

Fw: Submission to (DITRDCA) the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts,

From: HelenaM8 [REDACTED]
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From: HelenaM8
Date: On Saturday, August 19th, 2023 at 9:06 PM
Subject: Submission to (DITRDCA) the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts,
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The criteria by which ACMA plans to determine what is misinformation or disinformation is not clearly defined. It is very vague. What is meant by "harm" is vague and not clear and it seems like it could be what does not conform to "the political narrative".

Scientific knowledge is never settled, it is always evolving and should always be open to discussion. (I have a background of studying science. I have completed a Bachelor of Science).

The prevention of discussion and sharing of information is essential for intellectual freedom and scientific advancement. This is an essential part of being in a democratic society. This constitutional freedom is implied in the Australian Constitution. The High Court has affirmed that intellectual freedom is a big marvel of living in a democracy. It brings huge benefits to society.

It become clear over the past few years that financial interests and conflict of interest was linked to the medicines such as ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine being demonized. The false message about their safety was put out to the public because of a conflict of interest of pharmaceutical companies and lack of financial benefits.

Because of these financial conflicts of interest, trust in medical research and the medical systems has been eroded and that erosion of trust will seriously continue if the proposed bill comes into effect.

Accordingly, because of that erosion of trust, conflict of interest and democratic societal values, and the importance of scientific discussion, I advise the passage of this bill.

Helena Singleton
[REDACTED]

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