

I am finding it difficult to understand why most newspapers can decide that they will ignore the proposals in this report and set up their own body to legislate on their actions. I thought we lived in a form of democracy in which Parliament decides on the legislative framework within which bodies like newspapers can operate. Apparently not. I also have no faith in regulatory organisations which are dominated by those who are to be regulated, especially when they are as powerful in shaping public perceptions as newspapers. In this case, their power seems to be clearly demonstrated. It will be a disgrace if they are allowed to get away with it, which will further diminish my tolerance of the way public affairs are conducted in this country.

D Tony P Mitchell