

Appendix 10 Special Broadcasting Service Corporation Codes of Practice

http://sbs.com.au/about_set.html

codesofpractice



july 99

SBS Charter

SBS was established as an independent statutory authority on 1 January 1978 under the Broadcasting Act 1942. The *Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991* (Cwlth) came into effect on 23 December 1991 and established SBS as a Corporation.

Section 6 of the *Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991* gives SBS a Charter setting out the functions and duties the Parliament requires of SBS as a public broadcaster. These are:

1. The principal function of the SBS is to provide multilingual and multicultural radio and television services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians, and, in doing so, reflect Australia's multicultural society.

2. The SBS, in performing its principal function, must:
 - a contribute to meeting the communications needs of Australia's multicultural society, including ethnic, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities; and

 - b increase awareness of the contribution of a diversity of cultures to the continuing development of Australian society; and

 - c promote understanding and acceptance of the cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity of the Australian people; and

 - d contribute to the retention and continuing development of language and other cultural skills; and

 - e as far as practicable, inform, educate and entertain Australians in their preferred languages; and

 - f make use of Australia's diverse creative resources; and

 - g contribute to the overall diversity of Australian television and radio services, particularly taking into account the contribution of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and the community broadcasting sector; and

 - h contribute to extending the range of Australian television and radio services, and reflect the changing nature of Australian society, by presenting many points of view and using innovative forms of expression.

Codes of Practice



The SBS Board is required under section 10(1)(j) of the *Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991* to develop Codes of Practice relating to programming matters and to notify these Codes to the Australian Broadcasting Authority. Section 10(1)(b) of the Act also requires the Board to develop and publicise SBS's programming policies.

The Codes contained in this booklet fulfil these and other legislative requirements and bring together the principles and policies SBS uses to guide its programming. They are particularly significant because under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* the Australian Broadcasting Authority may investigate programming complaints against SBS, where SBS may have acted contrary to its Codes.

SBS is aware of its responsibilities to its audiences and we welcome comment on our programming, whether it be positive or negative, as an important means of assessing community attitudes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Shehadie', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sir Nicholas Shehadie
Chairman

Contents	Page
1. Introduction	4
2. General Program Codes and Policies	6
2.1 Prejudice, Racism and Discrimination	6
2.2 Language and Diversity	9
2.3 Self-Identification When Referring to Groups and Individuals	11
2.4 News and Current Affairs	12
2.5 Religions	14
2.6 Interviews, Talkback and Audience Responses	15
2.7 Privacy	15
2.8 Closed Captioning for People who are Hearing Impaired or Deaf	15
3. Television Classification Codes	16
3.1 Introduction	16
3.2 Violence and Suicide	16
3.3 Sex and Nudity	18
3.4 Variations of Language and Terminology	18
3.5 Classification Symbols, Consumer Advice and Scheduled Times	19
3.6 Explanation of Classifications	20
4. Advertising and Sponsorship	22
5. Community Information	24
5.1 Television and Radio	24
5.2 Radio Only	25
6. Political Broadcasts and Election Coverage	26
7. Comments and Complaints about SBS Programming	27
7.1 Introduction	27
7.2 Making a Complaint that SBS has Acted Contrary to its Codes of Practice	27
7.3 SBS Procedures for Handling Complaints	28
7.4 Where to Address Complaints About SBS Programming	31

Appendix

Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Video Tapes	
Office of Film and Literature Classification	32



ONE introduction

These SBS Codes of Practice set out the principles and policies SBS uses to guide its programming. The Codes embrace the principal Charter function of SBS: “...to provide multilingual and multicultural radio and television services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians, and, in doing so, reflect Australia’s multicultural society.”


SBS’s role as a multilingual and multicultural national broadcaster ensures that SBS’s services will be distinctive in Australian broadcasting.

SBS believes that its audiences are best served by exposure to a wide range of cultures, values and perspectives. As a result, SBS’s programming can be controversial and provocative and may at times be distasteful or offensive to some. SBS will present diversity carefully and responsibly, ensuring a balance of views over time.

SBS is for all Australians, serving everyone from indigenous peoples to recently arrived migrants. SBS aims to reflect the different experiences, lifestyles and perspectives that are contained within our society. At the same time, SBS aims to assist the many cultural communities in retaining their languages and cultures.

SBS Television and Radio have different priorities and play complementary roles in pursuing SBS’s Charter and Mission objectives. Nevertheless, the principles and policies of SBS programming are the same for Television and Radio and, except where indicated, these Codes of Practice apply to all SBS services.

SBS aims to reflect the different experiences, lifestyles and perspectives that are contained within our society.



SBS Television

SBS Television emphasises cross-cultural awareness by exposing audiences to a wide range of cultures and perspectives and by presenting the reality of Australia's multicultural society. Most SBS Television programs either carry English subtitles or are in English. This recognises the role of English as Australia's common language and gives SBS Television the widest possible reach across Australian society. In broadcasting programs from non-English speaking countries, SBS Television provides a medium where people from a non-English speaking background can watch programming which is in their first language.

SBS Radio

SBS Radio is multilingual and serves Australia's cultural communities with schedules structured around almost 70 languages. Many programs have audiences comprising people from several countries. Some programs and program segments are in English.

SBS Radio assists communities in maintaining and developing their cultural identities, encourages their full participation in Australian society and provides cross-cultural links. It explores issues relevant to all Australians. SBS Radio must be many things, including information provider, news source, entertainer, educator, cultural vehicle, commentator and a medium for diverse community voices. Language groups endeavour to be responsive to the needs and expectations of community audiences and also remain impartial and objective.



TWO general program codes and policies

2.1 Prejudice, Racism and Discrimination

SBS seeks to counter attitudes of prejudice against any person or group on the basis of their race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, sexual preference, religion, physical or mental disability, occupational status, or political beliefs. While remaining consistent with its mandate to portray diversity, SBS will avoid broadcasting programming which clearly condones, tolerates or encourages discrimination on these grounds.

SBS views racism as the most serious impediment to achieving a cohesive, equitable and harmonious society and is committed to its elimination. SBS seeks to correct distorted pictures of cultural communities and issues of race generally. It does this through programming which reflects the reality of Australia's cultural diversity, and which exposes racist attitudes.

SBS aims to ensure that programs either counter or do not support individual and group stereotyping. SBS strives to eliminate stereotyping by presenting members of different groups in a variety of roles and by avoiding simplistic representations.



2.1.1 Women

SBS aims to promote a greater awareness of the contributions of women through programming which reflects the range of roles in which women are involved in society.

The portrayal of women should not create or reinforce sexual, gender or racial stereotypes. Programs which suggest that the exploitation of women is acceptable will be avoided.

SBS provides opportunities for women to direct, produce and present programs. A high level of involvement from women is sought in all program strands particularly those dealing with issues mostly of concern to women.

SBS seeks to challenge stereotypes by reflecting a wide variety of cultural mores and portraying women in both traditional and modern roles.

SBS understands that different cultural groups have different perceptions of women. SBS may broadcast programs which directly challenge these accepted cultural views.

2.1.2 Indigenous Australians

In this section, “indigenous Australians” refers to the Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders of Australia. SBS recognises and acknowledges the social, cultural and spiritual integrity of indigenous societies. It also acknowledges the diversity across and within these societies. SBS aims to promote and facilitate among all Australians an understanding of indigenous cultures, values and aspirations, and the goals of reconciliation.

SBS aims, over time, to provide programming which caters for the diverse and changing needs of all indigenous peoples

and which deals with contemporary issues of importance to them. SBS requires maximum involvement of indigenous people in all aspects of the production and presentation of such programs.

In the production and presentation of indigenous programming, SBS will ensure that proper regard is paid to the sensitivities, cultural traditions and languages of indigenous peoples. SBS recognises the need of indigenous communities to maintain their cultures, languages and traditions, and will seek to provide programs to that end.

In producing and broadcasting programs, SBS will be sensitive to the many cultural issues that surround media presentation of indigenous people and issues.

SBS program makers and journalists refer to the SBS publication *The Greater Perspective* (1997) which contains Protocol and Guidelines for the Production of Film and Television on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities. They will follow the principles:

1. Program makers should always be aware of and challenge their own prejudices, stereotyped beliefs and perceptions about indigenous people.

2. An indigenous view of indigenous issues may differ from a non-indigenous one.

3. Where non-indigenous people produce programs on indigenous people they should do so in consultation with the indigenous people, particularly with those who are the subject(s) of the program.

4. Any dealings with indigenous people should be conducted openly and honestly. The indigenous people involved with the deal should be fully informed of the consequences of any proposed agreements, and they retain their right to seek independent legal advice as and when they see fit.

5. No damage of any kind should be done to the lands of indigenous people or cultural property, nor to the subjects(s) of programs. Special consideration should be given to the applicability of non-indigenous notions of intellectual property right, especially copyright, to the cultures of indigenous people.

 6. The collection and use of information for a project should be done in such a way that it will not be used against or be considered detrimental to the people from whom the information comes. One is aware of the need to maintain the independence and integrity of news and current affairs programs and it is accepted that, at times, there may be a need to file reports which could be detrimental to the subject(s) of the program. Even so, when the use of such material may be unavoidable, the relevant program makers need always to be aware of and to examine any preconceptions they might have about that matter, and attempt to provide a report that is balanced by an awareness of the cultural norms and practices of indigenous people. It is critical that program makers are sensitive to the cultures of indigenous people and that they undertake consultation and negotiation with the people concerned prior to and during the making of a program.
-

2.2 Language and Diversity

2.2.1 Introduction

SBS treats culture and language as inseparable and language is therefore pivotal in SBS's pursuit of its Charter and Mission objectives. The different groups and communities in Australia's multicultural society use many languages. SBS will reflect this diversity in its programming.

One of SBS's Charter responsibilities is to contribute to the retention and continuing development of language and other cultural skills. SBS embraces its role as an established medium through which Australia's cultural communities retain and

develop their individual languages. On both the Television and the Radio networks, SBS seeks, among other priorities, to provide programs in which people from a non-English speaking background can hear their first language.

SBS recognises English as the common language of Australia and therefore as a major vehicle through which SBS can promote cross-cultural awareness.

2.2.2 Allocation of Air Time for Community Languages – Radio

SBS Radio has a direct role in serving Australia's cultural communities. In recognition of this role, the allocation of air time to particular community languages on SBS Radio is based on the size of the community speaking a particular language and the numbers in the community who:

- are aged 55 and over;
- are recent arrivals;
- have limited English language skills; and
- are unemployed.

2.2.3 English and Non-English Language Content – Television

SBS Television is a multicultural broadcaster serving all Australians. To reach across Australian society, SBS provides:

- English language programming which is readily accessible to a general population;
- non-English language programming subtitled in English, which may serve the needs of particular communities, and which is accessible to a wider audience; and
- non-English language programming which directly serves the needs of particular communities, and which may be of some interest to other audiences.

SBS seeks in its yearly television schedule to achieve a balance of 50:50 between television programs in English and in Languages other than English (LOTE).

SBS aims, as far as possible and over time, to provide programs on SBS Television across all languages spoken in the community. Program selection will take into

account variations in the availability and quality of programming from different television industries around the world, as well as the need to meet the range of SBS's programming objectives.

2.2.4 Subtitling and Voice-overs

The main way SBS Television makes non-English language programming accessible to a wider Australian audience is through English subtitles. Most subtitles are produced in-house by SBS. SBS also uses voice-overs and re-narrations.

SBS Radio has a direct role in serving Australia's cultural communities.

SBS seeks to reflect faithfully the cultural ambience of imported programs. SBS believes the interests of viewers are best served by subtitles and voice-overs which carry the impact of the original language. However, it is not always possible nor desirable to make literal translations. In many languages, expressions in common usage which are not considered offensive or obscene could in English translation appear crude and vulgar; and vice versa. Where literal translations would distort the overall tone and intent of a program, more appropriate English expressions are substituted.

2.3 Self-Identification when Referring to Groups and Individuals

SBS encourages different groups and individuals to express their own perceived ethnicity and cultural identity. Accordingly, SBS does not impose labels on cultural groups, but uses groups' self-identification – if it is freely chosen. SBS is not subject to the desires of any one group as to how any other group is to be identified.

SBS provides a forum for views on important issues.

While SBS accepts self-identification of cultural groups, this policy has no implications other than recognition of group identity within the Australian community. It should not be interpreted as recognition of any historical or political claims or conferring official authority on activities counter to the policies or practices of other governments. SBS recognises the nationality of people in accordance with their country of current citizenship.

In the production of programs, care is taken not to use words and adjectives used in the homeland to describe another cultural, national, or religious group in derogatory terms or a biased manner. In the transmission of purchased programs, care is taken not to endorse such usage.

