

CI 78 G Cellier

30 June 2001

List of Questions: Approach to the Inquiry

Question 1. In this Inquiry, should the ALRC focus on developing a new framework for classification, or improving key elements of the existing framework?

Why classify and regulate content?

To protect the innocent & respect the people who would like to have the option to make an informed choice not to be offended, rather than find out when it too late.

Question 2. What should be the primary objectives of a national classification scheme?

To ensure that people can get accurate information of the type of material they might be exposed to & ensure that children are not exposed to unsuitable material.

Question 3. Should the technology or platform used to access content affect whether content should be classified, and, if so, why?

Question 4. Should some content only be required to be classified if the content has been the subject of a complaint?

Question 5. Should the potential impact of content affect whether it should be classified? Should content designed for children be classified across all media?

Question 6. Should the size or market position of particular content producers and distributors, or the potential mass market reach of the material, affect whether content should be classified?

Question 7. Should some artworks be required to be classified before exhibition for the purpose of restricting access or providing consumer advice?

Artwork depicting children in a way that could be seen as exploitative or sexual should be refused classification.

Question 8. Should music and other sound recordings (such as audio books) be classified or regulated in the same way as other content?

Yes, because lyrics should not be allowed to demean women by treating them as sexual objects as currently occurs.

Question 9. Should the potential size and composition of the audience affect whether content should be classified?

Question 10. Should the fact that content is accessed in public or at home affect whether it should be classified?

Question 11. In addition to the factors considered above, what other factors should influence whether content should be classified?

How should access to content be controlled?

Question 12. What are the most effective methods of controlling access to online content, access to which would be restricted under the National Classification Scheme?

Mandatory filtering of internet content at ISP should exclude everything that would be classified RC, X18+ or R18+. Age verification is necessary for access to opt-in to R18+.

Question 13. How can children's access to potentially inappropriate content be better controlled online?

Question 14. How can access to restricted offline content, such as sexually explicit magazines, be better controlled?

No publications with Restricted classification should be sold unless in an enclosed area where children are not allowed to go.

Question 15. When should content be required to display classification markings, warnings or consumer advice?

Who should classify and regulate content?

Question 16. What should be the respective roles of government agencies, industry bodies and users in the regulation of content?

Question 17. Would co-regulatory models under which industry itself is responsible for classifying content, and government works with industry on a suitable code, be more effective and practical than current arrangements?

Question 18. What content, if any, should industry classify because the likely classification is obvious and straightforward?

Classification fees

Question 19. In what circumstances should the Government subsidise the classification of content? For example, should the classification of small independent films be subsidised?

Classification categories and criteria

Question 20. Are the existing classification categories understood in the community? Which classification categories, if any, cause confusion?

Question 21. Is there a need for new classification categories and, if so, what are they? Should any existing classification categories be removed or merged?

Computer games should not be allowed if they would receive R18+ classification as they have been associated with violent attitudes & behaviours.

Keep existing classifications except X18+. No explicit depictions of sexual acts should be allowed classification as these films exploit and demean women & have been implicated in sexual abuse and premature sexualisation of children.

Question 22. How can classification markings, criteria and guidelines be made more consistent across different types of content in order to recognise greater convergence between media formats?

Question 23. Should the classification criteria in the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (Cth), National Classification Code, Guidelines for the Classification of Publications and Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Computer Games be consolidated?

Refused Classification (RC) category

Question 24. Access to what content, if any, should be entirely prohibited online?

Access to material classified RC, X18+ & R18+ should be prohibited online.