). I pay tax and have done for the last 40 odd years and I want my taxes to be used for an independent, non commercial television station. In fact, stop paying for women and couples to have more children (let them bear the cost) or for the cost of IVF or a multitude of other things that the individual should have to pay for and use the money to make more Australian drama. Certainly privatise the ABC if you wish to be thrown out of Government (perhaps it would be a small price to pay to get rid of the loonies that obviously occupy your branches and Parliament). Not happy tax payer.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is a public broadcaster. It is cherished by a significant cross section of the Australian population particularly those in regional areas. People rely on a public broadcaster to promulgate views less contaminated by partisan issues. In fact the ABC is a bastion of free speech which, today, seems more at risk than ever before.

Please leave our ABC alone!

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:24 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC away from the politicians

I would like to make a submission to the federal government that the ABC stays in the publics hands and is properly funded. Over my life I have depended on the ABC for my news and information in the TV and radio formats. I have worked in places where it was the only availablesource of news and entertainment. Returning to Australia in the 70s the ABC was the first radio news available and I knew that it was unbiased and relevant. In the outback the ABC was the only reliable station I could recieve.

To have the organisation attacked by any government but particularly this present one is a sign that we need the opinions and unbiased reporting that the ABC is relied on. The term " free market" in this time and space is an abuse of the term when this government is trying to close down any opposition and they will try as many dishonest ways as possible to achieve this.

We need diversity in the media and the loss of the ABC would be possibly the last nail in the coffin of diversty and free spech.

Redbank

Victoria

VIC 3477

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:24 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hands off OUR ABC

The ABC belongs to ALL Australians not just a handful of people who can not stand scrutiny of their policies. During election times the ABC is accountable for equal on air time for political discussion - unlike commercial stations who can make a derogatory remark about a politician as they sign off without any explanation of why they think that way. The ABC provides good programs for young children, teenagers and lovers of good music and alternative music, gardening and religion. The ABC does not belong to a handful of negative people who don't want to be accountable but belongs to ALL Australians and is invaluable in times of bushfires, floods and other emergencies.



From:

Sent:
Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM

To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Do NOT sell our ABC

It's important we have an independent broadcaster in Australia to put forward all sides of important issues without bias. Selling the ABC would be a very backwards step in the democracy of our country.

VIC 3380 ×

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public ownership

The ABC is the most trusted news source in the country. It provides a balanced point of view and the only reason right wing views are not represented is that they chose not to be interviewed. I listen to and watch the ABC and SBS constantly. They provide good Australian Drama and music.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC in our hands

I believe that if the ABC is privatised we will lose many of the programmes that stimulate our desire to learn. Commercial television in my opinion defers to populist tastes and doesn't seem to stimulate intellectual inquiry. ABC classic FM has deteriorated with the financial cuts and we don't have presenters with the same qualifications as in the past. I believe we would lose this programme all together if it was in commercial hands. Australia needs the stimulus of elite programmes

Thank you

SA 5066

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Abc to be kept in public hands

The abc is the voice of country Australia bringing local news fire alerts flood warnings keeping Me informed with balanced views

VIC 3820 ×

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

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

The ABC produces high quality television shows and journalism that I rely on as an Australian. I can't trust the commercial news outlets who are always touting an agenda. I look to the ABC for a more balanced view, which I believe they give.

The woes of commercial media aren't the ABCs problem - that's a commercial issue for those companies to work out. The public broadcaster shouldn't be punished for their bad business decisions.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: the ABC is too good to be privatised

The majority of the programs I watch and listen to have been ABC programs but with the funding cuts in recent years some of my favourite programs have been axed. These include Lateline and Rhythm Divine which was an exploration of music and song from diverse and even slightly obscure religious traditions including Sufi devotional music. There was a link to past programs for a time but not any more. Although not mainstream, the ABC attracts a very wide committed audience and having experienced privatisation over so many years many people now associate it with reduced quality because the private contractor is always on the lookout to make cost reductions. The worry is that if the ABC is privatised, programs will be diminished in number and quality so please keep it in public hands.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

No Gov't will ever be elected on a policy of privatising the ABC, my faith in people power will ensure that. Could you ever imagine the disaster of no more ad free dramas, documentaries, political discussions and our only in depth insight into the country in progs. like Landline that would never see the light of day in a commercial world of quick, slick sound/vision bites, advertorials and reality shows with the same screaming ads., some in bogan voices, repeated twice in the same block every 6 mins. or so.

Even if some of the political content critisises the Govt. of the day, this is surely not too hard to use to form one's own opinion balanced against all the other newspapers and channels who only endorse the Govt. mantra. For an example, imagine 2GB or the digital radio station "News Talk Sport" with vision which plays hard right opinion comments from various sources on rapid repeat without any adverse comments from anyone.

