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3 January 2008

Labor nanny state could slow internet

The new Federal Government's plans to require Internet Service Providers to filter Internet content will severely limit the freedom of adults to view what they want online, as well as slow Internet speeds to a 'crawl'.

Opposition Spokesperson for IT and Communications Tony Simpson has criticised the Federal Labor Government for its misguided attempt to control what people see and do on the Internet.

"Only a few months after coming to power, the Labor Party is already expanding the nanny state online," said Mr Simpson.

"This poor effort to protect people from potentially offensive material will instead become an attempt to control what people view on their own computers in their own time.

"If people don't want to see something they consider offensive, they can simply avoid it.

"If they have children they want to protect from this material, they can purchase an Internet filter.

"However, no filter is perfect. The best way to protect our children online is to supervise their online activities as much as possible.

"I have two children of my own, so I know how hard this can be. But it is our job as parents.

"The filters the Government wants to impose on ISPs can be circumvented by clever children, and they may even slow the speed of the Australian Internet.

"It is not the role of the Government, or ISPs to regulate what people view online.

"It is a the role of adults to decide what they view and it is the role of parents to supervise their children.

"The Labor Government must control its urge to control everything people do and instead trust adults to make their own decisions."

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