

Reference number CR1343

Contact name

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Is your submission confidential?

No

Submission type

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Comment

The current regulations on the book market, including the restriction on parallel imports, are of vital importance to local industry and must be kept in place if we are to maintain a viable local book publishing industry. The recommendations of the Competition Policy Review Panel are motivated by blind faith in free-market ideology, and give no heed to the importance of literary culture, books, reading and literacy in our nation. We only have to look to New Zealand, where the local industry is in rapid decline following market deregulation, to see what would happen in Australia if the recommendations of the draft report were followed. We must protect our local publishing industry from a similar fate. We must ignore this blind, bottom-line thinking and fight the open-market zealots who would sell our literary culture down the Amazon. Protect Australian cultur! e. Say no to deregulation.