

David Hall



The Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts,
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601

Re: New ACMA powers to combat misinformation and disinformation (the
*Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and
Disinformation) Bill 2023*)

I totally oppose the proposed new powers, or any power that would limit freedom of speech.

It is obvious since the Covid 19 pandemic that our Constitutionally guaranteed rights to free speech, to choose what medicine (or experimental medicine) we may or may not want in our bodies, and our ability to have freedom of movement and freedom within our careers, has been restricted. It is also obvious that all, or most of, the laws and restrictions that were put in place had no positive impact on the control of the disease. This is clear from the outcomes experienced by countries like Sweden and groups like the Amish who didn't impose such draconian and intrusive measures or didn't partake of the vaccinations.

The Commonwealth now wants to take things a step further and to determine what we can and cannot say by holding the social media platforms accountable for freedom of speech.

The so called 'fact checkers' at the social media platforms were proven not to check facts during the Covid pandemic, but to instead just enforce the opinion of their masters. This is totally unacceptable. They actually blocked access to websites like www.c19vaxreactions.com which contain factual information, because it didn't agree with the narrative of Governments. They have proven themselves to not be impartial.

Who makes the decision as to what is misinformation anyway? Many things that were thought to be misinformation have turned out to be proven to be true over time. People once thought the earth was flat.

Australia already has laws in place to protect people from hate speech or threats, so we do not need to introduce these new powers.

I also believe there is too much potential for corruption due to the ability of big businesses, like pharmaceutical companies, to influence media and individuals so that we end up with only 'information' that is approved of by the people that hold the money and therefore the power.

Sincerely