

CI 80 Alan and Janet Broadstock

To Whom it Concerns

We wish to make the following comments in reply to some of the questions which have been raised on the above subject:

Question 1: The ALRC need not develop a new framework for classification, but certainly needs to look at the current method. Our reasons are:

- The current classifications ARE NOT being adhered to, e.g. MA15+. We have seen many films with this classification which we would not want our teenage grandchildren to see. They would easily come under the R18+ rating.
- What are the key elements of the existing framework, we wonder? We do not believe that illicit sex, foul language and violence should be available to 15/16 year olds. By allowing this age group to view movies containing such things, they are led to believe that it is acceptable, which it is not.

Question 4: We believe that all content should be required to be classified, because the general public relies upon that classification to choose what they will, or will not, watch. I choose not to watch anything with an R rating (and am now unlikely to watch anything with a MA15+ rating!). I want to know what is suitable to purchase for my grandchildren for gifts. Parents cannot be expected to pre-watch everything that their children would like to view, or play.

Question 5: Following on from what we have said above, all material should be classified, not just those things that someone deems may, or may not, impact the viewer/player.

Question 8: It is a sad thing today, that we even have to discuss the issue of classifying music and music videos. However, everything that we see, or hear, needs to be classified.

Question 12: Access to online content should be available through a filtering system, especially aimed at preventing children from viewing unsuitable websites.

While we do not agree with Australia becoming a "police state", and we do agree with an individuals rights, we must not forget that along with rights, comes responsibility! As adults we have a choice on how we wish to live our lives, but our concern is with the children of today. They need to be protected from any form of abuse. The lack of censorship leaves them open to abuse – mental, emotional and physical. Every child has the right to become a well-balanced, healthy adult!

Yours sincerely,  
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