

CI 75 Margaret J Minney

Executive Director
Australian Law Reform Commission

Dear Sir or Madam

As a concerned citizen I make the following submissions to the enquiry.

QUESTION 2: PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

1. To give accurate information about the content.
2. To protect people under the age of 18 years of age from viewing material which would tend to encourage them to form destructive relationships or anti social behaviour characteristics.
3. To preclude from distribution, material that unequivocally inspires adults to commit crimes against the person.

QUESTION 7: CLASSIFICATION OF ART WORKS

If material that is not purporting to be art is patently offensive, it remains offensive despite its creation or definition as art. The exploitation of under 18 year olds, and attacks on citizen's known religious sensibilities, are examples.

QUESTION 8: INCLUSION OF MUSIC AND AUDIO MATERIAL

Why ever not? This material is classed as documentary in the Supreme Court Rules relating to production. It is dissemination of taste or distase, whatever the media.

QUESTION 12: ONLINE ACCESS CONTROL

For this form of dissemination of material, it is essential that control methods be researched and implemented. Mandatory filtering is available so let this country use the best it has now, and develop better methods for control in the future.

QUESTION 14: RESTRICTED OFFLINE CONTENT

it is possible to restrain children from locations. Let sale of this material be restricted to locations where children are already prohibited.

QUESTION 21: NEW CATEGORIES

The X18+ category for films enables viewing of sexually explicit depictions across a range of ages no doubt including under 18's. It ought to be abolished. It is hard to discern a valid basis for its retention other than titillation. Titillation is hardly a weightier cause than destruction of inter-teen relationships to last a lifetime.

QUESTION 24: ONLINE ACCESS PROHIBITION

The RC, X18+ and R18+ ought to be prohibited other than an opt-in process by which only the R18+ is to be accessed on proven verification of age.

Regards

Margaret Minney

Margaret J Minney
Barrister & Solicitor