Inquiry into the Impact of Social Media on Elections and Electoral Administration Survey

Mr Laurence Webb
Phone number:
Email:

Organisation name:
Your position or role:

SURVEY

Q1. Encouraging social media platforms to take more action against inappropriate activities (such as bots, harassment, trolling, spreading fake news).

Response: Bad idea
Complaint process already exists.

Q2. The government funding media literacy campaigns to help people know what they can trust online.

Response: Very bad idea
Open to abuse.

Q3. Requiring public disclosure of all online political advertising (for example, webpages created by social media platforms showing all of the political advertising on their platform and who paid for it, or webpages created by parties/candidates showing all of the online ads they have run).

Response: Not sure
Badly worded question.

Q4. Requiring online electoral advertising to state who paid for it.

Response: Good idea
Much like the mass media system is now. Would have to be able to identify the real payers if it goes through some front organization.

Q5. Government support for independent and trust-worthy organisations that can fact-check claims or identify misinformation.

Response: Very bad idea
Open to abuse.

Q6. Using independent organisations (e.g. the Victorian Electoral Commission) as a source of reliable information about electoral candidates.

Response: Very bad idea
Open to abuse.

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

Response: Good idea
If such laws had existed at the last state election Premier Andrews would not have been able to claim that his government built the new Bendigo hospital when the project was started by the previous coalition government and was well on the way when he came to power.

Q8. Are there other things you'd like to see the government do relating to social media or online advertising and elections?

Response: Tell the truth.