

Submission for the Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and Disinformation) Bill 2023.

This amendment will, without doubt, be detrimental to freedom of speech in Australia. Without freedom of speech, democracy ceases to exist and will likely be replaced by totalitarianism if recent history is anything to go by. We all saw the gross overreach by almost all the local government authorities, and all the state and territory governments over the past few years and the appalling lack of reproach for their actions by their federal counterparts. We do not need this legislation handing more power to unaccountable bureaucrats at ACMA, to wield at the behest of lobbyists and

corrupt politicians. It is my view that it is not the government's role to be the arbiter of truth. Rather, information should be freely given to and freely given by the people so that the truth can be discerned. Only through rigorous debate and a free discourse will falsehoods that are put forward be proven wrong and truths be brought to light. .

Censorship is only championed by frightened, liars with something to hide. For if you can prove what you're saying is true, then you don't need to censor any counter claims or arguments against your truth. If you let it, the truth will always prevail.