Most people have brains and prefer a range of opinion to form their own.

Do you really want the inconvenience of having to record every TV program so you can ad skip?



From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Please keep the ABC out of the hands of self-serving commercial interests

QLD 4562

From:

Sent:
Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Privatisation of the ABC?

I object, in the strongest possible terms, to any proposed privatisation of the ABC.

My wife and I are regular viewers and listeners of the ABC because we believe that it provides fair and unbiased reporting of local, national and international affairs.

For exactly the opposite reasons we rarely, if ever, rely on the commercial media for such reporting as we believe their reporting is inevitably influenced by commercial, financial and even political reasoning and consequently cannot be relied on to present fair and unbiased reporting on significant events!

TAS 7277

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject:

The ABC is a critical public service that must always remain in public hands. With increasing media concentration we are losing independent media sources which are critical to the strong functioning of a democracy. The ABC plays a crucial role in providing independent voice, analysis and investigative journalism on many issues, as well as providing unique Australian comedy and drama shows. We don't need another private broadcaster, we need to keep our ABC in public hands. The Coalition must never, ever be allowed to privatise the ABC, it will destroy one of Australia's oldest and most valued institutions.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: No.

It's not hard to see why council voted to privatise the ABC. The ABC is not as 'leftist' as you think! I watch ABC and SBS over commercial stations ... their news is better (and balanced), with great content. Just look at the some of the content on commercial stations, so many 'reality shows', very little decent Australian drama, news for an hour padded out with what's coming up. Please do not privatise either the ABC or SBS. These stations are very important.

VIC 3915

Thank you,

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC IN PUBLIC HANDS. Do not privatise it.

I am always saddened when Governments cut funding to the ABC and surprised that both main parties don't seem to realise the importance of that organisation to our democratic right to independent journalism and film, art and ideas that are part of our national identity. So it is stunning to find that the Liberal Party wants to privatise it. The ABC has provided me with an education, with entertainment and with stimulation thinking and living. I am now quite old and the thought that the ABC will cease to be independent is the worst thing I can think of as a change to my life. I could be poor, but I would still keep lively because of the ABC, and the conversations it helps engender with friends and family. My son and my granddaughter listen to the ABC and watch ABC TV and when I hear talkback on RN I hear voices of all kinds of people from the country, the beach, the outback as well as the suburbs of the big cities. the ABC links us all in a changing and growing understanding of our country and why we love it. With a privatised version we will be much poorer. And very upset.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keeping the ABC in public hands

I am 65 years of age and could be described as a swinging voter . If however any party tries to privatise the ABC I will have no hesitation in supporting parties against the same and for the first in my life will donate money to institutions opposing ABC privatisation.

QLD 4006

From:

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Its absolutely critical that the public broadcaster remains in public ownership.

TAS 7000

From: < Thursday 21 lun

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our highy-valued ABC in public hands!

It would be extreme political folly for any future government to consider privatising the ABC, on which so many Australians rely for quality innovative programs and trusted information. As taxpayers, our family considers the ABC gives us excellent value, on a daily basis, with choice of diverse programs and evenhanded analysis and commentary.

Please do not further erode or negate the vitally important role the ABC plays in our society.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Please keep our ABC in public hands.

Dear ABC Enquiry Officers,

Our family are devastated to think that our Government would even consider privatising our much beloved ABC.

From morning, ABC NEWS RADIO and during the day RN to afternoon and evening ABC TV we rely on and welcome the various presenters, news readers and guests into our house.

As a child I grew up on KINDERGARTEN OF THE AIR and later at School and College we used the ABC as a teaching aid. Many of the subjects broadcast would stimulate vigorous debate which our educators encouraged.

Now, aged 80, my wife and I as well as the family debate the pros and cons of Parliament's QUESTION TIME and Q&A on a weekly basis. Very stimulating !!

Keep the ABC in public hands and for Goodness sake increase the funding to make it even BETTER, please.

Frenchs Forest 2086

From: < Sent: Thursday 21

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC and SBS Broadcasters in public hands

I could not live without my ABC (television and radio). I dislike and avoid commercial television (apart from some local news shows). I want all sides of politics given an opportunity to answer the hard questions enabling me to have more informed views. Many commercial broadcasters are simply opinionated and give their own one sided views.

I love to be informed about properly researched matters as provided by programs like 4 Corners, I like the balanced arguments through Q&A. I love the dramas, real life stories, I-View and the plethora of wonderful Podcasts. I have grandchildren who love and learn from so many of the ABC children's programs as have my children in the past.

The ABC gets charged with being "leftist. I don't understand why the hard right is unable to tolerate scrutiny. If the left has to answer the hard questions and be accountable why is it so daunting for the right. Do they not want Australians to think for themselves.