2.4 News and Current Affairs

2.4.1 Introduction

Section 10(1)(c) of the SBS Act makes it a duty of the SBS Board to “... *ensure by means of the SBS’s programming policies, that the gathering and presentation by the SBS of news and information is accurate and is balanced over time and across the schedule of programs broadcast.*”

SBS believes in the right of the audience to make up its own mind after a fair, objective, balanced and professional presentation of the issues. SBS provides a forum for views on important issues to be communicated to audiences and will seek to present the widest range of opinion over time.

From time to time, SBS issues guidelines to assist broadcasters and journalists, particularly in handling controversial issues which could create tensions within the community. SBS journalists are also encouraged to work to the Code of Ethics of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance.

Accuracy has the highest priority and SBS will take all reasonable steps to ensure timely acknowledgment and correction of any errors of fact.

SBS avoids sensationalised and exaggerated treatment of issues and events. In covering murders, accidents, funerals, suicides and disasters, SBS expects its program makers to exercise great sensitivity, particularly when approaching, interviewing and portraying people who are distressed. SBS will report suicides only when such reporting is in the public interest. Any reporting of suicide will be in moderate terms, usually avoiding details of method.

SBS has a policy of self-identification (see Code 2.3 above) and does not arbitrate on the validity of territorial claims.

2.4.2 Non-SBS Sources for News and Current Affairs Programming

SBS draws on many sources for its Television and Radio news and current affairs programming. Sources include domestic and overseas stringers, international news agencies, national news services, services available on the Internet, newspapers, and journals.

SBS journalists and producers are expected to draw on their specialised knowledge of homeland affairs to judge the news value and reliability of stories from outside sources.

All journalists and contributors gathering, processing or presenting news for SBS are required to observe the SBS Codes of Practice.

2.4.3 Overseas Television News and Current Affairs Programs

SBS Television also broadcasts, substantially unedited, news and current affairs programs from other countries. Much of the material is in non-English languages and un-subtitled. In selecting such programming, SBS endeavours to ensure a level of quality which is appropriate to the SBS schedule. These programs are drawn from a variety of overseas sources – government, commercial and public – and will often be produced and interpreted from particular editorial perspectives. Prior to broadcast, SBS will clearly identify the source of the programs so that audiences can exercise their own judgements about the way issues and information are presented.

2.4.4 Violence in News and Current Affairs

The decision whether to broadcast certain pictures or sounds which portray violence is based on the normal judgement of their newsworthiness and reporting value, together with a proper regard for the reasonable susceptibilities of audiences to the detail of what is broadcast. SBS does not sensationalise violent events, nor present them for their own sake. Some news segments require an announcement, before they begin, that the material may be distressing to some viewers.

Because the timing and content of newflashes are completely unpredictable, particular care is exercised in the selection of sounds and images, and consideration given to the likely composition of the audience.

News updates and news promotions which portray elements of violence are not scheduled during obviously inappropriate programs, especially programs directed at young children.

2.5 Religions

SBS will responsibly examine the role of religion in society and report on developments in religions. In doing so, SBS will not support any particular religion over any other, nor intentionally provide a medium for one religion to denigrate another.

SBS recognises the importance of religion for the many communities that make up Australia's society and that programming dealing with religion has the potential to cause cross-cultural tensions. Accordingly, SBS is sensitive and careful in dealing with issues of religion.

2.6 Interviews, Talkback and Audience Responses

SBS will not transmit the words of an identifiable person unless:

- that person has been informed in advance that the words may be transmitted; or
- in the case of words which have been recorded without the knowledge of the person, the person has subsequently, but prior to the transmission, indicated consent to the transmission; or
- the manner of the recording has made it manifestly clear that the material may be broadcast.

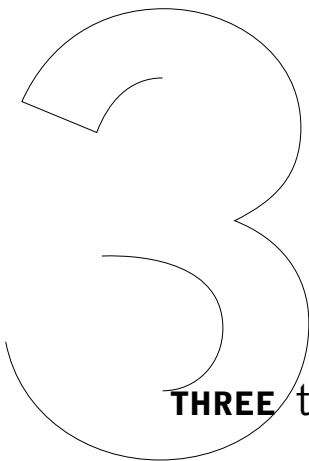
2.7 Privacy

The rights of individuals to privacy should be respected in all SBS programs. However, in order to provide information which relates to a person's performance of public duties or about other matters of public interest, intrusions upon privacy may, in some circumstances, be justified.

2.8 Closed Captioning for People who are Hearing Impaired or Deaf

Closed caption programs will be clearly marked when program information is provided to the press or when captioned programs are promoted. Where possible, open captioning advice will be provided if technical problems prevent scheduled closed captioning.

SBS will endeavour to increase the amount of closed-captioning, as resources permit.



THREE television classification code

3.1 Introduction

The SBS system of television program classification is based on the Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Videotapes issued by the Office of Film and Literature Classification (OFLC). (The OFLC Guidelines are listed in the Appendix.)

SBS believes that the integrity of programs is best retained if the program is broadcast unaltered. However, SBS will schedule programs or, if necessary, modify them in accordance with OFLC guidelines to ensure their appropriateness for audiences. SBS's classification system gives special attention to levels of violence, sex and nudity, and use of language.

3.2 Violence and Suicide

SBS acknowledges that violence is part of everyday life which must be dealt with responsibly. SBS recognises that for many people, particularly children, the portrayal of physical and psychological violence has a unique potential to distress and disturb. Accordingly, it is SBS policy to keep violence in its programs to a minimum and in no circumstances to present it gratuitously.

SBS believes that the integrity of programs is best retained if the program is broadcast unaltered.

In assessing program content involving violence, consideration is given to numerous factors including:

- context;
- degree of explicitness;
- propensity to alarm, distress or shock;
- significance in relation to ‘message’; and
- social importance of content.

SBS believes that violence should not be presented in such a manner as to glamorise it or make it attractive. It is important when violence is portrayed that, as a rule, its serious consequences are not glossed over.

Where violence is presented, some form of advance notice to viewers may be considered appropriate.

The presentation of violence in drama requires careful consideration. SBS rejects the use of gratuitous violence, or violence as an easy substitute for other dramatic values. However, violence has always been a powerful ingredient in the dramatic tradition and SBS accepts that there are occasions when authors and directors use violence to make a substantial point about society and human relationships.

SBS recognises that any portrayal of suicide requires a high degree of sensitivity. SBS will not broadcast material which is likely to incite or encourage self-harm or suicidal behaviour.

3.3 Sex and Nudity

In assessing program content involving sex and nudity, consideration is given to factors including:

- judgement of a program's bona fides;
- the responsibility with which visuals and subject matter are treated, particularly the treatment of sexual activity involving children or minors;
- the degree of explicitness of visuals; and
- the impact which visuals have in the context of a program as a whole.

