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

███████████

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
Even though you are saying "encouraging social media platforms", who exactly is the person to execute whether something is true or false? With so much information flying around in todays climate it might become increasingly difficult to wade out false information. Sometimes what could seem false, could be telling something partially true. It would be difficult to implement some sort of arbitrary authority over so much information.

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

Response: Bad idea
I'm not sure about this either, because the current government at any given time will have different views and visions of the country they are governing. This could lead to more falsified information if the country has voted in a government that has a different system to what would be "good" and "trusting". So I'm not entirely sure that is a very good idea.

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
I think this would help with transparency around the tracking and following of political campaigning.

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

Response: Good idea
This would help with transparency.

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

Response: Good idea
When you say support, do you mean financially?
Either way, yes, full reports and investigations stated clearly to the public is always beneficial for any society, so that would be a great idea.

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

Response: Not sure
I'm not sure what sort of reliable information you are referring to, but transparency on electoral candidates would be helpful for voters as most people are not privy to the inner workings of candidates and what their track record is, as it's only ever stated to us by the candidates and their parties themselves.

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

Response: Very good idea
Absolutely. I believe the people deserve to know exactly what the candidates are campaigning for and if there is something misleading or defaming of others, there should be repercussions for falsity. Especially for those who are governing.

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

Response: With the current government they have made a series of ads of coronavirus which is fear mongering to the public through instagram/facebook etc, as well as small insulting vector images that speak to us as we are all children. I think the current government use social media to speak to us like little children. I don't believe advertising for their control of us should be tolerated. It should come through only a few streams like the government websites or television. Not already pre-populated in my search bars to I must click on it.