

21/09/2019

Committee Secretary

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs

PO Box 6021

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Re: Inquiry into age verification for online wagering and online pornography

I am pleased to see that our Australian Government is looking into this – we need to follow the UK's lead and require age verification on all pornography sites.

As the mum of two young boys, I am very worried about how easy it is to access the most shocking and disturbing content on these sites. In just a few clicks, photos and videos of very violent acts can be viewed by anyone, including teenagers and young children if they go looking for information about sex.

Unfortunately, the porn industry has developed into a very dark and disturbing place, and the type of material considered to be porn 20 years ago, is a far cry from the violent and degrading acts readily available on the internet today.

As a society, we have a responsibility to protect our young people and putting age verification in place would be an excellent starting point to limit access to people over 18 who are really determined to access this material.

Thank you very much for holding this inquiry and I hope this leads to some stricter laws for accessing porn for all Australians.

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