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Q1:

The ALRC should be focusing on encouraging self classification from publishers in a wide range of areas. With the explosion of small to individual publishing particularly through new mediums, it's impossible and unrealistic to have all content officially classified.

Q2:

The primary objective should be to inform consumers as much as possible what they can expect from content to allow them to make a choice for themselves and also for their children. An indication of age appropriateness is helpful, but classification should inform choices rather than be used as a censorship mechanism.

Q3:

Technologies and platforms shouldn't reduce the usefulness of classification. Official classification is becoming increasingly difficult or likely impossible due to technology enabling publishing by individuals and small organisations in huge volumes. It's hard to imagine official classification keeping up with mobile phone platform content alone, let alone Internet publishing.

Q4:

All content should be self classified. A complaints process leading to an official classification may be useful, but again this may be swamped by the sheer volume of material being produced.

Q5:

Self classification should be encouraged and assisted. Official classification across all media would seem an impossible task.

Q6:

No.

Q7:

No. Exhibitors should provide enough information to inform patrons before entry if the content is not suitable for children or if it is likely to be offensive to some patrons. Official classification of exhibitions seems unrealistic.

Q8:

Yes, self classification by the publisher should be encouraged to better inform consumers.

Q9:

No

Q10:

No

Q11:

Q12:

With web pages alone reaching over 1 trillion in number and many of those containing dynamic content, any sort of official classification or control is unrealistic. This is especially apparent when you then consider that web traffic accounts for just one third of all traffic. Attempts at online content control will likely introduce unintended consequences and an unworkable system. Current education schemes for children, parents and the general population regarding online content should be supported and expanded.

Q13:

Parental supervision and education support. All modern operating systems either incorporate parental controls or such controls are freely available.

Q14:

ID checks for age verification, much the same as is done for alcohol and tobacco.

Q15:

When it is not reasonably appropriate for all ages.

Q16:

To support publishers in supplying good factual information to better inform consumers on the nature of the content.

Q17:

With the explosion of content publishing by individuals up to traditional publishers enabled by new technologies, this approach seems inevitable.

Q18:

All content should be self classified with support from government in aiding that self classification.

Q19:

Industry or self classification would solve much of the issue of cost. If official classification is needed (eg following a complaints process) consideration should be given to the cost impact on small publishers. Assistance should be offered to improve self classification.

Q20:

The existing categories seem to be reasonably well understood. The lack of an adult game classification is odd.

Q21:

If official classification is to continue, an R18 category should be included for games. RC should not

be used as a mechanism to ban material which is merely offensive but not illegal to possess or view. Material which is currently RC but legal should be appropriately described to aid informed consumer choice.

Q22:

An international effort to standardise a core set of markings and descriptions to provide consumer information would be ideal.

Q23:

Yes

Q24:

Material which is illegal to produce. Since online content control is unworkable, such material should be dealt with by law enforcement.

Q25:

No

Q26:

Any classification scheme should be applied uniformly nationally.

Q27:

Self classification and industry self regulation with provisions for commonwealth support for development and application. A complaints process to address poor self classification and law enforcement referrals for illegal content.

Q28:

Yes

Q29:

Other comments: