

Productivity Commission

Dear Commissioners Mike Woods and Louise Sylvan,

Writing as Literacy Coordinator on behalf of our school community I would urge you to provide protection for our Australian authors from the consequences of possible changes to the rules governing parallel importation of books. We have a recent winner of the Australian Book Council junior fiction awards on our staff. We know from her experience how difficult it is to find a place in the publishing industry. She is an acknowledged author of quality and has now had three other titles published since winning the award. Financially she is yet to 'break even' despite her success. We should protect and encourage Australian authors who write with a voice that we recognize and about issues we relate to and with Australian themes. Flooding the market with dirt cheap backlists and parallel publishing will potentially eliminate these Australian voices in publishing.

Please think carefully about changes. An open market is not always in our best interest. Some things worth preserving need market protection.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Hanscamp

Literacy Coordinator

Mountain District Christian School

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