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

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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: Very bad idea
Who is the arbiter of what's to be considered fake news or trolling? This could be considered anything the government doesn't like people to know about and keep secret.
I don't support a control of information akin to communist media control.

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

Response: Good idea
There are various abilities of all media users able to decipher false information by cross checking with other media outlets. This even applies to written and television media. To help people become more educated about cross referencing information is helpful.

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: Bad idea
We already have disclosure statements on all political advertising. You are now overreaching into people's personal history and lurching into civil rights into volunteer campaigns.

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

Response: Good idea
As long as it's no different to what we see today with political advertising written and authorised by and now adding 'also funded by.'

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

Response: Very bad idea
Who is the arbiter of so called 'trustworthy verification?' Who authorises them to act on our behalf? If the government wanted to only release information they thought was helpful to them they could fallaciously determine all other non helpful information to be non factual or irrelevant. I vehemently do not support this sort of control.

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

Response: Bad idea
Any independent organisation would need to be one only set up by using eminent members of the major parties and have total independence from the government.

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

Response: Bad idea
Who determines what the truth is? I don't trust the government of the day to be the arbiter of political truth.

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

Response: At best there could be an independent organisation would need to be one only set up by using eminent members of the major parties and have total independence from the government.