Non-consenting sexual activities and the treatment of people as sex objects should not be presented or endorsed as acceptable behaviour.

3.4 Variations of Language and Terminology

SBS programming includes variations of language and terminology used by different groups and communities.

Expressions used by one group may be distasteful to another. Accordingly, use of language is taken into account in classifying programs and in deciding the kinds of warnings provided for viewers. Judgement is based on a sound understanding of values and sensitivities of individual groups and communities.

Because SBS believes that audiences should receive programs unaltered, strong language will only be removed from original programs if its use is gratuitous and likely to cause significant offence.

3.5 Classification Symbols, Consumer Advice and Scheduled Times

SBS will broadcast programs which can be accommodated within the following classifications: General (G), Parental Guidance Recommended (PG), Mature Audience (M), Mature Adult Audience (MA) and Mature Adult Audience - strong violence (MAV). (These are explained at 3.6.) The classification symbol of the PG, M, MA or MAV program (except news, current affairs, general information and sporting programs) being shown, will be displayed at the start of the program.

Consumer advice on the reasons for an M, MA and MAV classification will be given before the program. The advice will be in a style consistent with the guidelines on consumer advice published by the OFLC. Other advice which SBS considers appropriate (for M, MA, MAV and other programs) may be provided in the form of a billboard at the commencement of the program.

The time zones indicated for each classification in Code 3.6 (below) are guides to the most likely placement of programs within that classification. The recommended placements are not hard and fast rules and there will be occasions when programs or segments of programs will appear in other time slots. There must be sound reasons for any departure from the time zone for a program classification. Programs which are serious presentations of moral or social issues may appear outside their normal classification period provided a clear indication of the nature and content of the program is given both in advance of and at the start of the program.

Some individuals and groups choose to access programming directly from a satellite signal outside of the area for which the signal is intended. In these cases, SBS cannot guarantee that people will receive SBS programs in their local areas at the times for which the programs are classified and scheduled.

3.6 Explanation of Classifications

G – General (suitable for all ages)

G programs, which include programs designed for pre-school and school-age children, are suitable for children to watch on their own. They may be shown at any time.

PG (Parental Guidance – parental guidance recommended for persons under 15 years of age)

PG programs may contain adult themes and concepts which, when viewed by those under 15 years, may require the guidance of an adult. They may be shown between:

-
- 8.30 am and 4.00 pm on weekdays; and
 - 7.30 pm and 6.00 am on any day of the week.
-

M (Mature Audience), MA (Mature Adult Audience) and MAV (Mature Adult Audience - strong violence)

M, MA and MAV programs are those which, because of the matter they contain, or because of the way it is treated, are recommended for viewing only by persons aged 15 years or over. While most adult themes may be dealt with, the degree of explicitness and intensity of treatment will determine what can be accommodated in the M, MA and MAV classifications.

M: The less explicit or less intense material will be included in the M classification. M programs may be shown between:

-
- noon and 3.00 pm on weekdays that are school days; and
 - 8.30 pm and 5.00 am on any day of the week.
-

MA: The more explicit and more intense material will be included in the MA classification. MA programs may be shown between 9.00 pm and 5.00 am on any day of the week.

MAV: Material that is unsuitable for MA classification because of the intensity and/or frequency of violence. MAV programs may be shown between 9.30 pm and 5.00 am on any day of the week.

SBS takes particular care with the scheduling of stronger MA material. To this end, SBS operates an in-house sub-category MAZ which restricts the transmission of material at the upper end of MA until 10.30 pm. To be consistent with other broadcasters and to avoid confusion among viewers, additional symbols are not shown on-screen.

X and R (not suitable for television)

X and R programs are those which contain material which cannot appropriately be classified by SBS as G, PG, M, MA or MAV because the material itself, or the way it is treated, renders them unsuitable for television. X and R programs must not be shown at all.

FOUR advertising and sponsorship

Section 45 of the SBS Act provides that SBS may only broadcast advertisements or sponsorship announcements before or after programs or during natural breaks and that run in total for not more than five minutes in any hour of broadcasting. It is the responsibility of the SBS Board to develop and publicise appropriate advertising and sponsorship guidelines.

The Board has determined that advertising and sponsorship announcements may be broadcast on SBS Radio and Television.

SBS has adopted the following definition of “Advertisement”:

1. Matter which draws the attention of the public, or a segment thereof, to a product, service, person, organisation or line of conduct in a manner calculated to promote or oppose, directly or indirectly that product, service, person, organisation or line of conduct.

2. For the purpose of these conditions the term advertisement does not include:
 - the transmission of matter of an advertising character as an accidental or incidental accompaniment of the transmission of other matter in circumstances in which the licensee does not receive payment or other valuable consideration for transmitting the advertising matter;
 - an announcement of 10 seconds duration or less of the name or business of a sponsor of a program at the beginning and end of that program, provided the program is not less than 15 minutes long;
 - community service announcement for which the licensee does not receive payment or other valuable consideration for their transmission;
 - station identifications; and
 - program promotions.

As an associate member of the Federation of Australian Commercial Television Stations (FACTS), SBS takes account of the “Classification and Placement of Commercials and Community Service Announcements” contained in Section 6 of the Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice 1999.

Advertisements broadcast by SBS Radio must not be presented as news programs or other programs and must comply with the SBS Codes of Practice so far as they are applicable. The SBS Board has also determined that SBS will take account of the applicable codes of advertising.

Advertising announcements must not distract from the value of SBS Radio and Television programs as a medium of information, education and entertainment. Natural program breaks, as referred to in Section 45(2)(a) of the SBS Act 1991, include:

- any pause during coverage of an event where audiences miss none of the proceedings that relate directly to the event (for example, rest periods in sports events); and
 - the junctions of the program segments that are contained in SBS Radio programs.
-

As far as possible, SBS ensures that potential advertisers are informed of SBS’s responsibilities as a national multicultural broadcaster. The aim is to equip advertisers with sufficient background to enable them to select advertisements appropriate for the schedule, and which will therefore have maximum impact on their target audiences. SBS is aware that some advertisements which are broadcast by commercial stations may not be suitable for SBS because of SBS’s other programming policies and objectives. As with all programming, SBS reserves the exclusive right to determine what is broadcast on SBS services.

The following material is not considered to be advertising or sponsorship for the purposes of calculating the five minute per hour limit:

- publicity for SBS programs, products, services or activities;
 - material overlaid on the test pattern, or similar non-programming material; and
 - community information (see SBS Code five).
-



FIVE community information

5.1 General

SBS allocates a limited amount of free air time on the Television and Radio schedules to community and charitable organisations for the broadcast of community information. Section 46 of the SBS Act requires that SBS develop and publicise guidelines on the kinds of material that it is prepared to broadcast.

