

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

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**Phone number:**

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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:** Good idea

As Voters, we need genuine news and transparency in LG and State Elections

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

**Response:** Good idea

Often different demographics may not be online savvy and get misled or confused by online info

Eg: senior citizens, migrants, CALD/Faith networks, etc

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

Transparency of Info us key as the political party you belong to will drive your decisions.

Eg: Current LG elections where SM platforms say 1 thing and vote differently!! No disclosure of political affiliation is compulsory

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

**Response:** Very good idea

Once a person stands for Public Service, then who is funding their Campaign is public, just as is their life, decisions, voting pattern, etc

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

**Response:** Very good idea

Definitely need more independent Organisations that can research and provide information that is the TRUTH!!

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

**Response:** Not sure

Sadly VEC is a toothless tiger!!

Too little too late!!! VEC sends out lots of emails after elections are over or before elections start about good behaviour, rights

and wrongs. However do not act promptly when complaints are made. Perhaps they need more resources, more training, more powers

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

**Response:** Very good idea

Great!! Laws are necessary but also powers to embed the Laws in policy and a practice framework.

How will these laws be implemented, what will drive the laws to eradicate dishonest and dangerous political advertising?

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

**Response:** Eg: Local Govt Elections Oct 2020 in VIC with Stage 4 Lockdowns:

Social media is the only way candidates can campaign. They are promising the sun moon and stars too, but how do we check what is the truth without meeting the person??

Would request all in Parliament, Politicians, Public Servants and People to watch Social Dilemma on Netflix , a doco about the insidious nature of all SMs.