
As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, I know me and a lot of my friends could have benefited so much from seeing more queer Australian stories growing up. Most of the TV shows and movies that we talk about and see ourselves in are produced in the US, and that means we have less to point to and show that we exist here at home. Beyond that, queerphobia is still a huge issue in Australia and making sure there is tangible representation in our media is so important for reminding younger people watching with family that their identity is valid when they may be struggling with it, and often lack of acceptance from their families. Media has always played a strong part in shifting public perception.

From a queer perspective, I would hope more investment in Australia production would increase the opportunities available to LGBTQIA+ people in every area, mostly by virtue of there being more work happening in general, but also from what I understand, it often takes investment into public broadcast and encouraging people to create spaces for minority voices to get queer stories on screen. People from this community tend to be disadvantaged by their situation or lack of others acceptance of their identity in public opinion, meaning less chance of success in any industry, meaning less queer people in decision making positions surrounding media.

I think having kids' programs made here are important on this note as well. Children's content should be representative of that ideal Australia we are working towards when people discuss workplaces free of discrimination, and that starts with making media that is not only free of it, but represents people and stories that exist to show children who are learning how the world works. We have a responsibility to future Australians of all minority groups to make sure they know they have a place here, and that their experiences are valued.

I wish for my submission to be anonymous: Yes

I wish for my submission to be private: No

Supporting documents:

This submission has been lodged via the [Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance](#).