


To whom it may concern,

This proposed misinformation and disinformation bill is censorship plain and simple and is reminding me a lot of another party in History that much like the Labor party claimed to be the national workers party, also promoted Socialism and had radical ideas about the native peoples. I have recently spent a lot of time with indigenous and was even invited out on country with them and shown their sacred sites. They shared a lot of disturbing history with me as well as their opposition to current government proposals. They have been censored by Australian Governments for a long time a lot of it recently, I thought we were moving a direction of tolerance and understanding. This can only come from open communication.

To being my analyses of this bill I think it is important that we look at this exert from the Holocaust Encyclopedia. <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/nazi-propaganda-and-censorship>

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The Nazis used propaganda to win the support of millions of Germans.
Censorship helped to suppress ideas that the Nazis saw as threatening.

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Nazi rise to power

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Joseph Goebbels

English

Nazi Propaganda and Censorship



[Joseph Goebbels speaks during book burning](#)

Joseph Goebbels, German [propaganda minister](#), speaks on the night of [book burning](#). Berlin, Germany, May 10, 1933.

The Nazis wanted Germans to support the Nazi dictatorship and believe in Nazi ideas. To accomplish this goal, they tried to control forms of communication through censorship and propaganda. This included control of newspapers, magazines, books, art, theater, music, movies, and radio.

How did the Nazis use censorship?

When the Nazis came to power in 1933, the German constitution guaranteed freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Through decrees and laws, the Nazis abolished these civil rights and destroyed German democracy. Starting in 1934, it was illegal to criticize the Nazi government. Even telling a joke about Hitler was considered treachery.

People in Nazi Germany could not say or write whatever they wanted.

Examples of censorship under the Nazis included:

- Closing down or taking over anti-Nazi newspapers;
- Controlling what news appeared in newspapers, on the radio, and in newsreels;
- Banning and burning books that the Nazis categorized as un-German;
- Controlling what soldiers wrote home during World War II.

If we do not learn from our past we are destined to repeat it. This is a tragic event in Human history that is in grave danger of emerging once again. Although the modern left claims to be against the right wing agendas of Nazis they seem very quick to share many of the same ideologies and policies, this new bill is the perfect example of my disturbing observations. The web site Alpha History shows a similar bill implemented by the NAZIS and I would like to draw attention in particular to section fourteen,

<https://alphahistory.com/nazigermany/editorial-law-nazi-censorship-1933/>

*“Editors are especially obligated to keep out of the newspapers anything which:
a. is misleading to the public by mixing selfish interests with community interests;”*

The ambiguous term that states “anything that is misleading” is strikingly similar to the term and definitions of Misinformation and its subjective language in the exposure draft on page 16

4 **7 Misinformation and disinformation**

- 5 (1) For the purposes of this Schedule, dissemination of content using a
6 digital service is ***misinformation*** on the digital service if:
- 7 (a) the content contains information that is false, misleading or
8 deceptive; and
- 9 (b) the content is not excluded content for misinformation
10 purposes; and
- 11 (c) the content is provided on the digital service to one or more
12 end-users in Australia; and
- 13 (d) the provision of the content on the digital service is
14 reasonably likely to cause or contribute to serious harm.

This terminology could mean anything the government doesn't like or considers a threat to itself an assessment that history agrees with.

It is indeed interesting that this comes after a disturbing period of Government overreach in Australia, where time has clearly shown the people that provided Misinformation and Disinformation were in fact people in Government, people in media and those that claim to be experts. It is also interesting that Australia, New Zealand, Canada and other Countries in Europe have started this process of controlling people's speech online right after Joe Biden failed to take control of free speech in America where many of the Targeted Tech companies currently do business. Biden failed for the simple reason that it was a Violation of the first amendment right to free speech.

More troubling in this proposed misinformation and disinformation bill is the Exclusion for services that allows The Minister to legislate a free pass for specific platforms on page 15

23 **6 Excluded services for misinformation purposes**

- 24 (1) For the purposes of this Schedule, the following services are
25 *excluded services for misinformation purposes*:
26 (a) an email service;
27 (b) a media sharing service that does not have an interactive
28 feature;
29 (c) a digital platform service specified by the Minister in an
30 instrument under subclause (2).

