

Monday 1st March 2021

Dear Committee Secretary

I understand the need to regulate online content so as to protect Australians from harms such as cyberbullying, child abuse images and terrorism related content. Many Parts of the Online Safety Bill 2021 help achieve this goal. However Part 9 of the Online Safety Bill 2021 is problematic.

I am a male sex worker in Australia who is also a co-host on Australia's only sex work radio show, "Behind Closed Doors", on Melbourne Community Radio Station 3CR. My co-hosts are also sex workers.

We support the production of online softcore porn images/videos as an integral part of running a business as a sex worker. We understand this situation as we have colleagues who have businesses that rely on creating and uploading online adult content more and more since the coronavirus pandemic, which in 2020 prevented them from providing their usual in-person sex work services. Part 9 of the Online Safety Bill 2021 seeks to regulate online content including online pornography by giving the eSafety Commissioner the power to take down online adult content. As people who support the creation of consenting online adult content, Part 9 presents a threat to business and livelihood. We therefore oppose Part 9 and call on Part 9 to be removed from the Online Safety Bill 2021.

Regards,

Dean Lim
Co-host
Behind Closed Doors Radio Show
3CR Community Radio Station