

# Guidelines





**Medietilsynet**

Mailing- and visitors address:

Nygata 4

1607 Fredrikstad

Telephone: 69 30 12 00

Email: [post@medietilsynet.no](mailto:post@medietilsynet.no)

[www.medietilsynet.no](http://www.medietilsynet.no)

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# Guidelines – Age Classification of Audiovisual Programmes

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# 1 Which audiovisual programmes should have age limits and what is harmful content?

The Audiovisual Programme Act<sup>1</sup> stipulates that all films and programmes<sup>2</sup> made available to the general public shall have an age limit<sup>3</sup>. This basis will be limited somewhat as the Act only applies to platforms and screening facility that are regulated by law. There is also an exemption for certain programme categories that do not need age limits<sup>4</sup>.

When films and programmes are classified according to the Audiovisual Programme Act, one must consider whether the content can be harmful or seriously harmful to the wellbeing of children and adolescents. When assessing harmful content, one must first analyse the assumed

impact the content may have, and the reactions the depictions can have on children in various age groups. Based on an assessment of the aspects accounted for in the guidelines, the audiovisual programme shall be age-classified, i.e. given one of the applicable age limits.

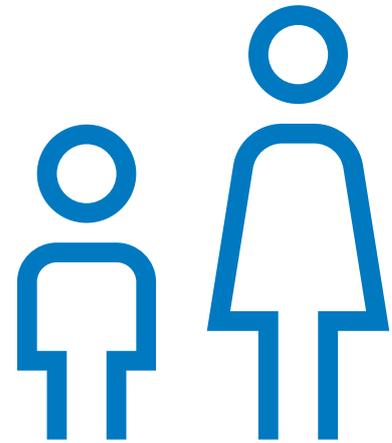
It is important to be aware that it is not relevant to consider whether the film is suitable for children or not. It is the assumed harmful effect which is to be emphasised when setting the age limit.

<sup>1</sup> Act of 6 February 2015 No 7 relating to the protection of minors against harmful audiovisual programmes.

<sup>2</sup> The umbrella term “audiovisual programmes” is used in the Act.

<sup>3</sup> Age limits are: All ages, Age 6, Age 9, Age 12, Age 15 and Age 18.

<sup>4</sup> See Appendix 1 for further information on the exemptions.



*Harmful content* is content that can induce anxiety, alarm or frighten certain age groups. The same applies to themes that may be disturbing or unsettling for children in certain age groups and content that may cause discomfort, confuse or offend children's norms. Examples of this include sexualised content that is not presented on children and adolescents' terms.

*Seriously harmful content* is content consisting of gross violence or extensive and explicit sexual depictions. Content that may very negatively scare or influence children and young people's thoughts, ideas and attitudes over time, is also considered to be seriously harmful. Examples of

this include combinations of sex and violence, or glorification of suicide, vigilantism, (for example brutal "revenge films") and gross animal abuse. Seriously harmful content must always have age limit 18. This type of content<sup>5</sup> cannot be broadcasted on television<sup>6</sup>. When assessing harmful content, one must consider what children and adolescents in various age groups can withstand, and what their norms are. One must also consider the context<sup>7</sup>, and children and adolescents' right to information and access to media content<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> See the table in Appendix 2 which lists certain type examples of the difference between harmful content with age limit 18 that can be shown on television and seriously harmful content that cannot be shown on television.

<sup>6</sup> In this connection, "television" means traditional, linear broadcasts that are defined in Section 1-1(c) of the Broadcasting Act.

<sup>7</sup> Context: how the content is presented, and children and young people's maturity and knowledge.

<sup>8</sup> The UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child sets certain requirements for children's right to information and access to media content. This right must be balanced with the requirement for protection in certain cases.

## 2 Assessment factors – age classification

### 2.1 Introduction

There are several factors that must be assessed when deciding on an age limit for films and programmes. The starting point for these assessments is how the content and themes are depicted and how this in turn could be perceived by children and young people in various age groups.

Below is an overview of questions that should be asked during an assessment. The reflections you make are intended to guide you when placing films and programmes in the correct age category according to the tables in Chapter 3 relating to age limits.

### 2.2 The expression of a film or a programme

The references of children and adolescents, their experiences with media and knowledge of various genres and programme types are important for their viewing experience. If children are able to recognise the film or programme's structure and patterns or perceive that there is a distance between the programme's universe and their own lives, it is likely that the depicted content will appear less frightening. The expression of a film or programme is therefore significant for the age classification. Consider the following:

**Context**

Is the framework for the film or programme recognisable for the age group? Is the genre of the film or programme familiar to children? How realistic is the programme: is it animated, clearly a fictional universe, realistic or authentic (fact-based, or documentary)? Does the film or programme take place within a familiar or unfamiliar environment? Does the story end well or badly?

