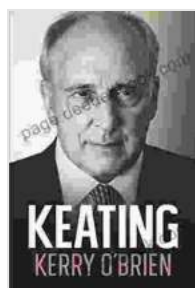


# Keating Kerry Brien: A Comprehensive Exploration of His Life and Career

Keating Kerry Brien, an Australian media icon, has captivated audiences with his incisive wit, provocative views, and unwavering commitment to journalistic integrity. His career has spanned decades, leaving an indelible mark on the nation's media landscape. This comprehensive article unravels the enigmatic tapestry of his life and career, exploring his humble beginnings, rise to prominence, controversial career, and lasting impact.



## Keating by Kerry O'Brien

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 6134 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 840 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported



## Early Life and Career

Keating Kerry Brien was born on February 28, 1947, in Melbourne, Australia. His formative years were shaped by the influence of his father, a Catholic priest, and his mother, a devout Catholic. After completing his schooling at St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, Brien commenced his tertiary education at the University of Sydney, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and English.

Brien's initial forays into journalism began at the University of Sydney's student newspaper, *Honi Soit*. His exceptional writing skills and keen eye for news quickly garnered attention, and upon graduation, he embarked on his professional journalism career at The Daily Telegraph in 1969.

## **Rise to Prominence**

In 1972, Brien joined the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), where he rapidly rose through the ranks, becoming the youngest ever editor of *The National*, the ABC's flagship news and current affairs program. His incisive reporting, fearless commentary, and ability to engage viewers with complex issues established him as one of Australia's most respected journalists.

Brien's reputation continued to soar with his appointment as the presenter of *Four Corners*, the ABC's premier investigative journalism program, in 1985. For over two decades, he guided *Four Corners* to uncover groundbreaking stories, expose corruption, and challenge the status quo. Brien's unwavering pursuit of truth and his willingness to confront difficult issues earned him widespread acclaim and admiration from the public and his peers.

## **Controversial Career**

Brien's outspoken nature and provocative views often courted controversy. His relentless pursuit of stories that challenged the establishment and his uncompromising stance on social issues drew both praise and criticism throughout his career.

One of the most notable controversies erupted in 1987 when Brien broadcast a *Four Corners* episode investigating alleged war crimes

committed by Australian soldiers during the Vietnam War. The program sparked a fierce public debate and reignited the nation's grappling with its military history. While Brien defended the episode's journalistic integrity, it led to a backlash from some sections of the Australian public and veterans' groups.

## **Later Career and Legacy**

After stepping down from *Four Corners* in 2008, Brien continued to make significant contributions to Australian media. He hosted the weekly television program *Kerry O'Brien's The Conversation* and remained a regular commentator on current affairs and politics.

Throughout his illustrious career, Brien's influence on Australian media has been profound. His fearless journalism, commitment to uncovering the truth, and ability to engage audiences with complex issues have set a high standard for journalistic excellence. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential and respected media figures in Australian history.

