

Right2Know Presentation to
**PORTFOLICO COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS**

**FILMS AND PUBLICATIONS
AMENDMENT BILL [B37 – 2015].**

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The Right2Know Campaign (R2K), launched in August 2010, is a coalition of organisations and activists across South Africa focusing on issues of information access, secrecy, surveillance, media and communication rights and freedom of expression.

We seek a country and a world where we all have the right to know – that is to be free to access and to share information. This right is fundamental to any democracy that is open, accountable, participatory and responsive; able to deliver the social, economic and environmental justice we need.

On this foundation a society and an international community can be built in which we all live free from want, in equality and in dignity.

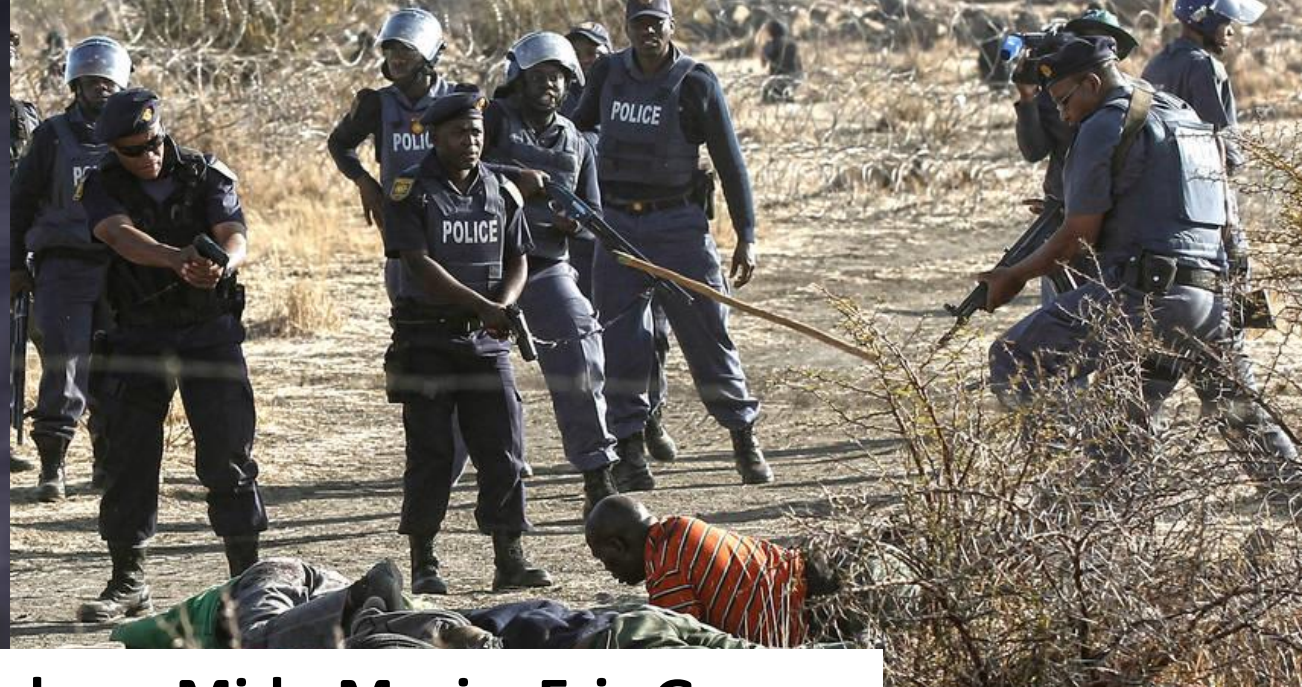


ADVISORY:

The next slide depicts a scene of extreme violence, including violence against children. It was published without consent.



ADVISORY:
The next slide depicts
contemporary scenes of
extreme violence. They
were published without
consent.



Andries Tatane, Marikana workers, Mido Macia, Eric Garner



ADVISORY:

The next slide depicts a celebration of sexuality that some may view as immoral



We reject legislation that is overly restrictive and which frames the internet primarily as a threat. Onerous legislation will stifle the empowering, democratising potential of the internet.

The Act is unconstitutional and section 18 (pre-publication censorship) needs to be removed.



FPB Regulations & Amendments still misunderstand the democratizing nature of the internet

1. Undermines monopolization of media production
2. Enables us all to become media producers

vague and ill-defined phrasing creates space for misinterpretation and overreach

‘online distribution’ and ‘distribution’, ‘publications’, ‘child pornography’ as well as the overlapping definitions of ‘film’ and ‘digital film’. The definition for ‘digital film’ for example is so broad that it would include any video uploaded, including vines, gifs, and snippets of personal videos.

Distributors/Publishers vs. 'user generated content'

Is UGC only that which the public contribute to large commercial platforms?

What about bloggers, small sites, organizational websites, etc
(outside the press code)?

1. Fees & pre-classification capacity are a barrier to FoE
2. Pre publication censorship is unconstitutional.

Exploiting Children

Legislation designed to protect children from harmful content, while indeed necessary, should not see them merely as passive victims and must take into account their rights and freedoms to participate online and in decisions that affect them.

A progressive approach to protecting children and other vulnerable groups online would prioritise education and internet literacy as a means of empowerment.



Zulaikha Patel