

To the Productivity Commissioners.

I, Erica Jolly, writer about education, remain 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. I remain opposed to any form of removal or erosion of the current territorial copyright regime.

I responded earlier as a member of the Australian College of Educators, signing my name Erica Jolly, MACE. I sought to make clear to the Commissioners my role as one of the people concerned with the future education of our young people and the work of our small but vital publishers. Whoever organised the document I received assumed MACE was my surname. It is as a teacher, concerned for the strength of our literary, historical and cultural life that I wrote to the Productivity Commission which appears to have no interest in supporting the creativity in a nation with a small population, spread over a vast continent. Book sellers, particularly those owned by multi-national companies, have no interest in the quality of creativity and clarity and beauty of writing by Australians on diverse subjects, subjects that may not be published by the big publishers who are only interested in the commercial return, not the extension of understanding of the Australian citizenry.

Erica Jolly