CI 1785a Reaper Industries (QLD) Pty Ltd

Organisation: Reaper Industries (QLD) Pty Ltd

Q1:

The ALRC should develop a new framework as the current one has too many flaws. Improving it would take more time and resources than carefully planning out a new framework.

Q2:

The primary objectives should be to ensure that media is being classified appropriately. It should be fair to all parties concerned and no one should be inconvenienced or harmed by the classification scheme.

Q3:

No, the platform/technology used should not impact the content classification rating. It must be fair and consistent across all platforms.

Q4:

No, all content must be classified fairly and without discrimination and/or personal bias.

Q5:

Yes, the potential impact of content should affect the classification. However, all that means is it must be classified appropriately.

Q6:

No, content must be classified appropriately regardless of these factors. No given media should be given special circumstances.

Q7:

Depending on the content of the artwork, it should be classified before exhibition.

Q8:

It should be subjected to the same rules that apply to all media classification.

Q9:

No. Content must be appropriately classified regardless.

Q10:

No. Content must be appropriately classified regardless.

Q11:

Content MUST be classified appropriately. A children's game/movie must be classified correctly the same as an adult's game/movie must be classified correctly. The only factor that should influence a media's classification, is the content of that media.

Q12:

As far as I am aware, there is no real effective method to controlling access to online content. Also, I believe that such an attempt to be wrong. We should all have the freedom of choice to view what we want. (Within reason of course)

Q13:

Parents should better educate their children to the harmful online content and if they are extremely concerned, they can limit their children's access to the internet and/or use a "Net Nanny" program. It is a parent's responsibility to raise their child. No one else.

Q14:

A better classification system, such as the proposed R18+ rating for games would help better regulate what games are available to minors. Also, making sure that these classification laws are enforced properly is crucial. Selling alcohol to minors results in a fine to the establishment. A similar punishment for enforcing the classification laws would be appropriate.

Q15:

Content should be required to display its classification rating on it's packaging and wherever it is available for purchase.

Q16:

It is the government agencies responsibility to appropriately classify the material where it is the industry bodies and users responsibility to enforce the classification rules/laws.

Q17:

No, because then there would be discrepancies between certain media classification, which would lead to unfair and biased classification ratings for media.

Q18:

None. It should not be the responsibility of any industry to classify any material.

Q19:

Yes, the classification of small independent films should be subsidised.

Q20:

The classification categories are understood, however I believe them to be inadequate. Games are the media type that suffers the most from the classification laws and this leads to a large number of games receiving incorrect classification. (Eg// Grand Theft Auto. It is classified MA15+, however it's high violence and sexual themes should realistically make this game only available to people over the age of 18. Due to the lack of an appropriate rating, it has fallen to the MA15+ category and is available to minors)

Q21:

Yes, there is a desperate need for an R18+ classification rating for games and similar media. I play games casually myself and I find quite often that there is a lot of content that should only be available to adult gamers but is available to minors. I understand that parents are concerned that and R18+ rating would allow more terrible games and content to be allowed through, however I believe that it would better regulate the content that is available to the Australian public, rather than freely allow anyone to purchase is. I do not think any of the current classification ratings need to be changed or merged.

Q22:

The same rules that apply to movies, music/soundtracks/audio tapes and cinema releases should apply to all media. It doesn't make sense that a movie/DVD can be classified R18+ whilst a game is only allowed the maximum classification of MA15+. The classification laws need to be consistent for all media types.

Q23:

Q24:

None. Everyone should have the right to view what they wish. (Within reason) If there is any concern for that, it is up to the individual to restrict the content viewed. A decision should not be forced upon everyone just because a few people are unhappy.

Q25:

Q26:

Yes, it is important. If the classification laws are not consistent, they will not work. If something is available in NSW and not in SA, what is stopping people in SA from purchasing it from NSW? The classification laws must be consistent across all states and territories if they are going to be effective.

Q27:

Q28:

Q29:

Other comments:

It is my personal opinion and that of my company's, that the classification laws in Australia at this time are erratic and flawed. Whilst I understand the concern that people have about the R18+ rating for games, I believe that it will allow media to be classified more accurately and efficiently which will restrict minors from playing/viewing harmful content whilst not taking the experiences away from adults who enjoy this content. Also, if the R18+ rating is not introduced, people will look elsewhere for this content, they will resort to purchasing it from overseas (an already common activity) or downloading it illegally. Which at the end of the day, is hurting the Australian government and people. Money that could be earned from these products will be going overseas.

I am looking forward to seeing what the future holds for the classification ratings over the coming years, as I believe it is time for a change that benefits everyone, not just one group of people.

M.Schwass