

Impartiality and commercial influence in broadcast news - consultation 02/2020

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The safeguards currently in place to keep the Australian media reporting factual, evidence based information to inform the Australian public are failing at a dismal rate.

The current climate crisis is not being reported on accurately by any of the major mainstream media outlets- not one of them reports on the IPCC paper when it is released.

Furthermore, the Murdoch media empire is and has intentionally been waging war on the climate crisis “debate” which is hindering urgent action as again, it keeps people misinformed who trust the media to provide accurate information.

Please see the below links

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/jan/12/disinformation-and-lies-are-spreading-faster-than-australias-bushfires>

<https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/national/2020/01/02/michael-pascoe-murdoch-climate/>

<https://www.businessinsider.com.au/rupert-murdochs-news-corp-australia-bushfires-2020-1>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/jan/08/australia-where-lies-and-conspiracy-theories-spread-like-bushfire>

How is this allowed to happen? Why are the regulatory bodies in place not eradicating this efficiently and preventing this to occur? Why are stories like this continuously pumped out with no sanctions whatsoever?

The function of news and reporting and journalism is purported and expected to be the informer of truthful information.

The media has immense power within the Australian democracy because just about all Australians get their news from the media rather than from other people or other sources. Media coverage shapes how Australians perceive the world and what they consider to be important. Voters and politicians alike must pay attention to the media. In the Australian political system, the media perform a number of functions important to the democratic process. The media reports the news, serves as an intermediary between the government and the people, helps determine which issues should be discussed, and keeps people actively involved in society and politics.

Perhaps the most important role of the media in politics is to report the news. As noted above, the vast majority of people must trust the media to provide them with information. Democracy requires that citizens be informed because they must be able to make educated voting choices.

There is a clear bias operating within the mainstream media and it is damaging, there will be class actions in the future towards organisations such as yourselves and any other regulatory bodies who stand by and let this disinformation campaign continue.

Australians deserve better.