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Our Lady of the Rosary Parish
The Entrance
Social Justice Committee

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29 November 1999

Professor Richard Snape
Productivity Commission
LBZ Collins Street East
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Dear Professor Snape,

Re: Draft Report of the Productivity Commission into Australia's Broadcasting Industry.

Section 8 Ownership and Control

Paragraph 1 The Social Justice Committee of Our Lady of the Rosary The Entrance shares the concern expressed by Sir Robert Menzies, as quoted on p.154 of the Draft Report. Is it in Australia's interest to allow the most intimate form of propaganda known to modern science to be in the hands of foreigners? Further, whilst the large media corporations want the removal of restrictions on cross-media ownership, and the Productivity Commission has recommended such a move, there is no solid evidence to support the claim that such a move is beneficial for Australia.

In America, over a period of 20 years the number of major corporations dominating the US media has declined from 50 to 10. The same pattern **WILL** occur in Australia in this age of economic rationalism. The media shape public opinion, therefore it is in the public interest to maintain diversity of ownership.

Yours faithfully,



L R Flynn
Social Justice Contact

cc Hon Peter Costello Treasurer
Hon Michael Lee MP

