

New ACMA powers to combat misinformation and disinformation

In my opinion this is a very dangerous piece of legislation.

The draft has been written in response to a report from 2021 at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. This report states - **Despite platforms' mostly global approach to updating policies and implementing other actions, many measures have had an impact on Australian users.**

> In 2020, Facebook removed more than 110,000 pieces of COVID-related misinformation generated by Australian accounts.

> Between July and December 2020, Twitter removed 50 pieces of content authored by Australian accounts for contravening its COVID-19 misleading information policy.

> In 2020, Google blocked 101 million advertisements globally for contravening its misrepresentation policies. > TikTok's COVID-19 Information Hub was visited by over 292,000 Australians between November 2020 and March 2021.

It would be interesting to know, just how many of the deleted COVID related posts are, by 2023 standards, now misinformation or actually correct.

So much of what the Governments, both Federal & State, told us during the pandemic, would now be classed as mis or disinformation. It is widely accepted that the so called 'vaccines' have caused so much harm and death. And although the Governments can claim to have been acting with the best intentions, to actually coerce millions of people into having these injections or lose their jobs, is something that should NEVER happen again. It was a huge abuse of power.

It is important to have a healthy, functioning democracy and to do so, requires freedom of speech, to allow proper debate and not just silence those ideas that do not align with the Government of the day.

It is also a concern on how 'Hate Speech' will be viewed. Personally, I do not believe anyone born a man should be allowed to compete in women's sports or allowed in female only spaces. I do not hate Trans people, they can live their lives how they wish BUT, their belief of their gender should not trump the safety of females. It may only be a small minority of the Trans community that would pose this risk, but it is a risk that should not be allowed. And for me and others to state this is NOT hate speech.