Inquiry into age verification for online wagering and online pornography Submission 9

Dear sir/madam,

I am writing to express my opinion regarding the accessibility of online wagering and online pornography without age verification. I feel very strongly that both should only be accessible by consenting adults of an appropriate age.

Currently, these activities are available to anyone of any age. The ease of access to porn allows children of an impressionable age to be exposed to images that do not encourage a sense of respect of a sexual partner. The majority of porn shows women in extremely submissive situations where they are objectified. This attitude towards women is something that we should all be striving to change in order to create a more egalitarian society.

Secondly, the images presented in the pornography, so easily available, show people (men and women) of a certain form/body type/body shape. These body types are being pushed by porn and advertising as being the ideal body shape and our young people are succumbing to stress of the perfect body image at an age when they are so impressionable.

Regarding, online wagering, there is nowhere in Australia that underage people can easily access any form of wagering. There are signs up at pubs and clubs etc, there should be the same checks online.

Everything online is already so accessible to everyone (and it should be), but there still needs to be some minimal form of protection for our youngsters.

Regards

Costante Conte