SBS will broadcast announcements and material on the basis that the public interest is being served. In selection and placement, SBS will take into account its role as a multicultural broadcaster, and in particular the Charter duty to contribute to meeting the communications needs of Australia's multicultural society, including ethnic and indigenous communities.

SBS will decide the best way to communicate community information to its audiences. This may be as a separate community announcement and/or within other program segments as appropriate. SBS may edit any material provided.

Announcements which promote or comment upon political, religious, social or economic opinion, or take a position on any contentious issue or issues divisive to the community are not accepted.

Community information broadcast on SBS Television will generally be of national relevance.

SBS allocates a limited amount of free air time on the Television and Radio schedules to community and charitable organisations for the broadcast of community information.

Pre-recorded material provided to SBS for broadcast must be of a production quality acceptable to SBS.

Placement of community service announcements in the schedules is subject to the availability of air time.

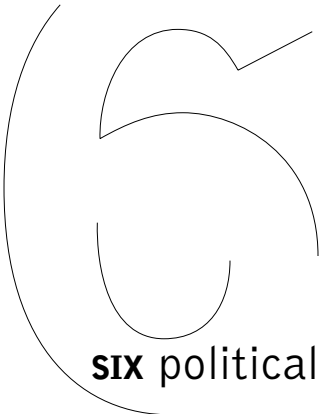
5.2 Radio Only

SBS Radio also allows the following to be broadcast as community information:

- 1.** Community announcements directed at listeners of a Language Program and which deal with forthcoming events of a social, cultural, welfare or educational nature within the community. (For this sort of announcement, organisations may be charged some production fee if the form of the broadcast is other than a simple announcement.)

- 2.** Program segments or interviews to discuss work and/or services provided by individuals or groups on a commercial basis, provided a special need for the information is identified within the language community.

- 3.** Campaigns by government departments and instrumentalities which provide information about and access to government services for people from non-English speaking backgrounds, and particularly for new migrants. (Such announcements attract production and/or air time charges, as appropriate.)



six political broadcast and election coverage

Section 70A(1) of the SBS Act allows SBS to determine to what extent and in what manner political matter or controversial matter will be broadcast by SBS.

SBS provides information to the community about elections through:

- allocation of free air time to political parties; and
- coverage of elections and election issues through normal SBS news and current affairs services.

SBS provides free time on Television and Radio for political parties for their policy speeches and statements on election issues during Federal election campaigns. Free air time is also available on Radio for State election campaigns. As a general guide, the Government and the Opposition are allocated equal time and minor parties treated on the basis of their representation in the Federal or State parliaments as appropriate. Referenda are treated in a similar manner. Any additional time which political parties wish to be allocated on SBS Television and Radio is considered to be advertising and parties will be charged accordingly.

Further details of these arrangements and the actual amount of time to be allocated is available from SBS on request.

SEVEN comments and complaints about SBS programming

7.1 Introduction

SBS values comment about its Television and Radio programming, whether such comment be positive or negative. Written comments and telephone calls from viewers and listeners are immediate sources of feedback about SBS programming, and an important way in which SBS keeps in touch with community opinion.

7.2 Making a Complaint that SBS has Acted Contrary to its Codes of Practice

Where a person believes that SBS has acted contrary to its Codes of Practice, the person should first contact SBS. Complainants who wish SBS to reply formally should put the matter in writing. It would assist SBS's investigation if the complainant identifies the Code in question, and indicates how a breach may have occurred.

If the complainant does not receive a response within 60 days after making the complaint, or considers SBS's response to be inadequate, the person may make a complaint to the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) about the matter, under Part 11 (eleven) of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992.

The ABA may then investigate the complaint and, if it believes that the complaint was justified, can recommend SBS take action to comply with the relevant Code. It may also recommend SBS take other action in relation to the complaint, such as the broadcasting of an apology. The ABA will notify the complainant about the outcome of any investigation.

In the event of SBS not following the ABA's recommendation, the ABA may give the Minister for Communications a written report on the matter, which will then be tabled in each House of the Parliament.

SBS will make every reasonable effort to address the major concerns of all correspondents.

7.3 SBS Procedures for Handling Complaints

7.3.1 Coordination of Complaints Handling

Coordination of the handling of programming complaints is carried out by the SBS Policy Unit.

The Policy Manager is responsible for:

- ensuring that complaints are handled by the appropriate staff or Division;
- the provision of internal guidelines for SBS staff on the handling of complaints;
- handling complaints about particularly controversial matters; and
- answering questions, from both within and outside SBS, about SBS programming policies.

7.3.2 Written Complaints

In the case of serious programming complaints (such as a breach of the Codes of Practice), and particularly where the complainant is seeking some form of redress, SBS believes that the most effective way for people to convey their views about programming is in writing.

SBS will make every reasonable effort to address the major concerns of all correspondents, except where a complaint is clearly frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith. SBS aims to reply to written complaints in a timely manner. Written complaints will be promptly acknowledged and normally answered within six weeks from initial receipt by SBS. Holding replies (i.e. a letter acknowledging receipt of the complaint and promising a subsequent and more detailed response) are used where appropriate.

Written complaints about specific programs or types of programs will be dealt with by a person with appropriate editorial responsibility who will assess whether or not the broadcast is in line with SBS's programming policies as articulated in the Codes of Practice. Depending upon their nature and the seriousness of the issue, letters may be answered by the Managing Director or by other senior SBS staff.

SBS may decide at its discretion whether to investigate anonymous complaints. Where complaints are received in a confidential basis, SBS may choose to protect the identity of the complainant.

7.3.3 Complaints by Telephone

SBS appreciates that, for many people, the most comfortable and efficient way of expressing a view about a program is by telephone because it

offers a degree of immediacy and ease of expression which a letter may not.

Because of resource considerations and limitations on the availability of programming staff, SBS can not always provide a detailed response to telephone callers about particular programming concerns. However, the views of callers will be noted and brought to the attention of management and relevant programming staff. In normal circumstances, a written reply will not be provided.

7.3.4 Complaints by Electronic Mail

SBS appreciates that electronic mail offers an easy way of expressing a view about a program.

However, because of resource considerations and limitations on the availability of programming staff, SBS does not normally provide a detailed response to complaints by electronic mail about programming matters. The views of senders will be noted and brought to the attention of management and relevant programming staff.

7.3.5 Language and Translations

SBS believes that people should be able to communicate with SBS in the language with which they feel most comfortable.

