

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 good idea

There is a alarming amount of fake accounts and auto bots that schew opinion via false accusations and opinions dressed up as credible news.

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

Response: Very good idea

So many people use sites that are using conspiracy theories as the basis of their argument. We need to counter this via credible sources thus a literacy program will be effective.

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: Very good idea

So much fake news is filtering through. We need to expose the invested interests of these sites.

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

Response: Very good idea

Another way to establish fairness and accuracy.

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

Response: Very good idea

There has been a lack of accountability and increasing fact checks will help to filter those dodgy sites and hold them to account.

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

Response: Very good idea

We need to know about candidates affiliations and policies to make an informed decision.

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

Response: Very good idea

A huge lie was perpetrated to the Australian public in the last federal election which saw the current government win unfairly.

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

Response: If this can be extended to the main traditional media outlets would be a good thing especially when one media mogul controls 70% of all newspapers in Australia.