

Submission regarding the consultation for **Exposure draft—Online Safety Bill 2020**

In general I support the goals of the bill; ensuring safety for Australian children and adults online is important.

However some parts of the bill go too far. In particular the definitions in “Part 9-Online Content Scheme” seem to capture certain sexually explicit material even when the purpose is educational or informative. For example, sexual activities involving restraints or impact can be dangerous if the participants are not well informed, so the availability of resources discussing and detailing the activities and the risks involved must be considered. Currently, it seems such material will fall into the “Class 2” category and thus be mandated for removal/restricted access if any offended party complains? The focus of the legislation should be on abusive, harmful and non-consensual material, in a way which does not enable the censorship of consensual sexual expression.

The effect on the adult industry must also be considered. Driving sex workers and adult performers to the dark corners of the internet does not improve the safety of the industry - quite the opposite.