

1072 submissions were received in five different standard submissions via myvoice@oneclickpolitics.com

Submission 1 of 5

Re: Submission to Basic Online Safety Expectations – please keep kids safe

Dear Online Safety Consultation,

Director, Online Safety Reform and Research Section
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

The federal government has said, “The rules and protections we enjoy offline should also apply online.”

Currently, a child wishing to purchase, hire or view R18+ films (content high in impact, offensive to adults) may be asked for proof of age, and a child wishing to purchase, hire or view X18+ films (content with actual sexual intercourse and other sexual activity) must produce proof of age.

However, five-year-old children searching the word ‘porn’ on their mobile phone browsers will immediately access explicit hard-core pornography, showing close-up sexual intercourse.

Internet service providers should ensure that any explicitly sexual content should be hidden from all Australian viewers and accessed only by verification of adult status.

Please keep kids safe.

Submission 2 of 5

Re: Submission to Basic Online Safety Expectations – a crackdown on online porn is needed

Dear Online Safety Consultation,

Director, Online Safety Reform and Research Section
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Sue Dunlevy, National Health Correspondent for The Advertiser, said in 2016 that more than half of all teenage girls are receiving uninvited sexually explicit material on the internet and say their boyfriends are pressuring them to send sexy photos online.

And they are pleading for a crackdown on the problem of online pornography that is influencing men's attitudes towards women.

A survey of 600 Australian girls aged 15-19 by aid agency Plan International has found eight out of 10 believe it is unacceptable for their boyfriend to ask them for a naked photo.

However half the girls said there was pressure to take sexual photos and share them online.

"We need some sort of crack down on the violent pornography that is currently accessible to boys and men," an 18-year-old girl told the survey.

"This violent pornography should be illegal to make or view in Australia as we clearly have a problem with violence, and boys are watching a lot of pornography which can be very violent ... This is influencing men's attitude towards women and what they think is acceptable. Violent pornography is infiltrating Australian relationships," she said.

The Australian government should ensure all internet service providers hide any explicitly sexual content from Australian viewers and that it be accessed only by verification of adult status.

A crackdown on online porn is needed.

Submission 3 of 5

Re: Submission to Basic Online Safety Expectations – please provide age-verification

Dear Online Safety Consultation,

Director, Online Safety Reform and Research Section
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

There are many recent examples of children being traumatized by porn. A seven-year-old Victorian student allegedly sexually abused classmates in the playground, and the behaviour of a four-year-old boy from South Australia was so sexualized he had to be chaperoned at all times, in case he starts playing “sex games” with the other children.

Australian academic Michael Flood has stated, “Pornography is becoming a primary sex educator for boys and young men, displacing explanations from parents, formal instruction in schools, and even conversations with peers. However, what they learn from pornography websites is kinky practices which strip sex of intimacy, loving affection, and human connection. And they learn that women are always ready for sex and have insatiable sexual appetites.”

To protect children, service providers should ensure that any explicitly sexual content being delivered through mobile phones, tablets or PCs should be hidden from all Australian viewers and accessed only by verification of adult status.

Submission 4 of 5

Re: Submission to Basic Online Safety Expectations – please hide sexual content

Dear Online Safety Consultation,

Director, Online Safety Reform and Research Section
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Research released by Telstra in 2015 said that more than two-thirds (68 per cent) of children aged three to 17 own a smartphone and an average of 21 hours and 48 minutes per week is spent on such devices.

Tragically, five-year-old children searching the word 'porn' on their mobile phone browsers immediately access explicit hard-core pornography, showing close-up sexual intercourse.

A recent search by FamilyVoice showed the top site offered a choice of 16 free explicit videos, all with explicit sexual intercourse, some portraying incest or sex with students, and links to a wider selection of porn. No restrictions, no payment required, videos already playing as the viewer scrolls down.

Service providers should ensure that any explicitly sexual content should be hidden from all Australian viewers and accessed only by verification of adult status.

Submission 5 of 5

Re: A crackdown on online porn.

Dear Online Safety Consultation,

Director, Online Safety Reform and Research Section
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

I am sure that you have received many emails regarding restrictions for porn sites recently. So, I will simply say that I agree wholeheartedly that porn sites need to have age restrictions placed on them. I would also like to discuss two other points that need considering as we seek to restrict the exposure of children and young people to porn.

Firstly, anything that raises awareness on this subject needs to be equal. Our feministic society wants to talk about how porn makes boys abusive and violent. I am sure that is true. However, plenty of girls and women watch porn. That is a fact. It probably affects them differently, but it will still affect them negatively. We need to make sure that any work to raise awareness about porn and young people is not doubling as a campaign against boys. Both boys and girls get caught up in watching porn. Both boys and girls need to be taught why watching porn is dangerous and taught of its negative impact on their lives.

Second, I believe we also need to look into pornographic emails. Emails that contain pornographic images and links are far too common. Gmail especially is a shocker. On any given day, half of my spam mail is porn-related. I thought I must have given my email to someone I shouldn't have, but a discussion with someone else led me to believe that I am not the only one who has this problem. This is less of an issue for children, but young teenagers often have their own emails these days. They are susceptible to these things getting pumped at them.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.