**Mood**

What is the atmosphere in the programme or film? Is the mood light and pleasant, dark or sombre? What is the level of intensity? Does the programme contain dramatic audio and/or visual effects? Does this occur alone, often or throughout? Are there scenes, music or themes that could cause alarm, frighten, disturb or create anxiety? Or are they “good scares”?

“A good scare” shudder-inducing scenes that could be perceived as a little scary at the time, but in a good way that is adapted to the child’s maturity and boundaries – in other words “delight mixed with horror”.

**Characters**

How are the characters<sup>9</sup> in the programme portrayed? Are they familiar? Do they appear safe or unsafe? Are they frightened and uncertain, or tough and assertive? How are problems resolved and how do the characters fare? Are there characters with key roles in the programme or film which children and young people could easily identify with?

Irony, satire, and “black humour” have a context that can be difficult for children to understand. This means that they might understand a situation literally. Keep this in mind when considering the content of a movie or a programme.

<sup>9</sup> In this context, characters are not exclusively in human form, but can be expressed e.g. through various objects, animals, voices, etc.



### 2.3 The content of the film or programme

The content of the film or programme, its theme or individual actions (such as the number of blows or expletives) cannot be assessed in isolation from the artistic expression. Depictions of violence or sex are therefore not independent criteria in the age classification of films and programmes. Such depictions must always be assessed along with other criteria, such as how portrayals appear in the plot, how brutal, detailed or explicit the depictions are, or how much of the film/programme contains these types of portrayals. Consider the following:

#### **Violence**

How is the violence depicted? Is it humorous (slapstick) or ironic (parody), fantasy violence or realistic? How harsh, cynical or brutal is the violence. And how is it presented; how detailed, explicit, how much? In what context does

the violence appear; is the violence typical for the genre (e.g. “action” or “fantasy”)? Who performs the violence, and does it appear in a glorified or critical light?

#### **Sexuality**

How is sexuality presented? Is it just hinted at, is it depicted with little detail, or is it extensive and explicit? Are the portrayals consensual or non-consensual? Is the presentation critical or does it push boundaries for children and young people in various age categories?

Nudity and intimate scenes in a “non-sexual” context are not considered harmful for children and young people according to the current regulations.

Is the sexual content on children/ young people's terms, or is it presented in a manner that children and young people will find uncomfortable, disturbing or offensive?

**Other themes**

Does the programme contain or address topics/themes (see list in fact box below) that are presented in such a way that it could have a disturbing or alarming impact on children and young people in different age groups? Could the theme be perceived as disturbing in and of itself regardless of how it is presented? Or is the theme addressed cautiously and indirectly, and/or in a manner that is adapted to children? How extensive and detailed are the depictions, and how realistically are the themes portrayed; is it fact or fiction?

Many programmes address topics that can be difficult for children and adolescents to handle. Nonetheless, this does not mean that programmes with difficult topics should always have a high age limit.

When deciding age limit based on theme, particular attention must be given to the programme's expression; such as mood, genre (e.g. fact or fiction), how it is facilitated for children and young people in various age groups and the level of detail in the portrayals. For example, is the theme continuous throughout the programme, or is it only touched upon briefly?



Pay special attention to the following **themes** when setting age limits for an audiovisual programme<sup>10</sup> :

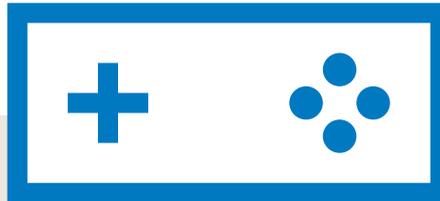
War, accidents, catastrophes, terrorism, genocide, mental illness, animal abuse, suicide, incest, gross neglect, quarrel, divorce, bullying, racism and drug abuse.

**Embarrassing scenes, swearing and individual expletives** are not considered harmful for children and adolescents according to the current regulations. Programs and films with *consistent crude humour* such as derogatory, sarcastic or sexualised language and/or scenes with grotesque elements of humour on the other hand, can be disturbing, offensive and/or intimidating to children under the age of 12.

**«A programme within the programme»:**

A program may sometimes include elements or scenes from other programmes, films or games that already have an age limit. This applies to programmes with for example gaming- or movie reviews (such as *God Kveld, Norge*). This type of programme may not necessarily need the same age limit as the game or movie mentioned. An overall assessment must always be made, and the elements that are showed must be assessed against other factors in the guidelines.

<sup>10</sup> The list of themes is intended as a guideline, and does not provide an exhaustive overview of content that may be harmful for the wellbeing of children and young people.

**The «Let's play» genre:**

Gaming videos and alike show excerpts from computer games that may have received a recommended age limit by PEGI. Gaming videos often show a picture of the gamer in a split-screen version whilst the gamer is playing and commenting the content of the video.

