

# **Internet regulation and a model of user and provider protection**

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## **Abstract**

*The paper will provide a personal perspective of the issues. It will examine briefly the current position of the New Zealand Government on regulatory issues with respect to the Internet. There are a number of areas where reviews of current laws are under way, and there are two Bills before Parliament which specifically relate to computer crime and electronic commerce. Nevertheless, at present the Internet, its related technologies, applications and services are regarded as fitting within current regulatory frameworks. It is the view of the presenter that as far as possible the Internet should continue to not be singled out for regulatory attention. On the other hand, there are a range of consumer protection and safety issues involving the Internet which affect both users and providers of Internet services, of which child safety is one important component. A model will be presented of a mechanism which might meet the requirements of both groups with, or without, specific government intervention.*

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