SBS has linguistic specialists mainly within Radio and Subtitling. Telephone comment in languages other than English can be handled if a request is made, either in writing (in the non-English language) or through the SBS switchboard (initially in English to arrange details).

Only because of the need for translation, letters in languages other than English may not be handled within the same time-frame as for letters received in English.

To address some complaints adequately, it may be necessary for a program or parts of a program to be translated into English. When this occurs, complainants will be advised of any resultant delay. SBS seeks the cooperation of complainants in allowing for a reasonable period for the translation process to be completed and their complaint addressed.

7.4 Where to Address Complaints and Comments about SBS Programming

If viewers or listeners wish to make a comment about SBS programming which they would like brought to the attention of management and programming staff, then they should call the SBS switchboard in Sydney:

Telephone (02) 9430 2828.

Toll Free 1800 500 727

Alternatively, they may write to the appropriate programming area within SBS, at the following address:

Special Broadcasting Service

Locked Bag 028

CROWS NEST NSW 1585

Facsimile (02) 9430 3700

If viewers or listeners wish to complain about a possible breach of the SBS Codes of Practice, or comment or enquire about SBS programming policies, they should write to:

SBS Policy Manager

Special Broadcasting Service

Locked Bag 028

CROWS NEST NSW 1585

Facsimile (02) 9430 3047

The SBS Web site is at: www.sbs.com.au

The E-Mail address for comments about programming is: comments@sbs.com.au

For matters relating to SBS Radio Melbourne, the address, phone number and facsimile number which can be used are:

Manager

SBS Melbourne

PO Box 294

SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205

Telephone (03) 9685 2525

Facsimile (03) 9686 7501



These guidelines were approved by Commonwealth, State and Territory Censorship Ministers in accordance with Section 12(3) of the Commonwealth Classification (Publications Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 on 15 April 1999.

GUIDELINES for the classification of films and videotapes (amendment no 2)

Introduction

Films and videotapes, whether they are locally made or come from overseas, have to be classified before they can be sold, hired or shown publicly in Australia.

Classification is done by the Classification Board (the Board) which is located at the Sydney-based Office of Film and Literature Classification.

When making its classification decisions, the Board is required to reflect contemporary community standards and must apply criteria which are set out in the National Classification Code (the Code).

The Code is determined under the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Classification Act). The Code contains the general principles which form the basis of the Classification Guidelines (the Guidelines).

The Code states:

Classification decisions are to give effect, as far as possible, to the following principles:

- a** adults should be able to read, hear and see what they want;
- b** minors should be protected from material likely to harm or disturb them;
- c** everyone should be protected from exposure to unsolicited material that they find offensive;

- d** the need to take account of community concerns about:
 - (i)** depictions that condone or incite violence, particularly sexual violence; and
 - (ii)** the portrayal of persons in a demeaning manner.
-

Particular attention is paid, when classification decisions are made, to the protection of minors from material that is disturbing or harmful.

The concept of demeaning spelt out in the Code applies in making decisions across all of the classification categories. It refers to depictions, directly or indirectly sexual in nature which debase or appear to debase the person or the character depicted.

The Code names and broadly describes the six classification categories. G, PG and M are advisory categories. MA and R are legally restricted categories. X is a special category which is also legally restricted. The Code also describes material that is refused classification.

The Guidelines describe in more detail the nature of the different classification categories, and the scope and limits of material suitable for each category. Both the Code and the Guidelines are agreed to by Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers with censorship responsibilities.

By law, the Board must apply both the Code and the Guidelines when making classification decisions. The Board must also take into account other matters contained in the Classification Act, set out in Section 11.

The relevant part of section 11 states:

The matters to be taken into account in making a decision on the classification of a film include:

- a** the standards of morality, decency and propriety generally accepted by reasonable adults; and
 - b** the literary, artistic or educational merit (if any) of the film; and
 - c** the general character of the film, including whether it is of a medical, legal or scientific character; and
 - d** the persons or class of persons to or amongst whom it is published or is intended or likely to be published.
-

Brief history

Film classification guidelines were first written in 1980. These were intended simply as a working document for members of the Film Censorship Board (now known as the Classification Board). In 1984 and again in 1988 revised guidelines were drawn up by the Board and agreed to by State and Federal Ministers responsible for censorship. Since that time the Guidelines have been made publicly available in order to help consumers better understand the classification system. They have been distributed in schools, for example, as part of an educational campaign about the classification scheme.

In 1993 the Guidelines were up-dated to include the new MA category. This category was introduced in response to community concern about the impact of some of the stronger material classified M. That is, material which was recommended for mature audiences, but to which children had unrestricted access.

While the Guidelines are intended primarily for use by the Board in making its decisions, they are also designed to inform consumers about the basis for those decisions.

Consultation process

The Guidelines are revised from time to time in consultation with members of the public, community groups and organisations, including contributors to research. The views of complainants, industry groups and other interested parties are sought. The revised guidelines are scrutinised by a language expert; community input and responses are reviewed by an independent person with expertise in the area of censorship and classification. Once approved by Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers, the Guidelines must be formally gazetted and tabled in the respective Parliaments.

Guidelines contents and use

The Guidelines aim to be as objective as possible, while retaining the flexibility needed to accommodate notions of merit and community standards (s. 11, the Classification Act).

The Guidelines contain descriptions of each of the classification categories. The categories indicate the most suitable audience for the film, in terms of age and legal restriction.

Each classification category contains a list of the criteria used by the Board when making classification decisions. These criteria relate to the classifiable elements of violence, sex, coarse language, adult themes, drug use and nudity.

In considering each element, the Board makes classification decisions based on the impact of individual elements and their cumulative effect. The content and treatment of elements contribute to the impact. The Board takes into account factors such as tone, duration, frequency and the amount of visual or verbal detail. The relationship of classifiable elements to the narrative also contributes to the impact of a film, and therefore its classification.

In describing classification criteria, the Guidelines sometimes use language which can be interpreted in a number of ways. To clarify the way words are used in the Guidelines, a glossary of terms is included.

Consumer advice

In making classification decisions, the Board also decides what consumer advice should be provided. The law requires that consumer advice is shown with the classification symbol on posters, advertisements and video jackets.

Consumer advice is designed to alert consumers to the elements that have contributed to the classification. It should help people to make informed choices about the films and videos they choose for themselves or for their children.

Consumer advice is generally not provided for material classified G. As this category is suitable for viewing by all ages, it can be expected not to contain anything which might require consumer advice.

