CI 696 B Beshara

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Q1:

The current framework has been derived from the framework used in television and film classification. Although it is adequate for such systems, the system has been said to be incompatible with the classification of digital media, such as video games, websites and social media. Although the result many are seeking would be adequate by band-aiding the system currently used, in order to better accommodate future developments in digital media it is necessary to 'start from scratch' and develop a unique system of classification for such media.

Q2:

A national classification scheme should strive to enable the availability of media to those who seek it, striving to inform consumers rather than control them.

Q3:

The nature of a platform for media should definitely affect the requirement for classification - say I have a box, stashed away in a closet with a copy of a gory horror movie. The box is correctly labelled "Scary horror movie" and everyone knows where it is, so that if one wants to watch a scary horror movie, it is available - and those who do not want to are able to steer clear of it. With current digital media classifications, the box would be labelled "Only for big kids" - along side another box containing pornographic magazines and another containing the script to a bad teen comedy. Rather than transparently informing and distributing, the current system seems to generalise all media across all platforms. Media whose intentions are clear and outset should be exempt from classification - as the current system obfuscates these intentions and replaces it with a traffic-light system.

Q4:

It is unfair to reconsider classification after the fact due to complaint - this goes the same for if the media has been exempt.

Q5:

A global-media "Children's" label would be effective in informing parents of a medias intention. Back in high school, one of my teachers told us that they once rented 'White boy's can't jump' for their children thinking it was an innocent basketball movie. The flaws of the system display in events like this.

Q6:

No.

Q7:

No. As an adolescent I was disallowed into many exhibitions due to classification issues with media - despite already being exposed to the works within over digital media.

Q8:

No.

Q9:

Only with the distinction between mass-produced media and independent media.

Q10:

Yes.

Q11:

Q12:

There is no effective way to control access to any digital media - only education, information and parental guidance.

Q13:

Parental supervision.

Q14:

Educating and informing distributers, children and parents

Q15:

It should only be compulsory on request of the consumer.

Q16:

Users should have the largest influence over regulation - through efficient, anonymous channels toward a completely transparent joint industry/government body.

Q17:

A double-checked self-regulatory model would be the most efficient.

Q18:

Self-declared Pornographic material.

Q19:

Classification should be completely subsidised by the government - otherwise it will encourage alternate, black-market style distribution models for content which cannot be classified or is classified incorrectly.

Q20:

No. The difference between G and PG is unclear, M and PG seem interchangeable, and the difference between MA and R seems almost arbitrary. There are also too many classifications - a simple three-tiered system would be adequate. Children, Unrestricted and Restricted.

Q21:

As above: There are too many classifications - a simple three-tiered system would be adequate. Children, Unrestricted and Restricted.

Q22:

The rating of content should be consistent.

Q23:

They should be scrapped and rethought of as a unified system.

Q24:

There is almost no way to enforce prohibition online - so it is fruitless to suggest. The distribution of the content is what should be prohibited, not the access.

Q25:

As above

Q26:

National consistency is incredibly important - but i am unsure how it should be promoted

Q27:

One that allows the freedom of media and promotes informed consumption.

Q28:

No.

Q29:

By creating a free, transparent process for the voluntary submission of mass-distributed media for classification.

Other comments: