

1) the impact of social media technologies on the Victorian electoral process, focusing on how social media platforms are used for political communication and whether current regulations regarding the authorisation of political content on social media are appropriate;

I have previously submitted to the Electoral Affairs Committee on the conduct of the election.

I was a candidate for the Australian Greens – Victoria at the 2018 election.

What I experienced was hyper racism and death threats from the far right due to one far right candidate who live streamed nearly every day from the pre poll booth inviting hate towards me.

This live streaming also made countless voters uncomfortable as they tried to hide. Any voter who expressed concern was also bullied by large men who accompanied this far right candidate.

The VEC official deemed this not to be intimidation and actively told me that I could just leave.

The VEC head office ignored my complaints as did the police.

All of this lead to death threats and created a highly charged atmosphere that led to me only being present for only a few minutes at each polling booth on election day. This kind of online streaming is detrimental to our democracy as it invited death threats and credible threats of violence.

There needs to be penalties for candidates and political parties who incite violence and credible threats against candidates.