19 April 2013

Joshua Grainger
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Dear Mr Grainger

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982 REQUEST: DEFINITION USED FOR CHILD EXPLOITATION FILTERING SYSTEM

Thank you for your 10 April 2013 request for information about the Digital Child Exploitation Filtering System.

I note that the first part of your request is "Does the DIA include in its filtering list any websites where the persons depicted in the images are over 18, but are presented/ appear/ implied to be underage?"

I am informed that an image or movie will be considered for inclusion in the filter list if the age of the child depicted is up to approximately 13 years.

I note that the second part of your request is for "any guidelines, criteria, or other such policies that are used to determine whether an image is a 'representation of a cartoon-like character' ".

While the Office of Film and Literature Classification has ruled on imagery depicting popular culture such as characters in "The Simpsons" engaged in sexual acts, these image types are not included in the filter list.

Computer-generated images or Hentai in relation to the filter system includes objects that have been drawn or created to be photorealistic depicting children being sexually abused. An example of a photorealistic image has been shown to the Independent Reference Group to illustrate the point.

You have the right to complain to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28 of the OIA to seek an investigation of my response. The Office of the Ombudsman can be contacted at PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Craig Press

Team Leader Official Correspondence

Regulatory Services

