

Senator Gerard Rennick  
Senator for Queensland  
PO Box 2350  
CHERMSIDE CENTRE QLD 4032  
Email: [senator.rennick@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.rennick@aph.gov.au)

ACMA file reference: BM-8578

Dear Senator Rennick

**RE: Your complaint about a segment broadcast on *The Project***

Thank you for your letter of 30 March 2021 raising your concern that a segment on *The Project* broadcast by Network Ten on 5 February 2021 misrepresented your views about the Covid-19 vaccine.

You have questioned whether these comments may be a breach of the Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice (the **Code**).

Under the broadcasting co-regulatory scheme, commercial broadcasters are given the opportunity to address a Code complaint before the ACMA becomes involved. Your letter does not indicate whether you have raised the matter directly with Network Ten but, if not, I would encourage you to do so.

Normally, a Code complaint must be received by the broadcaster within 30 days of the broadcast. Given the date of this broadcast, the time to make a formal complaint appears to have now lapsed. NetworkTen would not be formally required to respond to an out-of-time complaint under the Code. However, I would expect that it would do so given the concerns you have raised.

I would be happy to refer your complaint directly to Network Ten with your permission. Alternatively, you can lodge a complaint directly with Network Ten, at: <https://www.freetv.com.au/contact-us/viewer-feedback-complaints/complaints-under-the-commercial-television-industry-code-of-practice/>.

If you are not satisfied with the broadcasters' response, or you do not receive a response, please contact me again.

You also raise issues in regard to the journalistic standards demonstrated by the panellist. These matters are covered by the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance's (MEAA) *Journalist Code of Ethics*. You may also wish to raise this matter directly with Network Ten as it is not within the ACMA's current jurisdiction.

Yours sincerely



Nerida O'Loughlin PSM

13 April 2021