THE guidelines



GENERAL

(Suitable for all ages)

This is a category which is considered suitable for all viewers.

The G classification symbol does not necessarily indicate that the film is one that children will enjoy. Some G films contain themes or story-lines that are of no interest to children.

Parents should feel confident that children can watch material in this classification without supervision. Material classified G will not be harmful or disturbing to children. Whether or not the film is intended for children, the treatment of themes and other classifiable elements will be careful and discreet.

Violence:

Violence may be very discreetly implied, but should:

- have a light tone, or
- have a very low sense of threat or menace, and
- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous

Sex:

Sexual activity should:

- only be suggested in very discreet visual or verbal references, and
- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous

Coarse Language: Coarse language should:

- be very mild and infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous

PARENTAL GUIDANCE



(Parental guidance recommended for persons under 15 years)

The PG classification signals to parents that material in this category contains depictions or references which could be confusing or upsetting, to children without adult guidance. Material classified PG will not be harmful or disturbing to children.

Parents may choose to preview the material for their children; some may choose to watch the material with their children. Others might find it sufficient to be accessible during or after the viewing to discuss the content.

Violence: **Violence may be discreetly implied or stylised, and should also be:**

- mild in impact, and
- not shown in detail

Sex: **Sexual activity may be suggested, but should:**

- be discreet, and
- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous

Verbal references to sexual activity should be discreet.

Coarse Language: **Coarse language should be mild and infrequent.**

Adult Themes: **Supernatural or mild horror themes may be included.**

The treatment of adult themes should be discreet and mild in impact.

More disturbing themes are not generally dealt with at PG level.

Drug Use: **Discreet verbal references and mild, incidental visuals of drug use may be included, but these should not promote or encourage drug use.**

Nudity: **Nudity outside of a sexual context should not be detailed or gratuitous.**

M 15+ **MATURE**
(Recommended for mature audiences 15 years and over)

The Mature category is advisory and not legally restricted. However, material in this category cannot be recommended for those under 15 years.

Films classified M contain material that is considered to be potentially harmful or disturbing to those under 15 years. Depictions and references to classifiable elements may contain detail. However, the impact will not be so strong as to require restriction.

Violence:

Generally, depictions of violence should:

- not contain a lot of detail and
- not be prolonged

In realistic treatments, depictions of violence that contain detail should:

- be infrequent and
- not have a high impact and/or
- not be gratuitous

In stylised treatments, depictions of violence may contain more detail and be more frequent if this does not increase the impact.

Verbal and indirect visual references to sexual violence may only be included if they are:

- discreet and infrequent, and
- strongly justified by the narrative or a documentary context.

Sex:

Sexual activity may be discreetly implied.

Nudity in a sexual context should not contain a lot of detail, or be prolonged.

Verbal references to sexual activity may be more detailed than depictions if this does not increase the impact.

Coarse Language: **Coarse language may be used.**

Generally, coarse language that is stronger, detailed or very aggressive should:

- be infrequent and
- not be gratuitous

Adult Themes:

Most themes can be dealt with, but the treatment should be discreet, and the impact should not be high.

Drug Use:

Drug use may be discreetly shown.

Drug use should not be promoted or encouraged.

Nudity:

Nudity outside of a sexual context may be shown but depictions that contain any detail should not be gratuitous.



15+

MATURE ACCOMPANIED

(Restrictions apply to persons under the age of 15*)

***The MA category is legally restricted. Children under fifteen will not be allowed to see MA films in the cinema or hire them on video unless in the company of a parent or adult guardian.**

Material classified MA deals with issues or contains depictions which require a mature perspective. This is because the impact of individual elements or a combination of elements is considered likely to be harmful or disturbing to viewers under 15 years of age.

- Violence:** **Generally, depictions of violence should not have a high impact. Depictions with a high impact should be infrequent, and should not be prolonged or gratuitous.**
Realistic treatments may contain detailed depictions, but these should not be prolonged.
Depictions of violence in stylised treatments may be more detailed and more frequent than depictions of violence in close to real life situations or in realistic treatments if this does not increase the impact.
Visual suggestions of sexual violence are permitted only if they are not frequent, prolonged, gratuitous or exploitative.
- Sex:** **Sexual activity may be implied.**
Depictions of nudity in a sexual context which contain detail should not be exploitative.
Verbal references may be more detailed than depictions, if this does not increase the impact.
- Coarse Language:** **Coarse language may be used.**
Coarse language that is very strong, aggressive or detailed should not be gratuitous.
- Adult Themes:** **The treatment of themes with a high degree of intensity should be discreet.**
- Drug Use:** **Drug use may be shown, but should not be promoted or encouraged.**
More detailed depictions should not have a high degree of impact.



RESTRICTED

(Restricted to adults 18 years and over)

The R category is legally restricted to adults. Material which is given a restricted classification is unsuitable for those under 18 years of age.

Material classified R deals with issues or contains depictions which require an adult perspective.

The classification is not intended as a comment on the quality of the material. Some material may be offensive to some sections of the adult community. Material which promotes or incites or instructs in matters of crime and/or violence is not permitted.

Violence:

Depictions of violence which are excessive will not be permitted.

Strong depictions of realistic violence may be shown but depictions with a high degree of impact should not be gratuitous or exploitative.

Sexual violence may only be implied and should not be detailed.

Depictions must not be frequent, gratuitous or exploitative.

Gratuitous, exploitative or offensive depictions of cruelty or real violence will not be permitted.

Sex:

Sexual activity may be realistically simulated; the general rule is “simulation, yes – the real thing, no.”

Nudity in a sexual context should not include obvious genital contact.

Verbal references may be more detailed than depictions.

Coarse Language:

There are virtually no restrictions on coarse language at R level.

Adult Themes:

The treatment of any themes with a very high degree of intensity should not be exploitative.

Drug Use:

Drug use may be shown but not gratuitously detailed.

Drug use should not be promoted or encouraged.

Detailed instruction in drug misuse is not permitted.

X 18+

CONTAINS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL

(Restricted to adults 18 years and over*)

*** Available only on video; available only in the ACT and Northern Territory**

This classification is a special and legally restricted category which only contains sexually explicit material. That is material which contains real depictions of actual sexual intercourse and other sexual activity between consenting adults, including mild fetishes.

No depiction of sexual violence, sexualised violence or coercion, offensive fetishes, or depictions which purposefully debase or abuse for the enjoyment of viewers is permitted in this classification.

RC REFUSED CLASSIFICATION

As pointed out in the introduction, films and videos must be classified. A film or video which does not have the authorised classification symbols or the consumer advice is either an unclassified film or video, or it has been refused classification.