## **Awards and Recognition**

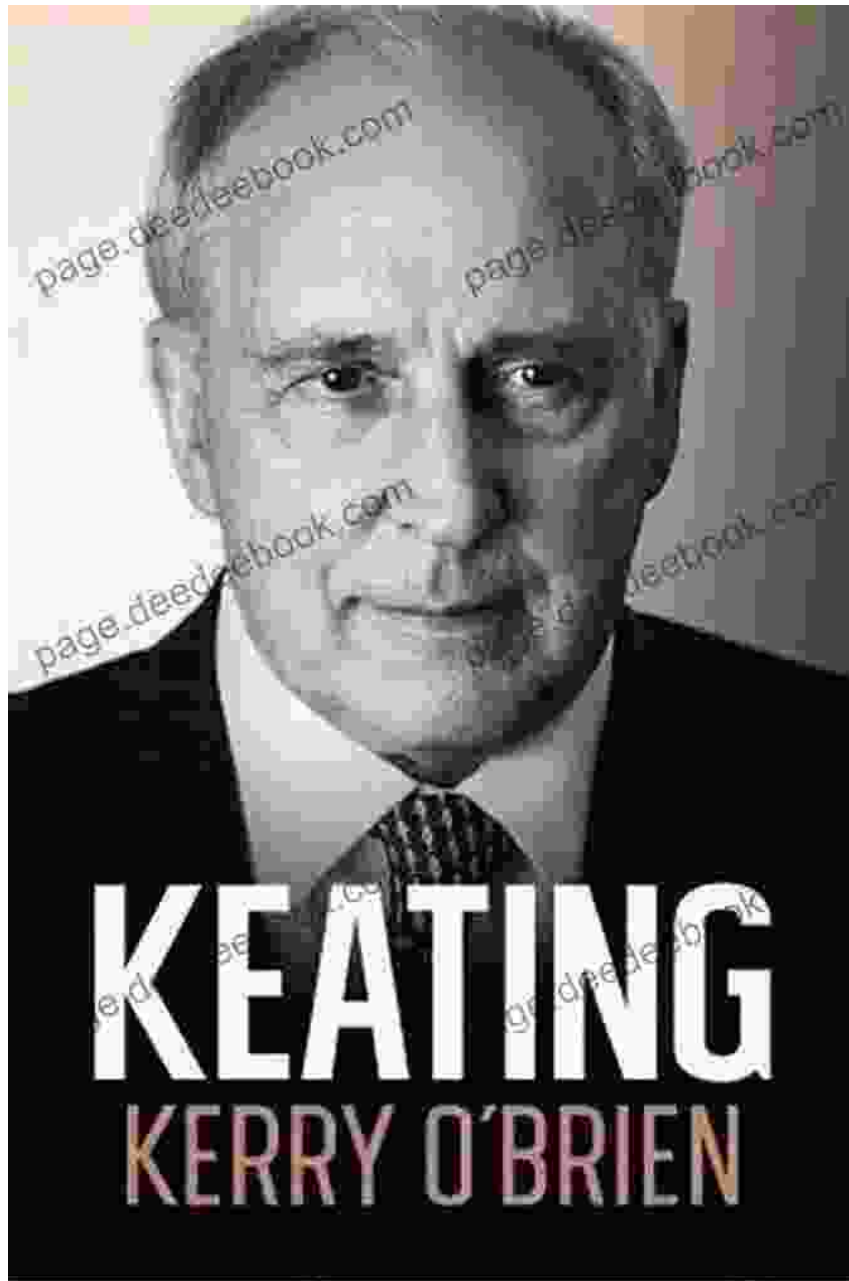
Brien's journalistic achievements have been recognized with numerous awards, including:

- Walkley Award for Best Current Affairs Reporting (1987, 1991, 1992, 2001)
- Logie Award for Most Outstanding Public Affairs Program (1986, 1990, 1991, 1998, 2001)
- Order of Australia (2000)
- National Press Club Journalist of the Year (1994)

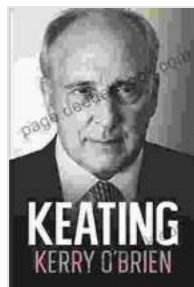
## **Personal Life**

Outside of his professional life, Brien is known for his eclectic interests in art, music, and literature. He is an avid collector of contemporary Australian art and has published several books, including *Kerry O'Brien: Collected Columns* and *The Killing Season: A Memoir of War and Loss*.

Keating Kerry Brien's life and career have left an enduring legacy on Australian media. His fearless journalism, commitment to truth, and ability to stimulate public debate have shaped the nation's understanding of current affairs and social issues. As one of Australia's most influential and respected media figures, Brien's impact will continue to be felt for generations to come.



Kerry Brien, an iconic figure in Australian media.



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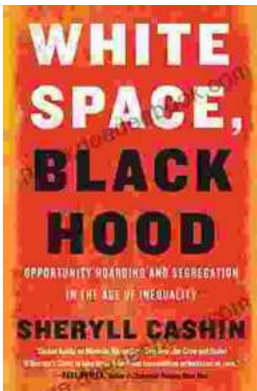
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