Submission re proposed ACMA powers

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Dear Sir/Madam

I do not approve of the proposed ACMA powers to 'combat misinformation and disinformation'.

I feel no need to have my 'safety' and 'wellbeing' protected in any such way. On the contrary, it is even the suggestion of imposing such extraordinary powers that we need protection from.

'STICKS AND STONES MAY HURT OUR BONES, BUT WORDS MAY NEVER HARM US' There's no need to infantilise us. We can deal with antagonistic speech, we learn by expressing views, we exercise free choice, think for ourselves, and forge our own paths. That's all any government needs to to support.

WE LIVE IN A DEMOCRACY HERE - freedom of speech is *foundational*; so much so that our governments justify waging war against others that take this freedom from their people. Now our government plans to wage war against US?

CORRALLING US INTO ONE ORTHODOXY when we are proudly multi-cultural reeks of a propaganda regime, a government that has a plan to control, using a proxy to execute its coercion. All the fancy offical verbiage cannot disguise this clear intent.

DISCREDITING TARGETED GROUPS is the only reason for ever naming something 'mis' or 'dis'-information. An attempt to criminalise dissent and normalise censorship. A government turning on its own citizens and making them 'domestic terrorists' is surely in need of curbing its paranoia.

NOMINATING A 'MINISTRY OF TRUTH' deserves ridicule - like Alice in Wonderland or '1984'...one day THIS is politically correct and one day THAT is politically correct... Creating a guardian of orthodoxy is a nonsense authority.

MAKING UNNECESSARY EXTRA LAWS when there are already sufficient to cover whatever's needed. A changing digital landscape does not necessitate the end of basic rights. The draconian powers proposed demonstrate either a lack of imagination or evil intent.

THREAT TO THE OVERALL, DIVERSE SOCIAL MEDIA MODEL with the prospect of enormous fines. Competition to the BIG tech companies (who easily pay fines or already toe the government line) - will be silenced. This will achieve the absolute opposite of 'protecting democracy'. **WRONG WAY - GO BACK!**

Sincerely, Fiona Crosskill

My submission can be made public