362. T Martin

From: Toy Martin

Subject: changes to copyright legslation

To Whom It May Concern:

I firmly object to the the proposed changes to the copyright legislation. Through our family business, I have been involved, as a publisher and an author, in the production of educational books for over 40 years.

Unlike most of the general population, authors and publishers do not work in a wage environment whereby legislation dictates a minimum wage and periodic wage increases. It is only through schemes like public lending right, educational lending right and copying fees that authors and publishers manage to claw back some of the woeful time:money ratio that exists in educational publishing.

Educational publishers and authors do not get blockbuster movies made from their product. There are no fuzzy dolls or red carpet debuts. We are not interviewed on television.

Instead, a teacher sees an all-Australian, quality product that has taken thousands of hours to produce. It costs about as much as a movie ticket. The teacher buys it and copies pages hundreds of times, possibly for years.

The teacher benefits, the children benefit. The author gets $1.50. The publisher would be lucky to clear $1(superannuation, electricity and OHS approved chairs notwithstanding).

Taking the copying fees out of the the equation means that authors and publishers of educational materials can not continue to exist. Authors can not live on educational royalties alone. Publishers, editors, printers, bookstores will cut staff and/or go broke because they also can not live on the margins that educational books provide.

Of course you can always educate Australian children with a Chinese colouring book. That would work.

Kind regards,

Toy Martin

Director

Dominie Pty Ltd

Educational Supplies Pty Ltd