



Steve Fielding Family First Senator for Victoria



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GOVERNMENT PLAN STILL LEAVES SOME KIDS EXPOSED TO INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY

Family First welcomes Internet filters at PC level but Government turns a blind eye to mandatory ISP filtering

Family First welcomes the new PC-based Internet filters the Government has today provided to help parents protect their children from Internet pornography and violence, but some children will not be protected.

"Family First still wants mandatory filtering at the ISP level, which adults can opt out of if they want, so that all children have some protection against Internet pornography and violence regardless of whether their parents know about the free filters," Family First leader Steve Fielding said today.

"The new PC-based filters are welcome, but come almost 14 months after the Government's announcement of free filtering software last year. The real challenge for the Government is to make sure all parents know about the free PC filters and how to install them.

"Family First appreciates that the Government has been willing to respond to strong lobbying from Family First and others to get to this point.

"There is a long way to go to make sure all children are protected in both the home and in public places like libraries.

"Sixty per cent of libraries do not have filters. Without other measures in place to protect children, libraries are failing in their duty of care to the children who use their facilities.

"There is still no effective filtering for mobile phones which can access the internet or receive video messages and this is a key area where Government action is needed. Mobile phone use is difficult for parents to supervise."

The free PC-based Internet filters can be found at: <http://www.netalert.gov.au/>

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