Any thoughts about commercialising/privatising the ABC is the start of a downward spiral for our communities and our democracy. The ABC and SBS cannot even be compared to commercial broadcasters. They are lifelines for more Australians than those attacking their existence as a public broadcaster can even imagine.

To take these out of Public hands, is destructive for our communities and would be ripping the heart out of our nation.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: A heartfelt appeal to keep the ABC as it is

Privatising the ABC would open the floodgates of the far right politicians to control the minds of everyday Australians using sinister and cynical propagana to lead this country into a totalitarian state. Every good civilisation needs an organisation like the ABC to provide balanced media reporting.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC public

I have been an avid supporter of the ABC for over 40 decades. When my child was small it was the only station I would allow him to watch because of the immense creativity of the programs the intelligence and the quality of the programs. The amount of local Australian programs, the chance for Australians to be part of media, the freedom from commercials and financial restraints that control content. The non bias of the news programs. The ABC belongs to the average Australian and politic has no right to control it. If this passes it will be another horror decision made by this bleak and unattractive and unimaginative government and will lose you respect and votes!!!!!!!!

SA 5050

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hands off our ABC

The ABC, by all known measures, presents a balanced view on all issues, and, above all, calls out those people with influence who seek to sway public opinion with either ratbag nonsense, or, worse, corrupt (read "paid") misinformation for their own (usually financial or political power) ends.

We must keep our most respected public broadcaster from the hands of politicians who would seek to (effectively) abolish what they do not own. Hands off our ABC

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC serves children, families and remote Australia better than commercial media. I have lived and been a teacher in remote Australia.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hands off our ABC - keep it in public hands!!

Our ABC should not be privatised, sold off or broken up. It must be kept in public hands and fully funded. We live in a rural area and rely on the ABC for a range of what, in this day and age are essential services from the innovative and fact filled podcasts and IVIEW to local radio to keep us informed on local issues including emergencies. Lives depend on this service.

ABC TV and IVIEW is a must in our household - by delivering reliable local and international news from top journalists we feel we are not isolated, providing education and top quality entertainment, such as 4 corners, media watch, ABC news and most recently the Australian drama Mystery Road - without the constant annoying disruption and disingenuous advertising we are subjected to in all other free to air stations.

Hands off our ABC - as rural citizens our options are limited, we rely on satellite connection and ABC telecasts to keep us connected with the world and local news. The ABC stands above all commercial stations providing top quality Television and radio programming from excellent, well trained ABC journalists. Please ensure that the ABC remains in public hands and is given full protection.

From: Sent:

Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: To keep the ABC out of public hands

We listen to Classic FM & wake to Radio National daily. At night we mostly watch ABC, timing our dinner to allow for watching the news at 7 o'clock. The veracity & breadth of reporting from aound the globe, does our Nation much credit, together with our appreciation. Long may it reign.

SA 5050

From: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

The ABC is ours to keep. We don't watch or listen to anything else as private broadcasters dont have a great deal of content that interests me. The ABC is unbiased and keeps government honest. They have the best news and current affairs coverage of any network and I dont want to see this watered down to something like, A Current Affair on Channel 9! Get your hands off the ABC and fund it with our tax payers money!

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:20 AM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

We don't fund the INDEPENDENT existence of the ABC cos we need to watch Bananas or Landline but because the ABC provides a TRUSTED, INDEPENDENT standard of information that isn't corrupted or influenced by commercial or political influence!

Sure we can get 'news' through many channels now, but pretty much NONE of them can be trusted to not be influenced. What those calling for the privitisation of the ABC fail to understand is the HUGE COST economically of not having a baseline to keep the news honest.

Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:20 AM To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must remain a public broardcaster

The ABC (mainly R N) is on in our house all day, and all my news comes via ABCTV of an evening because the commercial networks are subject to compromise. If the ABC therefore is privatised we will be unable to trust the information we are fed, I am very concerned with the erosion of the funding in recent years, and am convinced it due to ideological reasons, all govts are held to account by the ABC no matter of which side of the fence, and we cannot loose that in a democratic society. The Private sector cannot be trusted to do the same, they are the ones who show the real bias.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:20 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

I live in regional NSW. The importance of the ABC as a vital source of local news, including emergency items, cannot be over-estimated.

At national level, every democratic society needs a public broadcaster. I cannot imagine any commercial outlet dealing with political news impartially.

From:
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:20 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

I am very concerned about the vote to privatise the ABC. I watch the ABC almost exclusively, I cannot bear all the adverts on commercial TV. I rely on the ABC for most of my news and I find programs like 4 Corners and The Drum most interesting and informative, I also enjoy the entertainment programs shown on Saturday nights.

The ABC provides unbiased and thoughtful commentary on a range of subjects. I will never vote for a government that privatises it.