

30th January 2014

Letter to the Editor – some major dailies



Dear Editor

Re: PM Abbott's interest vs public interest

Prime Minister Abbott's rebuke of the ABC is misleading. His unwarranted attack on its independence is dangerous. (*The Age* 30 Jan)

In criticising the ABC for not taking the side of Australia, Mr Abbott wrongly conflates the good of the nation with the protection of his government from revelations that may be critical or embarrassing.

Our democracy depends on the media scrutinising the actions of public institutions and other powerful bodies. Australia's public broadcaster is not meant to be a cheerleader for the government of the day.

What is in Australia's best interests, Mr Abbott, is that our national broadcaster not be starved or bullied into becoming anything less than frank and fearless.

Yours sincerely

Gael Barrett
President
Friends of the ABC (Vic)

GS: media folder