Teacher Resource

Social Media Ban Challenge

EPISODE 64
11th November 2026

KEY LEARNING
Students will discuss Australia's social media ban and how it has been challenged in the High Court.

CURRICULUM
Civics and Citizenship - Year 9
Civics and Citizenship – Year 10
Health and Physical Education – Years 9 and 10
Online Safety – Year 10

Examples:
Civics and Citizenship - Year 9 (v9.0)
Civics and Citizenship - Year 10 (v9.0)

Health and Physical Education - Years 9 and 10 (v9.0)

Digital Technologies - Years 9 and 10 (v9.0)

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN High story as a class and record the main points of discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. What is the High Court?
2. What is the High Court being asked to decide when it comes to Australia's social media ban? Explain.
3. Why is this case being heard in the High Court, rather than a lower court?
4. What is the government's reasoning for bringing in the Social Media ban?
5. On what grounds are social media platform Reddit and advocacy group the Digital Freedom Project challenging the ban?
6. What are the seven types of harm that supporters of the ban say social media can cause young people?
7. What is the Australian Constitution?
8. What are you hoping the High Court decision will be on the social media ban and why?

Activities

- **Legal Team Role Play:** In small groups, work as a legal team researching arguments for the government or for Reddit and the Digital Freedom Project. Present your points to the class.

- **Have Your Say:** Write a class speech arguing whether you are for or against the social media ban for under 16s. Support your stance with 3 to 4 well-developed reasons.

- **Two-sided Argument Table:** Copy and complete the table from the story. Add one quote or paraphrased point per box and note who said it.

	Challengers of the ban	Supporters of the ban
Main claim		
Evidence or reasoning		
Alternative or response		

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