



SIMON & SCHUSTER
A U S T R A L I A A CBS COMPANY

17 April 2009

The Commissioners
Parallel importation of books study
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428, Canberra City
ACT 2601

VIA E-MAIL

Simon & Schuster Australia Pty Ltd

Please note that our company remains opposed to the draft recommendations of the Productivity Commission.

The recommendations would be unworkable and destructive in operation, and are not based on hard, verifiable evidence.

The Productivity Commission's central recommendation — limiting the life of Australian territorial copyright to only 12 months — pretends to retain territorial contract while setting up conditions that would undermine and cripple it and do great harm to all involved in the Australian book industry, including consumers.

The premise of the enquiry was that the lifting of the existing restrictions would lead to cheaper books in Australia and you have conceded in your draft report that there is no evidence that this will be the case. In the absence of such evidence, the multitude of cultural and economic risks associated with the lifting of restrictions, as identified in the vast majority of submissions from publishers, booksellers, authors, printers, industry associations and related industry stakeholders, must be taken into account in your final recommendation.

We remain opposed to any form of removal or erosion of the current territorial copyright regime.

Best wishes

Franscois McHardy
Managing Director

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