

Submission – Legislation regarding misinformation and disinformation on social media platforms.

I am writing this submission to express my absolute objection to the proposed legislation regarding Misinformation and Disinformation across all social media sites across Australia. I note that giving ACMA, a group of non elected persons, the power to decide exactly what is and is not misinformation or disinformation from the general public utterly unacceptable.

In addition, I note that the Government has exempted itself from this legislation, opening the way for them to impart any information or advice, with no requirement of that information or advice to be check for accuracy.

This legislation gives the Government or their appointed bureaucrats in ACMA the authority to decide what the peoples thoughts and opinions should be and to impose penalties for them expressing these. It essentially takes away everyday Australians basic human rights of freedom of speech.

As stated above, ADMA are non elected bureaucrats. Who are they to decide what is misinformation or disinformation? Who is anyone to decide this for someone else? In a democratic society, freedom of speech, expression and opinions are basic rights. Interestingly enough, the Government would like this legislation to be in place before the Australian public vote on The Voice – a topic that the Government have promoted with giving incentives to push the Yes vote to the tune of \$15 million. Since when were referendums dealt with the same way as elections?

If this legislation goes ahead, it will be the end of Australia as we know it. It will be akin to the Communist Government in China. Democracy will be dead.