

CI 1386 – J Tabone

First name: Jason

Last name: Tabone

Q1:

Developing new framework as the current system is dated.

Q2:

To provide parity in classification across all forms of media. IE Passive media such as video, books should have the same classification system as interactive media such as social networking websites and video games.

Q3:

No. Only what is consumed by the user is important. The vehicle in which it is delivered is irrelevant. Example: A classification system that treats audio books different to the written version is highly illogical.

Q4:

Yes. All industries should self regulate on the whole. Complaints for reclassification can be sent to review committee. Not having self regulation would waste an enormous amount of money and man hours if every piece of intellectual property had to be classified by a review committee before being allowed to the public and on this note the public should not be accessing content that is not classified.

Q5:

All content should be classified.

The potential impact should not be taken into account when classifying. Consumers are going to interpret information differently depending on the connotations they have to the individual aspects of the content. Example: Two high school English teachers are going to interpret the work of the same author differently. Therefore the potential impact and what it may or may not cause the consumer to do is irrelevant only what the publisher publishes is relevant.

The ambiguity of the second part of the question requires two responses.

Yes there should be child categories in classification across all media.

Example A Children's book: Children's books need only be classified as a book, it is not a video and need not be classified as such.

Q6:

All content should be classified.

The producer, distributor, publisher or the potential size of the market for the product is irrelevant.

The current system is irreparably flawed in the fact that some content is accessible by the public without classification.

Children have access to smart phones which have access to application ("app") stores that have content which is not classified by any Australian measure. This is not acceptable.

Certain computer games are passed through because of their highly interactive nature. Just because a games classification may vary due to user input doesn't mean that it does require a minimum classification requirement. This affects one of the most popular games in the world today - World of Warcraft.

Q7:

Yes, art should be classified. Books, video and music are art and they are currently subject to classification.

Example: While a naked human body is a natural thing a parent should be informed what sort of content they may experience when they take their children to an art gallery.

Q8:

Yes, all media should be classified.

Q9:

No, all media should be classified.

Q10:

No.

Q11:

None.

If even a single person is going to be consuming something which another person created they should be warned about the content by some means of classification.

With the creator classifying their own work and their classification of their work being reviewed by a government agency only upon complaint.

Q12:

Parental supervision is the best method. Lazier parents may choose themselves to implement some addition "filtering" software to prevent access to sites which they deem unsuitable to their children. Illegal content, like child pornography unfortunately has no effective method of control. Conroys proposed internet filter is redundant and easily bypassed. Installing systems like this do nothing but affect the experience of the average user and waste money. Most illicit material of this nature is distributed on private networks under encryption. Unless the data of each internet user is intercepted, decoded and looked at unfortunately these illegal practices will go on.

Q13:

Parent or guardian supervision. It is the responsibility of the person responsible for the child to look after them. Just like it is the responsibility of the parent to raise their child.

Schools should play a role in educating the child of the possible dangers they could encounter but just like it is not a teachers job to raise a child (although too often it falls on them due to poor parenting). It should not have to be the concern of any other person but the parents to control the content of what a child accesses online.

Q14:

From what I am aware sexually explicit magazines like FHM and Dolly are readily available to and target to young people already.

Thoses of an extreme nature however should be sealed until purchased which requires a proof of age.

This is already the current mode of operation and I believe it works effectively.

Q15:

Anything which has a rating other than the proposed minimum rating. How ever should a publisher which to explicitly advertise they are suitable for everyone than they certainly may do so.

IE if General (G) continues on as the minimum than anything other than this rating should be

displayed on anything that requires it.

People should be informed if the content is not be suitable for absolutely everyone.

This would include the items that are exempt from classification for educational reasons.

Q16:

Government - Create an classification metric which is clear, concise and unambiguous.

Industry - Classify all content they produce themselves.

Users - Inform government review committee should they believe a company has classified their product incorrectly.

Government - Review complains and hand out penalties to people/companies who have broken the law.

Penalties should be dependent on total income generated from the particular content and repeat offenders suffer higher penalties such as they would under the penal system.

Q17:

Yes. The government should not have to regulate every bit of content and quite frankly I believe it would be impossible for them to do with their current budget or even a hugely increased one.

The current system already leaves a heap of software unclassified and available to consumers.

Q18:

All content should be classified by the create/publisher/distributor depending on the product, its origin and the type of product it is. The government should only be reviewing complains.

Q19:

Q20:

For the most part, yes. However there are instances of confusion among Australians.

M15+ for interactive entertainment (such as video games) is a point of great concern. I believe a great number of people would simply assume that there is a R18+ classification system for games when there is not. Parents either purchase or allow their children to purchase video games which are unsuitable for their offspring. This is evident in the number of minors that currently play or have played video games which in other countries receive the highest possible classification their system has.

Parents need to better informed with a R18+ rating.

Well publicised examples of this are the "Call of Duty" and "Grand Theft Auto" franchises. Both of these receive an M17+ rating in the United States and require proof of age to purchase.

The USA also has an Adults Only 18+ classification but require extremes in violence and nudity for this is given to a product.

While I believe the M15+ is suitable for certain levels of violence in video games there are definitely games that should have an 18+ rating to them, like Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2 in which the player is capable of running around and participating in the mass murder of civilians in an airport.

Q21:

Yes. R18+ classification for interactive entertainment such as video games is a must. Please see response to question 20.

Classification should be looked upon for general consumption in the following age brackets

less than 5

less than 10

less than 15

less than 18

18 and over.

However parents of children of all ages should be asked questions like "if you could move the PG age bucket to x years old what would you move it to?" to determine a national consensus on what is suitable for children. As my opinion may be detached and not represent people from other socioeconomic, racial or religious backgrounds.

Q22:

Their should be unified classification system that represents certain age restrictions on content. While written work may be judged less harshly when compared with say a audio visual representation of the same concept (eg. war) the classifications used should be the same, have the same symbol and represent the same age limitations.

Q23:

Yes.

Q24:

There should be no attempted restriction to any content online. As mentioned earlier schemes like Senator Stephen Conroy's internet filter are easily bypassed and slow things down for the rest of us.

Q25:

Only content that is hosted locally can be effectively RC and removed from being online. However should it be legal in other forms of media in Australia it should be legal to be hosted online eg adult pornography is available in print and as video offline (DVD's) it should be legal to host online.

Q26:

Yes very important. Federal Government should mandate one unified classification system for all of Australia. States and territories should not have the opportunity to opt out of a new system.

Q27:

the Unified classification scheme of 2011. Which is to be developed to accommodate all current forms of media and any foreseeable new form of media. However new forms of media, such as holographic imagery, should be covered by all current types of media in the sense that they will be a combination of video, print, interactivity and audio .

Q28:

Yes.

Q29:

That is it done quickly.

Other comments: