

## Unfair competition?

RECENTLY a South African supermarket chain was in the news about their intention of expanding into Namibia. South African Breweries (SAB) also, has drawn opposition from local business houses about their proposed bottling plant in the north. Bernd Masche, MD of the Namibia Breweries, said something to the effect of "it is unfair to Namibian business that the government allows the setting up of businesses

fragmented?

With reference to the last point, it is noteworthy that a subsidiary company of SAB, being in Windhoek for many years, has not one single Namibian in its management.

It should only be fair to point out that this state of affairs (SA management) is also evident at the other SA retailers in town, and unfortunately, also applicable to the Breweries subsidiary, Model Supermarket. However I must agree with Masche that allowing the SAB and

## Control your c

DEBATES on the merits of children watching too much television have been expounded for a long time with no conclusive solution in sight.

What has emerged through, is that when parents arrived home from a hard day's work, they send children scuttling to watch television, often because they themselves are busy.

However experts warn that too much

TV is not good for children because it affects their performance at school. Teachers also argue that inherent television watching habits lead to a decline in the reading habits of children.

The more time spent watching television, the less time they spend on reading books.

Teachers are the ones who battle at schools with our kids reading problems. Their comment has been that the

along the same lines. Why not explore ventures in manufacturing?"

There is no illusion that consumers will benefit from such moves in the form of a wider choice of products and maybe better prices due to competition.

However, there are some points worth debating:

- \* Allowing another supermarket and beer bottling plant to be opened - is it really development in view of Windhoek's overpopulation of supermarkets, and the fact that according to Namibia Breweries they can satisfy the local beer market?

- \* If they are allowed - will the government's cut of taxes (ASD, GST and PAYE) really increase or isn't it a matter that the existing cake will only be

Pick 'n Pay into Namibia, will definitely be unfair to Namibian businesses, but also the the Namibian workforce because the management team will again be imported.

NAMIBIAN PATRIOT  
WINDHOEK

PS: Since writing this letter government has restricted SABs proposal, but I believe the points raised are still valid.

## Missing element is accountability

EVER since independence you often hear the word 'progress' echoed on every corner. However I strongly feel that one crucial element is missing in the so called progress. The missing element is accountability along with