Films or videos which contain elements beyond those set out in the above classification categories are refused classification.

Films or videos which fall within the criteria for refused classification cannot be legally brought into Australia.

The Classification Code sets out the criteria for refusing to classify a film or video. The criteria fall into three categories. These include films that:

- depict, express or otherwise deal with matters of sex, drug misuse or addiction, crime, cruelty, violence or revolting or abhorrent phenomena in such a way that they offend against the standards of morality, decency and propriety generally accepted by reasonable adults to the extent that they should be classified RC.

- depict in a way that is likely to cause offence to a reasonable adult a person who is or who looks like a child under 16 (whether or not engaged in sexual activity), or;

- promote, incite or instruct in matters of crime or violence.

Films and videos will be refused classification if they appear to purposefully debase or abuse for the enjoyment of viewers, and which lack moral, artistic or other values, to the extent that they offend against generally accepted standards of morality, decency and propriety.

Films and videos will be refused classification:

- a** if they promote or provide instruction in paedophile activity;
-

or if they contain:

- b** depictions of child sexual abuse or any other exploitative or offensive depictions involving a person who is or who looks like a child under 16;
-

- c** detailed instruction in:
-

- (i)** matters of crime or violence,

- (ii)** the use of proscribed drugs;

- d** depictions of practices such as bestiality;
-

or if they contain gratuitous, exploitative or offensive depictions of:

- e** violence with a very high degree of impact or which are excessively frequent, prolonged or detailed;
-

- f** cruelty or real violence which are very detailed or which have a high impact;
-

- g** sexual violence;
-

- h** sexual activity accompanied by fetishes or practices which are offensive or abhorrent;
-

- i** incest fantasies or other fantasies which are offensive or abhorrent.
-

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Abuse:	Maltreat or assault, especially sexually.
Adult Themes:	Issues dealing with aspects of adult life that are potentially harmful to minors, or disturbing. Adult themes may include verbal references to and depictions associated with issues such as suicide, crime, corruption, marital problems, emotional trauma, drug and alcohol dependency, death and serious illness, racism, religious issues.
Advisory:	<p>(applies to G, PG and M)</p> <p>These classifications do not legally restrict anyone from seeing or hiring the film. They recommend the most suitable audience for the film, in terms of age and level of parental supervision.</p>
Coarse language:	<p>At G level, this might include “bloody” or “bugger”.</p> <p>At PG level, it might include “shit”.</p> <p>At M, it includes “fuck”.</p>
Coercion:	The use of threat to force agreement to sexual activity.
Demean:	A depiction, directly or indirectly sexual in nature, which debases or appears to debase the person or the character depicted.
Depiction:	Representation, portrayal on screen.
Detail:	The amount of verbal or visual information in the representation of a subject. Detail can include close-up visuals, repeated, prolonged

or slow-motion visuals, and accentuation through lighting.

Discreet: With little or no detail and generally brief.

Disturb/disturbing: Cause emotional trauma.

Drugs: Detailed instruction in the use of proscribed drugs is refused classification. Proscribed drugs are those specified in Schedule 4 (referred to in Regulation 4A (1A) (e)) of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations.

Elements: Classifiable elements include violence, sex, coarse language, adult themes, drug use, nudity – the Classification Board assesses the impact of these when making classification decisions.

Excessive Treatment which exceeds reasonable limits, especially in terms of detail, duration or frequency

Exploitative: Appearing to purposefully debase or abuse for the enjoyment of viewers, and lacking moral, artistic or other values.

Fetish: An object, an action, or a non-sexual part of the body which gives sexual gratification. Fetishes range from mild to offensive. An example of a **mild fetish** is rubber wear.

Offensive fetishes include abhorrent phenomena such as coprophilia.

Gratuitous: Material which is unwarranted or uncalled for, and included without the justification of a defensible story-line or artistic merit.

Harm/harmful:	Cause developmental damage.
Impact:	The strength of the effect on the viewer.
Implied:	Depiction/s of a subject in which an act or thing is inferred or indicated without actually being seen.
Intensity:	Strength of treatment or subject matter.
Material:	The content of films or videos.
Nudity:	Nudity can consist of frontal or rear above and below waist visuals, full frontal or full rear visuals for both sexes, or breast nudity for females. The amount of detail is determined not only by the content of the nudity shown, but by other factors including closeness and duration of visuals, repetition, and clarity.
Offensive:	Material which causes outrage or extreme disgust to most people.
Real:	Actual
Realistic:	(see Treatment)
Reasonable Adult:	Possessing common sense and an open mind, and able to balance personal opinion with generally accepted community standards.
Sexual Activity:	Matters pertaining to sexual arousal but not limited only to portrayals of sexual intercourse.
Sexual Violence:	The act of sexual assault or aggression, in which the victim does not consent.
Sexualised Violence:	Where sex and violence are connected in the story, although sexual violence may not necessarily occur.

Sexually Explicit Material:	Real sex on screen.
Simulation:	Simulated sexual activity is not real, but looks realistic.
Suggested:	Mild, discreet treatment of a subject in which an act or thing is hinted at.
Suggestion:	Mild, discreet treatment of a subject in which an act or thing is hinted at, generally through discreet focus on part of, rather than the whole picture.
Stylised:	(see Treatment)
Tone:	The quality or feeling of material, such as its sadness, humour, menace, lightness, or seriousness.
Treatment:	<p>The artistic handling of a scene or a film, especially with regard to style.</p> <p>In a realistic treatment, the material appears real to the viewer. It may be close to real life, and feel authentic.</p> <p>In a stylised treatment, the viewer is conscious of the unreality; examples include musicals, horror films, animation and fantasy.</p>
Unsuitable:	Material that is not appropriate to viewers under 18 years, because of its ability to harm (cause developmental damage) or disturb (cause emotional trauma).
Violence:	Includes not only acts of violence, but also the threat or result of violence.
Visual Reference:	An image related to, but not of, classifiable elements such as violence, sex, and drug use.

NOTES

NOTES

Sydney

Postal address: Locked Bag 028, Crows Nest, NSW 1585

Street address: 14 Herbert Street, Artarmon, NSW 2064

Telephone: (02) 9430 2828

Facsimile: (02) 9430 3700

Online: www.sbs.com.au

Melbourne

Postal address: PO Box 294, South Melbourne, VIC 3205

Street address: Australian Ballet Centre, Level 4
2 Kavanagh Street, Southbank, VIC 3006

Telephone: (03) 9685 2828

Facsimile: (03) 9685 7501 (TV) (03) 9686 7496 (Radio)