It's easy to choose to be offended and of course blame others, rather than digging deep into our own minds to discover the beliefs/attitudes we have developed from past experience, information and indoctrination, that create emotions almost simultaneously when someone says something that we don't like or disagree with.

## It is with maturity that we learn, we are responsible for our own emotional reactions.

If, as a School Counselor (which I was), I had chosen to always side with the most emotionally reactive children, who would always want to blame others for their reactions, this would have had a severely limiting effect on other's speech and actions. It also would have had a destructive effect on open discussions about any potentially contentious issue, as it would have stifled the participants expressing their views if they were likely to be punished or ostracized by those in power. This would reinforce with the emotionally reactive children, that they could control conversation and what others expressed by reacting emotionally. What a dismal environment it would be for everyone except the emotionally reactive.

Banning/punishing/fining people for expressing views or providing information that a bureaucrat or current government doesn't agree with is a very slippery slope that should not be entertained in a democracy.

## A recent example:

In 2021/22/23,people expressing views or citing studies that Astra Zeneca CoV vaccine led to an increase in blood clotting were labeled as conspiracy theorists and thrown off media platforms or denied advertising revenue from them. This week, lawyers acting for Astra Zeneca, acknowledged in court that their vaccine doses lead to an increase in blood clotting.

## An older example:

All the weapons of mass destruction that Saddam Hussein possessed was based on misinformation fed to the public by bureaucrats, politicians and the MSM. This led to the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis as well as the massive economic destruction in that country.

Threatening people with fines or jail for expressing non-MSM or government views, when in fact they may be correct and aiming to enlighten or help others, is both undemocratic and disgraceful.

I pray that you see,' the truth will set you free'. That will only occur through everyone being able to freely express their views and all of us being able to access Truth, whether the government believes it is good for us (or them) or not.

Leader Australians for Social Justice