

Q1:

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

A new framework

Q2:

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

To accurately inform consumers and guardians of consumers about the contents of media. So that they can make well informed decisions about media consumption

Q3:

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

No

Q4:

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

No - the whole point of classification should be to inform people not a reactionary task force for wowsers.

Q5:

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

No. Yes.

Q6:

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?

No

Q7:

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

NO, definitely not!

Q8:

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

Yes.

Q9:

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

No, media that is available to the public should be classified across the board.

Q10:

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

No

Q11:

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

All public media should be classified regardless of the above or any other factors.

Q12:

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

Online content should not be controlled. Classification should be for informing consumers NOT RESTRICTING MEDIA. The National Classification Scheme needs a thorough overhaul and needs to allow people to make their own decisions.

Q13:

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

Parents and guardians need to be more aware of what their children are doing. The internet is not a nanny and should not be treated as such.

Q14:

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

Retailer education and enforcement as well as more effective parent-child communication.

Q15:

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

At all times, whenever available to public consumption.

Q16:

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

Government agencies - to assess and classify the nature of the content on all media items

Industry bodies - to abide by classification guidelines and to submit all items for classification.

Users - to take note of classifications, read relevant signage and information, then to make appropriate decisions about media consumption for themselves and their children where relevant.

Q17:

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?

No, we need an independent classification body.

Q18:

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

As previously mentioned all content needs to be classified.

Q19:

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

Small independent media producers should be subsidised, especially if they are Australian. Especially if they produce media in new and innovative platforms (eg. games developers)

Q20:

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

G and PG ratings are well understood.

M and MA cause some confusion

R rating causes a lot of confusion especially as it is not consistently applied across all media platforms.

Q21:

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

The current classification categories work fine although M and MA should be merged and no media should be refused classification. Also, the classifications should be CONSISTENTLY APPLIED ACROSS ALL MEDIA. This includes video games, it's a crying shame that the games classifications does not include an R rating and therefore some games can't even be sold in Australia.

Q22:

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?

Use same logo, same signage, and same text description across all media formats. BRING IN AN R RATING FOR VIDEO GAMES.

Q23:

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?

Yes

Q24:

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

No content should be prohibited online.

Q25:

Does the current scope of the Refused Classification (RC) category reflect the content that should be prohibited online?

There should be no Refused Classification category.

Q26:

Is consistency of state and territory classification laws important, and, if so, how should it be promoted?

Classification laws should be nationwide not on a state by state basis.

Q27:

If the current Commonwealth, state and territory cooperative scheme for classification should be replaced, what legislative scheme should be introduced?

There should be a federal scheme to replace it.

Q28:

Should the states refer powers to the Commonwealth to enable the introduction of legislation establishing a new framework for the classification of media content in Australia?

Yes.

Q29:

In what other ways might the framework for the classification of media content in Australia be improved?