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Q1:

In this inquiry, the ALRC should focus on developing a new framework for classification in order to bring Australia to par with the rest of the modern world.

Q2:

The primary objectives of a national classification scheme should include:

- The provision for more informed decision making as to what a particular rating reflects.
- A clear distinction between what is suitable for viewing/interaction of a child/adolescent and that of an adult.
- The right for an adult to choose what he/she views/interacts with.

Q3:

The technology or platform used to access content should not affect whether content should be classified as the experience of the content is totally dependant upon the person's interpretation, how the content is delivered should not dictate it's classification.

Q4:

Some content should only be required to be classified if the content has been the subject of a substantial complaint by a significant number of persons but only after significant public awareness and consultation has been sort from all relevant stakeholders.

Q5:

The potential impact of content should affect whether it should be classified only after it's potential has been thoroughly scrutinised and assessed by both public interest and industry groups.

Content designed for children should be classified across all media so long as it's design has been correctly identified as being aimed solely at children and not that of other relevant or interested demographics.

Q6:

The size or market position of particular content producers and distributors, or the potential mass market reach of material, should not affect whether content should be classified as everyone and everything should be subject to the same level playing field as another.

Q7:

Some artworks should be required to be classified before exhibition for the purpose of restricting access or providing consumer advice, especially in such cases that involve child nudity subjects under the age of 18.

Q8:

Music and other sound recordings (such as audio books) should be classified or regulated in the same way as other content.

Q9:

The potential size and composition of the audience should affect whether the content is classified.

Q10:

The fact that content is accessed in public or at home should affect whether it is classified.

Q11:

Q12:

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

- NOT mandatory national internet filters.
- Effective and Informed Education.
- Proper and effective supervision.

Q13:

Children's access to potentially inappropriate content can be better controlled online by:

- Employing proper and effective supervision by parents/guardians/carers at all times.
- Employing proper and effective education to both children and parents/guardians/carers on what to look out for and avoid.
- Providing and employing proper and effective software based safeguards and filters on personal computers and mobile devices.

Q14:

Access to restricted offline content, such as sexually explicit magazines, can be better controlled by requiring proof of age identification to be supplied in-order just to view such content for purchase/lending etc.

Q15:

Content should be required to display classification markings, warnings or consumer advice at every point leading up to the experience of the content - both physically and digitally.

Q16:

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

- Education.
- Consultation.
- Administration
- Mitigation
- Deliberation

Q17:

Co-regulatory models under which industry itself is responsible for classifying content and government works with industry on a suitable code would be more effective and practical than current arrangements.

Q18:

Content, if any, that industry should classify because the likely classification is obvious and straightforward should be that of clear acceptability to every person and/or demographic.

Q19:

The circumstances under which the government should subsidise the classification of content should be at all times and for all content.

Q20:

The existing classification categories are understood in the community, except for those pertaining to that of Electronic/Video/Computer Gaming industry/market as there is a severe lack of equality between this and other mediums - Especially with regards to a lack of an R18+ Rating for Adult Gaming.

Q21:

There is a need for a new classification category in the Electronic/Video/Computer Gaming industry/market for content that should only be viewed/accessed by mature adults over the age of 18 - An R18+ Rating.

Q22:

Classification markings, criteria and guidelines can be made more consistent across different types of content in order to recognise greater convergence between media formats by making them available to every and all media - i.e. E, C, G, PG, M, MA, MA15+, R18+, X & RC should extend to every category of every medium and not only select types of mediums.

Q23:

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 should all be consolidated into one solitary set of rules and guidelines.

Q24:

The content that should be entirely prohibited online should include:

- Child Pornography.
- Rape Promotion.
- Harm Incitement.
- Sexual Preference, Religious & Racial Intolerance.
- Details for the procurement of prohibited/illegal drugs, substances and objects.
- Plans for the manufacturing of prohibited/illegal drugs, substances and objects.

Q25:

The current scope of the Refused Classification (RC) category does not accurately reflect the content that should be prohibited online as it goes too far with certain content and too little with other content.

Q26:

Consistency of state and territory classification laws is important and it should be promoted by accurately displaying it's intended clear equality and transparency for all Australians in-order to avoid uncertainty and confusion.

Q27:

If the current Commonwealth, state and territory cooperative scheme for classification should be replaced, the legislative scheme that should be introduced is a National Classification Scheme derived from both Government and Industry.

Q28:

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

Q29:

The other ways that the framework for the classification of media content in Australia might be improved is by regularly reviewing and updating said guidelines so that they more commonly and effectively reflect contemporary views and opinions.

Other comments:

Please do not be deceived by the outdated, ill-informed and misguided views and opinions of hard to extreme religious lobby groups with regard to the R18+ Rating for Video Games debate.