



The Law Reform Commission

Specifically: Copyright Law and Statutory Licence

I have been a writer of fiction for young people for thirty five years and have earned my living this way. Everything I create is my intellectual property and I expect those who use it should pay for it. This acknowledges the time, effort and the skill that has gone into its creation.

I frequently receive payment from the Copyright Agency as a legitimate part of my income. This payment is my due via the statutory licence.

I believe I am as entitled to payment for my work as much as any teacher. or any other supplier of material to the educational institution.

I know teachers are grateful for the ease with which they can choose material for their students. The statutory licence allows them this. If the statutory licence is removed, they will need to enter into other forms of voluntary licence. I believe this will not happen. Instead they will resort to single book material and the diversity they currently enjoy will be gone.

I am a writer, not a copyright lawyer. I do not have the skills to set about obtaining licence agreements with educational institutions. Nor do I have the skills or the time to track down breaches of my copyright or to mount legal cases against those have used my work with neither permission nor payment.

Our current system of licensing is fair and effective.

I completely reject the idea of repealing the statutory licence, reducing my income and damaging the open availability of diverse teaching material available in this country.

Yours,

Libby Gleeson AM,

