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From: Mr Rory Delaney

Submission to Inquiry into the effectiveness of the broadcasting codes of practice

TV broadcasting tends to greatly under-represent the use of actual foul language as reflected in "real world" environments. Some reality/lifestyle programs have a more realistic portrayal of foul language. As an example, the drama *Underbelly* in particular contains a higher than average level of foul language which in fact accurately represents the underworld culture being dramatised. It is an excellent show as a result. The softly uttered profanities on sporting fields are picked up on daytime broadcasts and this is simply what one would be exposed to in the grand stands.

Regardless of the accuracy of the current classification standards, they are simply not effective because program classifications are only notified onscreen briefly prior to commencement of the program. To be functional, the classification of any non-G-rated TV program being broadcast between (say) 0500 and 2030 must be displayed on-screen at all times. The classification should also be transmitted as part of the EPG information available for optional self-censorship through digital tuners.

Classification effectiveness is warped by a focus on foul language. Foul language is said and heard pretty much everywhere. Foul language in public is perfectly legal. Public nudity & sexual activity, violence, and certain drug use is not legal, and this is where classification should be focused. It is extraordinary that arbitrary words are deemed "foul" and subject to censorship in this day and age. Are we going to have *The Sound of Music* censored when Mother Superior asks Maria "What is it you c-nt face?" (or something like that). It's just a harmless word. We need to keep things in perspective.