

Hi Select Committee,

This is a short submission because thankfully I am yet to experience the affects of social media in my home. My kids are aged 6,8 & 10 and they don't have access to personal devices. I also personally don't have accounts with any of the major social media apps. I have however been a High School Chaplain for many years and have seen firsthand the destructive and addictive nature of these platforms.

My wife and I constantly talk in age-relevant ways with our kids about important topics like sex and unsafe people but don't feel like our government and definitely not the social media platforms care at all. There are plenty of wonderful organisations who care about kids who will be putting submissions into this select committee – could you please be courageous and read carefully, consider and act? Think about this for a minute: sextortion (& the resulting young suicides) has started on your watch. And so too has the continued degradation of women through unrestricted access to pornography by young people. No more crocodile tears at these suicides and violence against women marches – please do something big, bold and courageous.

Thanks for reading and hopefully acting,

Glen Petersen