

Teacher Resource, 12th March 2025, Episode 11

Should YouTube be exempt from the social media ban?

Things to think about.

Before viewing

As a class, discuss:

- What do you know about the social media ban for teens introduced by the government?
- How would you define “social media”?
- In your class what are the top three, most used social media platforms? (poll)

While viewing

To note down:

- What was the Australian Government’s reasoning for exempting YouTube from the under 16s social media ban? From your experience, do you agree with this view of YouTube as a service?
- Some major media platforms disagree with the decision to exempt YouTube from the social media ban. Why does Meta (the company which owns Facebook and Instagram) see YouTube’s exemption as making “a mockery of the government’s intention”?
- What is a “sweetheart deal”? Can you think of any other examples of what might make something a “sweetheart deal”?
- YouTube has “Youth principles” which outlines measures it will take to protect young people. What are the details of these as outlined in this report?

After Viewing

- Investigate to see whether other platforms (for example, Meta, Snapchat, TikTok) have “youth principles” which guide content and protection strategies for young people? What’s your opinion on these types of principles? Do you think that they can have a positive effect? Why? Why Not?
- Class debate: “YouTube should not be exempt from the Australian Government’s social media ban for under 16s.”

Curriculum Links

HASS – Year 7 » Inquiry and Skills » Evaluating and Reflecting (v8.4) [ACHASSI161](#)

HASS – Year 7 » Inquiry and skills » Evaluating and Reflecting (v8.4) [ACHASSI162](#)

Civics & Citizenship – Year 8 » Skills: Analysis, evaluation and interpretation (v9) [AC9HC8S03](#)

Civics & Citizenship – Year 9 » Knowledge & Understanding » Government & democracy (v8.4) [ACHCK076](#) & (v9) [AC9HC9K06](#)

English – Year 7 » Language » Text Structure and Organisation (v8.4) [ACELA1763](#)

English – Year 8 » Language » Text Structure and Organisation (v8.4) [ACELA1543](#)

English – Year 7 » Language » Expressing and developing ideas (v8.4) [ACELA1537](#)

Discussing this “media text” for media and news literacy.

1. What features of this report make it “fair and balanced”?
2. Find two other news reports on this topic. For each report, including this one from the ABC, ask:
 - a. Who’s behind the information?
 - b. What’s the evidence?
 - c. What do other sources say?
3. How does the report use graphics to convey its main message?
4. What impact, if any, does the use of music have upon the audience?
5. Who is the audience for this report? Give three examples from the report to support your response.