

Our democracy was founded on the principles of free speech and free debate.

Australians should have the right to hear all the arguments – the good ones and the bad ones – and decide for ourselves what’s true and what’s false.

**Politicians and unelected bureaucrats have no place interfering in that process.**

The so-called ‘fact checkers’ already get it wrong all the time. How much worse would the situation be if a ‘Ministry of Truth’ were given an explicit mandate to control free speech?

I urge you to consider the full consequences of this terrible idea.

You know that politicians enforcing their own views as the state-held ‘truth’ is nothing short of being totalitarian and despotic. It’s un-Australian and cannot be allowed.

You know that democracy relies on free speech and open debate – and that *more* free speech, not censorship, is the best way to handle what you call ‘misinformation’.

Australia already has a robust legal framework for dealing with dangerous lies or defamation. We do not need special laws for politicians.

I ask you now to stand up for our democracy and reject the proposed ‘Ministry of Truth’.

I implore you to respect our democracy and commit yourself to this country’s founding principles: free speech and free debate.

Stop this authoritarian ‘Ministry of Truth’ in its tracks now.

Yours faithfully,

