

I write concerning the editorial piece titled *Authorial Avarice*. Your leader writer paints the protection of locally written and published books as anathema. What's wrong with protecting what's precious? We have laws to protect our children (just ask Bill Henson), our homes, our religious rights. We even cherish your freedom to publish. So why should our culture, our fragile defining culture, be different? The unregulated avarice that landed us somewhere in the middle of a global meltdown is unwelcome and unaffordable. Intelligent regulation in the financial world is essential, so why not protect the heart of the Australian cultural landscape? A little protection for Australian originality is not greed or avarice; it's just a little protection for Australian originality. Target corporate crooks, not authors and their books.

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