

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to you as a simple end user/consumer of books. I imagine my story is a common one. I know I share it with my colleagues, friends, family and associates.

If I need to buy a book (gift, work, pleasure) in a hurry I have no option but to visit a bookstore. If I have some time on my hands (10 days +) I always check Amazon or other on line retailers in the USA. In most cases it is cheaper to purchase a book from Amazon in the US in USD even at AUD0.70c to the USD + pay for the freight than it is to buy the same product in Australia particularly if buying more than one book.

Restrictions on parallel imports is old fashion protectionism. Before Amazon/the internet, protectionism may well have protected Australian industry (much to its detriment) as consumers had no other choice. Today with products such as books that can be easily purchased on line all it does is drive business off shore.

I am surprised by the short sightedness of Australian retailers who support parallel importing restrictions. Don't they realise that it is ultimately spelling their own demise?

This is a truly ridiculous situation. I hope you have the courage and vision to rectify it.

regards

**Jerome Green**