

CI 2498 T Brown

To Whom It May Concern,

I feel that it is vital that children are protected from exposure to adult material, especially in the form of media. The current National Classification Scheme recognizes that “children should be protected from material likely to harm or disturb them”. The safety of children must not only be taken into consideration, but needs to be a firm priority.

While I believe that protecting children from media is primarily the parents’ responsibility, many parents realize that this is made difficult without support from the wider community. Parents are unable to supervise their children at all times, as in many families both parents work outside of the home. Parents may not always be present when their children watch movies or play video games, and parents do not have any control over what their child might watch or be exposed to at a friend’s house. It is essential that the government support the efforts of parents in setting boundaries and to protect children by restricting certain inappropriate material to mature audiences, or to adults over the age of eighteen, and in more extreme cases, to refuse classification.

Likewise, children have a right to protection when their parents fail to provide them with such. Parents of low social economic status (dysfunctional families, including parents who may be drug users or the like) may not implement the necessary guidelines or restrictions necessary to protect children from inappropriate media.

Children NEED restrictions, in particularly with materials that are pornographic, violent or in any way explicit in nature. They are not mature enough to deal with the potentially powerful emotions that this kind of material stirs.

In conclusion, the reformed National Classification Code must serve the best interests of the community, especially those who require special care, such as children. The code needs to be strengthened to protect those who are vulnerable, not relaxed to help increase industry profits. Parents must have the support of the government to protect and raise their children.

Thankyou,
Tamara Brown