

SABC News, a law unto itself

 By [Mandy de Waal: @mandyldewaal](#)

10 Nov 2010

Accused of sacrificing its public accountability, editorial policy and of moving ever closer to becoming a de facto state broadcaster, the SABC looked dangerously like it was being used by Robert Gumede in his war against the *Mail & Guardian*. Yet the SABC is defiant, saying it doesn't need to explain its editorial policy or news decisions to anyone. Really?

Ask the South African Broadcasting Corporation how it makes news decisions these days and you're likely to be castigated. Despite being the public broadcaster obligated by law to follow a defined editorial code, to be accountable to the public and to comply with a code of conduct dictated by the Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa, SABC News under Phil Molefe has become a law unto itself.

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ABOUT MANDY DE WAAL: @MANDYLDDEWAAL

Editor, writer and researcher. *Editor of #TheFutureByDesign & The Africa Annual *Published in Africa's Greatest Entrepreneurs *Published in Rolling Stone Magazine, The Guardian (UK), Daily Maverick, Finweek, Mail & Guardian, City Press, Rapport, Moneyweb, Noseweek, Brainstorm Magazine; ITWeb, and MarkLives. *Before becoming a full time writer, de Waal founded brand agency Idea Engineers, and led the Cape Town office of Text 100.

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