

BEFORE THE BROADCASTING STANDARDS AUTHORITY

Interlocutory Decision No: ID2/92
Dated the 22nd day of October 1992

IN THE MATTER of the Broadcasting Act 1989

AND

IN THE MATTER of a complaint by

DONALD DORF
of Auckland

Broadcaster
TELEVISION NEW ZEALAND
LIMITED

I.W. Gallaway Chairperson
J.R. Morris
R.A. Barraclough
L.M. Dawson


INTERLOCUTORY DECISION

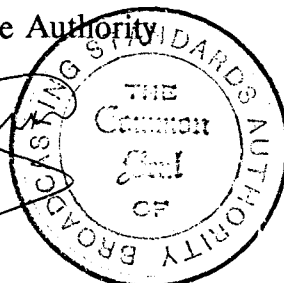
In a letter dated 14 August 1992, Mr Donald Dorf of Auckland referred his complaint about an item on *Tonight* on 18 June to the Broadcasting Standards Authority under s.8(a) of the Broadcasting Act 1989. As required by the Act he had earlier complained to Television New Zealand Ltd as the broadcaster. In his formal complaint to TVNZ he alleged that a comment made by *Tonight's* presenter (Ms Anita McNaught) about the Royal Family breached standard 2 of the Television Code of Broadcasting Practice which requires broadcasters to maintain standards of good taste and decency. He was advised by TVNZ in a letter dated 7 August that it had declined to uphold his complaint.

The Authority requires complainants to complete a Complaint Referral Form which includes all the details necessary to allow a complaint to be determined. Mr Dorf was sent a form on 18 August and, as there was no reply, another one on 8 September. When the second letter again evoked no response, he was advised on 21 September that a completed Form was necessary by 2 October if he wanted the Authority to act on his complaint.

As he did not reply by that date, and has not responded since, the Authority has decided, under s.11(b) of the Act, to decline to determine the complaint in all the circumstances..

Signed for and on behalf of the Authority


Iain Gallaway
Chairperson



22 October 1992