

## Senior B, Round Two

**TOPIC:** *that accessing the internet should require government issued ID*

### 1. Type of Topic

This is a normative/model debate. This means that the Affirmative should propose a 'model' (a policy on how this idea would be implemented). This model should be clearly described to outline what changes the Affirmative team will make to the status quo, and how these changes will be enacted. The Negative team can either support the status quo or propose a counter-model. This counter-model must be different from the status quo, but also different from the model the Affirmative team is suggesting. The Negative team should ensure they clearly identify whether they are supporting the status quo or proposing a counter-model.

### 2. Background / Context

The internet is a widely accessible tool for learning and connecting. However, there are growing concerns about the phenomenon of 'catfishing', in which someone online pretends to be somebody they are not in order to lure somebody else into meeting them, sending them money, or exposing themselves in vulnerable ways to strangers online. This is in addition to consistent concerns around inappropriate content online, despite many social media platforms and websites enforcing minimum age requirements.

A government issued ID is a current and valid (not expired) government-issued document that contains personal information and verifies a person's identity. It includes things like birth certificates, passports, driver's licences and proof of age cards. Presently, Australia assigns certain pieces of ID with a certain number of points in order to verify a person's identity for Police Checks. Government-issued ID is also required at places such as the Post Office to verify your identity before being given a package in your name.

There have been discussions across several governments, including Australia, that people should be required to present a form of ID before accessing social media platforms or the internet, to address some of the harms the internet poses.

### 3. Questions for Consideration

- What are some of the risks associated with being online?
  - Who is most affected?
  - Who is most likely/able to pose these risks?
- Are there harms to being exposed to certain kinds of information?
  - Who should decide what is appropriate to be seen?

- What does catfishing look like?
- Why is catfishing such a large harm?
  - How easy/difficult is it to verify somebody's identity online right now?
- What methods are currently used to minimise these risks of the internet?
  - Are they effective? Why/why not?
- How would this model be implemented?
  - Who is checking the validity of the ID?
  - Are they trustworthy?
  - How effective would the process be?
- Do we have a right to privacy?
  - In what circumstances do we acknowledge our privacy is less important than safety?
  - What are the risks of our personal information getting leaked?
  - What harm could someone do if they had access to our personal information or government-issued ID?

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