

TASK

Consider the following comments and develop a piece of writing presenting your point of view on the issue.

Your response will be judged on:

- the quality of your thoughts and ideas, regardless of the position you take;
- how competently your argument is structured and fluently expressed.

We are deluged by television from overseas and we should require television stations to produce and show a significant amount of programming that is made in Australia for Australians.

There is no reason to regulate the content of television. Programs must stand or fall on their merits. The social engineering that attempts to dictate the content of television is misguided and may become a kind of censorship or thought control.

Television is a very important means of cultural formation and expression. We cannot leave the content of television to market forces. Market forces end up in a race to get to the lowest common denominator.

Australians judge television programs on their merits, and they will watch Australian programs when they deserve to be watched. Australian television can and should cope with international competition.

Governments can and should intervene decisively in the cultural market place to build and enrich our culture. We need such intervention to preserve the distinctive features of our culture in the face of bland 'globalisation'.

Australia is part of the international community, and it is in our interests to view what the rest of the world is viewing and be in touch with the world.