

THE BROADCASTING ACT 1994

GUIDELINES ON CATEGORIES OF HARMFUL CONTENT

1. This set of guidelines provides illustrative but non-exhaustive examples of harmful content for all users and inappropriate content for children, in relation to the Code of Practice for Online Safety.

Examples of Harmful/ Inappropriate Content¹

	All Users	Children
Sexual content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that depicts explicit sexual activities.• Content that depicts or promotes deviant sexual behaviour such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Incest.○ Bestiality.○ Necrophilia.○ Paedophilia.• Content relating to or encouraging sexual offences under the Penal Code, the Children and Young Persons Act, and the Women's Charter such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Distribution of child sexual abuse material.○ Voyeuristic or intimate image or recording distributed without consent.○ Sexual communication with a minor.○ Content encouraging sexual assault.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that depicts sexual activity, even in fictional context.• Content with implied or obscured depiction of sexual activities.• Content containing nudity in sexual context.• Content containing the frequent use of sexual references or innuendoes intended for sexual gratification.
Violent content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that depicts extreme violence or cruelty inflicted on persons such as dismemberment of persons, beheadings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content with implied/ obscured depiction of violence or gore such as violent content that is blurred or masked.

¹ The merit, value or importance of the content in relation to literary, artistic, social, cultural, educational, scientific or other matters would be relevant in determining if it is harmful content.

	All Users	Children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that depicts abuse or torture on persons, such as footage of infliction of grievous injury and pain on a person(s) with close-up details.• Content providing instruction on or encouraging acts of terrorism or extreme violence.• Content concerning terrorism or internal security related to offences e.g. abetting or conspiring to finance or provide material support for the commission of acts of terrorism, and the organisation, training or equipping of prohibited quasi-military organisations.• Content relating to the incitement of violence, mass disorder, or rioting, whether in general or targeted at persons based on their characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content with implied/obscured depiction of abuse or torture on persons or animals such as content showing infliction of abuse that is partially obscured.
Suicide and self-harm content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that encourages, endorses or provides instructions on self-harm (including acts that can result in death) or suicide.• Content that depicts graphic details of self-harm (e.g., wounds or injuries shown).• Content relating to abetment of suicide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content with implied or non-detailed depictions of self-harm, e.g., healed scars, blurred visuals.• Content that may encourage or mislead children to, or provide instructions on how to engage in dangerous acts that could result in physical harm, such as challenges that involve dangerous stunt or elements (e.g., fire, suffocation, sharp objects, heights).

	All Users	Children
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that may encourage, endorse or provide instructions to children on how to intentionally injure one's own body which could result in a negative or adverse impact on health (e.g. content that promotes eating disorder).
Cyberbullying content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to the target person or group, such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour.○ Posting or threatening to post personal information of the target person online, or information of other persons that would lead to the identification of the target person.○ Threats or derogatory or dehumanizing statements or references related to the target person's characteristics.○ Unlawful stalking of the target person.○ Impersonating the target person or group by using threatening, abusive or insulting words under their name.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content that is likely to mock, humiliate or cause embarrassment to the target person, such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Edited content of a child in an embarrassing situation with captions to mock and ridicule.○ Negative statements or references about a child on the basis of attributes such as intellect, behaviours or physical attributes.• Encouragement or calls for coordinated harassment/ bullying of other children.
Content endangering public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content promoting regulated medicinal or health products, for purposes which are not approved by the relevant authorities in Singapore, and may result in serious harm or death to individuals.• Content concerning acts that will likely impede, circumvent or breach measures that are put in place to protect public health.	

	All Users	Children
Content facilitating vice and organised crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content relating to vice, unlawful gambling, illegal moneylending, trafficking in persons, cheating, fraud and extortion.• Content concerning offences relating to psychotropic substances, dangerous drugs, narcotics or tobacco products, including causing a young person or vulnerable person to traffic or consume drugs, or arranging or planning gatherings where controlled drugs are to be consumed or trafficked.	

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