

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

Mr Edward McConnell
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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

We need to be able to use the concept bias - if we police what people are allowed to say then we are violating freedom of speech. We can utilise the "inappropriate activities (such as bots, harassment, trolling, spreading fake news)." as a means of concept and comparison to real results. Therefor giving major effect when we debunk " inappropriate activities (such as bots, harassment, trolling, spreading fake news)".

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

Response: Bad idea

Government funding should be allocated to more suitable causes rather than "media literacy campaigns".

The media is already supposed to be responsible for that - why double up?

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: Good idea

Transparency is always good.

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

Response: Good idea

Again, transparency is good in this situation.

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

Response: Not sure

There are a lot of "trust worthy organisations" that I don't trust - that sure as hell get tax payer funding (government funding).

I'd let someone do this on there own accord and create something of themselves prior to just giving money away.

Code of Ethics goes a long way - and people can be bought and good things can become corrupt for gain in any agenda.

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

Response: Not sure

I'm unsure how to answer this question. I do my own research on who I should vote for.

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

Response: Very good idea

Only the truth should be told and enforcing it by law in a political situation should be made lawful. Putting these laws into policy I see that'd be quite the challenge. Majority of people speak from what they know and believe it to be true, so the law would have to be able to be enforce when the person knows what they are saying is false and said individual is using the false information in a way that harms others and gains for the individual. Could even be related to insider trading and releasing false news to gain favor or harm a company.

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

Response: Social media should be a place for freedom of speech.

Online advertising - should be monitored to ensure ethical standards. There is always someone out there advertising to rip someone off.

Elections - why not have an online election system? I.D via my gov - elections via my gov.