

From: Cross, Robyn (Sen M. Roberts) [<mailto:Robyn.Cross@aph.gov.au>]
Sent: Friday, 3 March 2017 11:37 AM
To: Michael Millett <Millett.Michael@abc.net.au>
Cc: Roberts, Malcolm (Private) <Senator.Malcolm.Roberts@aph.gov.au>; Black, Sean (Sen M. Roberts) <Sean.Black@aph.gov.au>
Subject: Sen M Roberts Letter re Lateline

Dear Mr Millett

Please refer to the attached correspondence. Mr Sean Black can be reached on [REDACTED]

Kind regards
Robyn

ROBYN CROSS, ELECTORAL OFFICE MANAGER *on behalf of*

SENATOR MALCOLM ROBERTS



Senator Malcolm Roberts
One Nation Senator for Queensland

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Servant of the People: Listening and Speaking Out Honestly



Senator Malcolm Roberts
One Nation Senator for Queensland

3 March 2017

Mr Michael Millett
Director of Corporate Affairs
Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Via email: millett.michael@abc.net.au

Dear Mr Millett

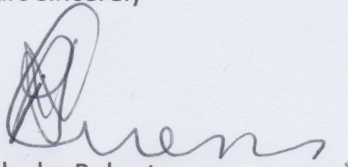
Recently the ABC Lateline program aired a hit piece on Pauline Hanson's One Nation party, where Mr Kim Beazley declared our party a "threat to national security".

Mr Sean Black, the delegated representative for One Nation, subsequently requested a right of reply to re-dress these gross misrepresentations. Astonishingly Lateline's executive producer, Ms Whitby, and reporter Mr Lipson, have refused to allow us the opportunity to respond to these prejudiced and misleading on-air slurs.

In spite of having requested this right of reply on a number of occasions Sean have been informed that the right of reply will only be given to Senator Pauline Hanson. On this occasion however Senator Hanson is not available and has delegated the right of reply to Sean on behalf of One Nation, which is her prerogative to do so. Without an opportunity to a right of reply we are unable to respond to these outrageous miss-truths and ABC viewers are left with an unfair and unbalanced perspective.

As the nation's broadcaster I request that the ABC continue to adhere to its charter and ensure that maligned political parties maintain access to their right of reply which also ensures ABC viewers are afforded an opportunity to access the full story.

Yours sincerely


Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland

CC Senator Hanson, email: senator.hanson@aph.gov.au

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland



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Editorial Policies

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3/3/2017

Dear Senator Roberts,

Your letter to Mr Millett has been passed on to me, in my capacity as Editorial Director of the ABC.

I note that Mr Beazley, towards the end of a long interview on Lateline about US foreign policy, made some comments about One Nation in the wake of the WA preference arrangements.

I further note that, a couple of days later, Lateline acknowledged on air that you had taken issue with those comments on behalf of One Nation and produced a video on Facebook responding to the comments. An excerpt of that video was played on the program.

Under those circumstances, I can't see any obvious breach of the ABC's editorial policies in any respect.

I would remind you, though, that the ABC has a complaints process for anyone who feels we have breached our editorial standards, and if you are dissatisfied with my initial view I would invite you to lodge a formal complaint and it will be investigated.

You can find the complaints process outlined here: <http://www.abc.net.au/contact/complain.htm>

You can also read our editorial policies in full here: <https://edpols.abc.net.au/>

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Sunderland', followed by a series of horizontal lines.

Alan Sunderland
Editorial Director
Australian Broadcasting Corporation