The age limit of the video game is not decisive for the age limit of such a video. The reason for this is that a video game has a different expression, and the perception of the viewer is different to when playing a video game yourself. Observing others playing a video game can create a distance to the content, which in turn can impact the age limit of the programme/film. This means that although a game such as Fortnite for

example has a PEGI age limit of 12 years, a video showing a person playing Fortnite may not have the same age limit.

Use the assessment steps in the age rating guidelines when setting the age limit on a video with gaming, and not the PEGI age limit. An overall assessment of the programme must always be made, and the age limit should reflect the content of the particular programme.

## 3 Age limits

The following section contains an overview of what is normally accepted as regards content and expression within the individual age categories. The content in the tables is cumulative, i.e. they build on each other. In other words, the content permitted in lower age categories is also permitted in higher age categories even though this is not explicitly stated in the tables. Examples from films

and programmes/series are listed under each age category. If the examples are from television series, they are listed on the basis of the Norwegian Media Authority's general impression of the series. The Authority has not assessed every episode in the listed series. However, the films have been classified by the Norwegian Media Authority.

**Note!** The overview intends to provide the best possible understanding of what can be accepted within the different age categories. The overview is not exhaustive, so please note that there will be content and/or forms of expression you may not find explicitly described in the text or tables. Use the tables as a guideline

<sup>11</sup> For example, a series that is used as an example under Age 12 may contain individual episodes with a higher or lower age limit.

## 3.1

## All ages



Films and programmes classified as All ages must use audio and effects moderately and cannot contain any alarming or dramatic portrayals. Some moderately scary elements are permitted if they are very brief and take place within a safe framework that is facilitated for children under the age of six. (see text box under section 2.2 «The good scare»). This relates to films such as *Bamse og tyvenes by* (*Bamse and the City of Thieves*) (2014) and the animated series *Det lille spøkelse Laban* (*Laban The Little Ghost*). The same applies to portrayals with modestly dramatic effects if they are brief and take place within a clearly humorous framework, such as in early silent films and in the cartoons about *Tom and Jerry* or the animated film *Despicable Me 2* (2012). More recent examples include the animated films *Elias og Storegaps hemmelighet* (2017) with short dark scenes, as well as *Ferdinand* (2017) which has several dramatic parts that are short and humorous.

Many factual, reality and documentary programmes can be permitted for all ages if they have a mild/cautious expression, or do not have disturbing themes or portrayals. This applies for example to the documentary series *Datoen* (NRK), talkshows such as *Skavlan* og *Lindmo* (NRK) and reality shows such as *Gift ved første blikk*, *Mesternes mester*, *Farmen* og *71 grader nord*.

Examples of other films and programmes within the “all ages” category include the *Karsten og Petra* films (2012, 2013 and 2014) children’s programmes such as *Postmann Pat* and *Fireman Sam*, and family programmes such as *Beat for beat*, *Idol*, and *Skal vi danse?* Many comedies, “sitcoms”, films and different programme series intended for young adults and/or adults will normally also be given the “all ages” limit. This applies to most episodes in series such as *Modern Family*, *The Big Bang Theory*, and the TV series *Side om Side*.

«All ages»: Content and expression			
Mood/expression	Violence	Sexuality	Other themes
Light/cheerful Calm expression Brief «startle effects», or moderately thrilling elements in a safe framework	Short sequences in a distinctly humorous «cartoon universe»	Suggestive or not intrusive	Toned down Few details Adapted for children

## 3.2

## Age 6



Films and programmes classified as Age 6 may contain individual scenes

or portrayals that are moderately dark or threatening. The same applies if there are scenes with dramatic sounds and/or heavy use of effects. Brief, scary elements are permitted within the framework of “good scares” (see text box under section 2.2) and violent portrayals are permitted if they are clearly humorous and over-the-top (“slapstick”), such as the *Home Alone* films.

Themes that generally seem difficult and painful can be permitted with an Age 6 limit if they have a toned down expression and are adapted for children.

This applies to animated films such as *Løvetannbarn* (2017 – 6 years) which is about a little boy who loses his mother and is sent to an orphanage.

Examples of other films and programmes classified as Age 6 are animated films and series with moderately dramatic effects such as the *Lego* movies. More realistic films and programmes with brief dramatic or threatening portrayals can also be classified Age 6. Examples of this include the competition programme *Labyrint* (NRK Super), *America’s Funniest Home Videos* and soap operas such as *Home and Away*.

