



Policy Statement

NEWS, FACTUAL CONTENT AND INDIGENOUS ISSUES.

Arts Radio Limited will not broadcast material that is likely to stereotype, incite, vilify, or perpetuate hatred against, or attempt to demean any person or group, on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, language, gender, sexuality, religion, age, physical or mental ability, occupation, cultural belief or political affiliation.

The requirement is not intended to prevent the broadcast of material which is factual, or the expression of genuinely held opinion in a news or current affairs program or in the legitimate context of a humorous, satirical or dramatic work.

News, current affairs (including news updates and promotions), documentaries, feature programs and interviews shall:

1. provide access to views not adequately represented by other broadcasting sectors,
2. present factual material accurately and ensure that reasonable efforts are made to correct substantial errors of fact as quickly as possible,
3. clearly distinguish factual material from commentary and analysis, present news in such a way that it does not create public panic or unnecessary distress to listeners, and
4. Represent viewpoints fairly without having a misleading emphasis, editing out of context or withholding relevant and available material.

Community broadcasters play a vital role in broadcasting emergency information. Community radio stations with the ability to offer emergency broadcasts will:

1. have procedures in place to enable appropriate local emergency broadcasts,
2. liaise with appropriate emergency and essential service organisations, and
3. Ensure the accuracy of emergency information.

Indigenous Issues and Programming

Purpose: To acknowledge the unique status of Indigenous peoples as the first Australians and to offer a way to demonstrate respect for their cultures and customs. In the Code 'Indigenous Australians' refers to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia

We will seek to involve and take advice from Indigenous Australians in the production of programs focusing on Indigenous Australians and issues. Where possible, we will consult the appropriate Indigenous media organisation broadcaster on appropriate forms of communication.

When reporting on Indigenous peoples and issues, we will take care to verify and observe the best way to respect culture and customs by:

1. considering regional differences, that is, be mindful of differences between Indigenous local groups,
2. using appropriate words and phrases in referring to Indigenous peoples and their regional groups,
3. seeking proper advice on how to best respect Indigenous bereavement customs when reporting on people who are recently deceased, and
4. Using suitable words and phrases when reporting on the social and emotional well-being of Indigenous people.