- 1 (2) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify that a digital
2 platform service is an excluded service for misinformation
3 purposes.

And of course, the approved government information is also excluded from censorship in the definitions prescribed on page 9.

- 11 *excluded content for misinformation purposes* means any of the
12 following:
13 (a) content produced in good faith for the purposes of
14 entertainment, parody or satire;
15 (b) professional news content;
16 (c) content produced by or for an educational institution
17 accredited by any of the following:
18 (i) the Commonwealth;
19 (ii) a State;
20 (iii) a Territory;
21 (iv) a body recognised by the Commonwealth, a State or a
22 Territory as an accreditor of educational institutions;
23 (d) content produced by or for an educational institution
24 accredited:
25 (i) by a foreign government or a body recognised by a
26 foreign government as an accreditor of educational
27 institutions; and
28 (ii) to substantially equivalent standards as a comparable
29 Australian educational institution;
30 (e) content that is authorised by:
31 (i) the Commonwealth; or
32 (ii) a State; or

This seems to leave a nice place for the chosen few to say whatever they like without Scrutiny, while all others are forced to self-regulate and be regulated in accordance with this bill. It is almost as if there is an intention to run Propaganda from some pages and quell the debate against it on others.

This bill is abhorrent to free speech in Australia and as it is in conjunction with other nations around the world it is clearly an assault on Free speech globally. No good can come from this and one is left wondering why all of a sudden there seems to be a globally coordinated assault on the free speech of the people in their own countries. This will only further the rapidly growing mistrust in government, media and other institutions globally. It is my personal experience that the only people that want to stop the flow of information are the ones with something to hide and or up to no good. Is the government trying to tell us something?

I would like to draw your attention to another historical Socialist party, this time Russia. Around 100 years ago Socialist Russia had varying forms of Censorship and again it was not for the benefit of the people although that is what they were told. Censorship is clearly outlined in the website

<https://www.gcsehistory.com/faq/sovcensor.html> as

"Censorship is the control of information in the media which could be considered unacceptable by the government. Under Stalin's rule, the Soviet government had very strict control of information in terms of what people could see, hear or read."

The reasoning for this was clear, and is what I fear the Labor Government is also trying to do, again I refer to <https://www.gcsehistory.com/faq/sovcensor.html>

There were 3 main reasons why Stalin used censorship:

- *To control what people knew.*
- *To stop any criticism of him or the government.*
- *To stop any opposition developing or having the ability to undermine the government.*

As an artist I find this current bill very disturbing to creation of art another form of free speech that is targeted in the proposed bill on page 8.

- 21 **content** means content:
- 22 (a) whether in the form of text; or
- 23 (b) whether in the form of data; or
- 24 (c) whether in the form of speech, music or other sounds; or
- 25 (d) whether in the form of visual images (animated or
- 26 otherwise); or
- 27 (e) whether in any other form; or
- 28 (f) whether in any combination of forms.

As also stated in

The web site shows that this kind of law has historically led to the destruction of art.

<https://www.gcsehistory.com/faq/sovcensor.html>

"Censorship had a negative impact on art and culture as the quality of what was produced was reduced. Some artists refused to create any work."

There are a great many examples of Censorship around the world historically and it is always associated with repressive, socialist, communist, totalitarian dictatorships and I find it very disturbing indeed that in this modern area anyone in this country would be attempting to implement such a thing. After having spent some time recently with our indigenous and getting their views I discovered how much the

Australian government has tried to suppress their free speech. Some still remember not being able to speak their language and their oral traditions. This has already done a massive amount of damage to the Aboriginal culture through censorship. It is baffling that our current government would propose an indigenous voice to parliament and at the same time seek to suppress the voice of the entire country.

It is very easy site so many more examples of this kind of suppression through out history, books are filled with suppression of information from evil governments and rulers, but I wish to keep this brief and to the point. If the Government wishes to increase trust and faith in the people it should begin with maintaining a free and open society. Government should listen to people and speak honestly, clearly and with the interests of ALL of the people at heart. The truth will prevail, suppression is not the answer, open discussion is. I hope that those that claim to represent us all, and claim to be our voice already, will do the right thing by shutting this bill down before history repeats itself once again and another dark chapter in evil governance begins.