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I am an Australian citizen, who migrated some ten years back from South Africa.

As an author and educationist of many years' standing, I am herewith recording my objection to the parallel importation of books.

- * I lectured in English, both academic and second language, for seventeen, at the two major colleges of education in Johannesburg.
- * I have published widely, in the fields of academic writing, short stories and fiction.
- * One of my books, *Mpho's Search*, is in its 11th printing, and is prescribed for South African schools.
- * I published my own literary journal, *herStoria*, which had an international readership.
- * I have published stories and poetry in Australia.
- * I am a member of a number of writers' organizations in Australia, and have sat for six Years on the committee of the Children's Book Council of Australia (NSW).

In consequence I am very aware of the need for quality books, in the development of culture.

There is currently a migration of South African authors to Australia, including the Nobel Prize winner, J.M. Coetzee, who now lives in Adelaide. I believe that all these authors, including myself, are now working towards writing books relevant to the Australian situation.

It is my strongly held opinion that Australia needs to do its utmost to protect and promote Australian writing, and not to do anything that could adversely affect this.

It is my further opinion that parallel importation of books is not in Australia's cultural interest, and will severely damage the prospects of local authors, publishers, books sellers, educators, the printing industry and – above all – Australian literature.

A copy of my CV is attached.

Sincerely,