

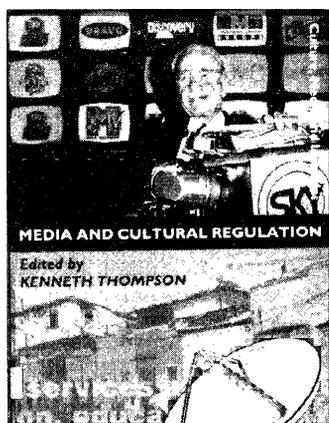
## New in the library

The following books have been selected from the range of new additions. These notes are indicative of a book's subject matter, but are not intended as critical comment or review. The ABA invites the public to use the Library for research purposes, by appointment. The Library's e-mail address is [library@aba.gov.au](mailto:library@aba.gov.au)

### Media and cultural regulation

Edited by Kenneth Thompson.  
London: Sage, in association with the Open University, 1997. ISBN 0761954392

This book outlines the ways in which contemporary trends — political, social and economic — give rise to public debates concerned with culture. How far can culture be regulated through formal controls on the media, and how are such controls shaped and contested



in an age of cultural diversity and global cultural industries? *Media and Cultural Regulation* covers a range of key debates about the politics and regulation of culture in general, and of the media as a key site of contemporary cultural practice. A range of theoretical issues are explored in questions of the public sphere and the politics of leisure. Three key arenas of contested regulation, posing very different issues of the formation and regulation of culture and media are discussed: sexuality, globalization and multiculturalism. Sexuality poses issues of control of representations, and of pornography and censorship. Globalization raises questions of national identity and cultural imperialism. Multiculturalism challenges existing models of cultural identity and citizenship. Through these three central cases, major contests around the public defining of culture, identity and difference are clarified.

The Authority hopes a revised code will eliminate confusion in the minds of the public and provide clear guidelines. A draft code will be produced as a basis for consultation with broadcasters.

### Studying audiences: the shock of the real

Virginia Nightingale. London: Routledge, 1996. ISBN 0415143985

This book provides an overview of cultural studies research into the television audience. With the development of ethnographic research methods, researchers turned their critical attention to groups of ordinary people watching television, combining interviews and participant observation with textual analysis of television programs. In a comprehensive analysis of the cultural studies audience experiment, Virginia Nightingale evaluates five projects which helped to shape the field of television audience research, including Charlotte Brunsdon and David Morley's work on *Nationwide*, Ien Ang's *Watching Dallas* and David Buckingham's study of *Eastenders* and its audience. The author traces how central tenets within audience studies have been challenged by discourses of post-colonialism, fan activism and new theories of writing, arguing that audience research is necessarily a multi-faceted activity.

