

Question 1. People need some method of classifying programmes. They cannot be expected to watch every programme before allowing their children to see it. The same goes for reading material and even for the spoken word. A good example is the recent film which received glowing reports from a number of reviewers in the press and was classified as “MA15+”. It contained lesbian behaviour between the ballerinas as well as dark adult themes.

We must have some forms of classifications if we are to protect people from this type of material.

Question 2. There should be some scheme of classification that enables people to determine in advance if a film, magazine, book, magazine, etc is suitable for a particular age group.

Question 4. More than one complaint should be required before it is classified.

Question 5. Yes! The potential impact of content should affect whether it is classified or not.

Question 6. I do not think that market size of position should have any effect on classification.

Question 7. Some artworks need to be classified.

Question 8. Some music, particularly songs need to be classified.

Question 9. No.

Question 10. I think it makes little difference where content is accessed.

Question 12. Voluntary consensus of the internet providers is the way to achieve controlled access. But this depends on all the providers having similar moral standards. Which is asking the impossible, I fear.

Question 13. My answer to this question is similar to my answer to question 12.

Question 14. Control of this type of material is good. Newsagents generally keep them under cover and booksellers have specified stocking this type of book.

Question 15. This should be always. The best way would be for people control their desire for this type of knowledge so that there would be no need for much of the classification scheme, only ones relating to the age at which people have access to what is appropriate for children and then adults.

Question 17. Yes, I think the more society as a whole works to classify would be a good idea.

Question 19. The Government should not have to foot the bill for classification. The person or organisation should have to do this.

Question 20. I believe the current classifications are all that are required but they should be more strictly adhered to. For example, the “MA15+” category which is for young adults ought to have more films taken from this category and put into the “Adults only” category.

Question 21. I think I have answered this question in my answer to Question 20.

Question 22. I do not know enough about the matter to answer this.

Question 23. Yes, the two groups of criteria ought to be consolidated.

Question 24. Excessive violence, explicit sexual acts, etc should be entirely prohibited from publication in any form.

Question 25. From the little I know about the Refused Classification (RC), it does reflect the content that should be prohibited on line. More films, videos, etc should be included in it though.

Question 26. Consistency of state and territory laws is important. Maybe, if the States and Territories ceded their powers to the Commonwealth that would be the best way to go. But, to be realistic, I am not qualified to comment on this matter.

Question 27. Frankly, I do not know.

Question 28. My answer to Question 26 covers this Question.

Question 29. The framework is good. What needs to be improved is the attitude of many who believe they should be free to watch whatever they like and don't give a damn about the effects it may have on others.