Age 6: Content and expression			
Mood/expression	Violence	Sexuality	Other themes
Some dark, dramatic or moderately threatening scenes Scenes with dramatic or powerful effects (sound or images) Brief scary elements (characters or situations)	«Slapstick»	Suggestive or not intrusive	Toned down Little detail Adapted for children

3.3  
Age 9



Films and programmes classified as Age 9 may contain short but not explicit violence

or war images such as in the movies *Pitch Perfect 3* (2017 – violence in a humorous setting) and *Darkest Hour* (2017 – some war images), longer scenes with intense or dramatic moods such as in the animated television series *The Amazing Spiderman*, or have individual scenes with a dark and unsafe mood combined with depictions of moderately scary figures and/or dangerous situations such as the fantasy series *M.I. High*; the three first *Harry Potter* movies (*The Philosopher’s Stone*, *The Chamber of Secrets* and *The Prisoner of Azkaban*), *Jumanji: Welcome to the jungle* (2016) and the “scary movie” *Goosebumps* (2015).

Actual incidents or depictions of accidents, operations or non-dramatic deaths may be unsettling to children under the age of nine. The same applies to depictions of unsafe family relations, bullying situations and humans and animals that are suffering. Programmes with such themes shall generally be given an Age 9 limit or higher. Examples include the docudrama series *Bondi Rescue* and *Oslo Brenner* which contain dramatic portrayals of accidents, fires, etc.

For *Fortnite* videos showing fighting scenes, 9 years would be the right age limit.

Age 9: Content and expression			
Mood/expression	Violence	Sexuality	Other themes
Sequences with dark, intense or an unsafe mood, particularly in combination with scary characters or threatening situations	Brief non-explicit violence  Action violence typical for animated films and series	Suggestive or not intrusive	Moderately depictions of unsafe and/or unstable family relations and/or adults  Fairly dramatic images of accidents, deaths and/or surgery  Non explicit images/ short thematic depictions (see list of topics under section 2.3)  Children suffering or in difficulty (including bullying)  Animals suffering

### 3.4 Age 12



Films classified as Age 12 may contain some unsettling themes related to the “adult realm”, such as depictions or portrayals of relationship conflicts, sexual acts or strong emotional outbursts. Examples of such themes may occur in factual or reality programmes such as certain episodes of *Trekant* or *Paradise Hotel*.

Other themes that may be difficult for children to handle (see examples mentioned in fact box in Chapter 2.3) should be classified as Age 12 or higher if the theme in and of itself, regardless of how it is presented, can be alarming to children or young people. This applies for example to a theme such as kidnapping/ child abduction in a documentary series such as *De bortførte barna*. The same applies if the portrayals in the programme are not explicitly depicted and the mood is not sombre throughout.

Examples of this include the documentary series *Stemmene i hodet* (NRK) which is about psychological distress and a movie like *Røverdatter* (2018) which contains authentic close-up depictions of drug abuse and an unstable grown-up character.

Violent acts or brief depictions with “scary elements” in an unrealistic context is normally acceptable in films and programmes for young people from age 12. This particularly applies if the content is based on well-known stories, books, cartoons or similar, or where the plot in another way revolves around a clear fantasy universe or within a comical framework. Examples include films such as *The Hobbit – The Battle of the Five Armies* (2014), *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* (2017), the five last films in the *Harry Potter universe* (*The Goblet of Fire*, *The Order of the Phoenix*, *The Half Blood Prince* and *the Deathly Hallows part 1 and 2*) and *Game Night* (2018).

More realistic depictions of violence or frightening elements can also be permitted if they are brief and portrayed in a calm manner, such as in series about supernatural phenomenon in *Åndenes makt* and crime shows such as *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit* and *Castle*.

Films and programmes must also be classified as Age 12 if they contain non-explicit sexual acts (*Call me by your name*, 2017) or sexual descriptions within the premises of children and young people (*Få meg på, for faen*, 2011). The same applies if the programme

has a constant crude dialogue that could be disturbing or offensive to children under this age. Examples of this include the US comedies *Ted 1* and *2* (2012 and 2015) and *Sausage Party* (2016).

For video games that contain battle scenes with graphic images of blood, for example Gameplay from *Player's Unknown Battlegrounds* (PUBG) a 12-year age limit will often be fitting.

Age 12: Content and expression			
Mood/expression	Violence	Sexuality	Other themes
<p>Generally dark or intense mood</p> <p>Some fear (characters, scenes or music)</p> <p>Brief horror effects</p>	<p>Parody/humorous</p> <p>Unrealistic</p> <p>Non-explicit action violence in real film<sup>12</sup> («Live action»)</p>	<p>Non-detailed depictions of normal sexuality</p> <p>Sexual depictions within the premises of children and adolescents</p>	<p>Relationship conflicts and/or strong emotional outbursts</p> <p>Non-detailed depictions or scenes from war, catastrophes, terror, etc. (see list over topics under section 2.3)</p> <p>Generally coarse humour (disparaging, sarcastic or sexualised)</p>

<sup>12</sup> Live action is all films that are not animated.

3.5  
Age 15



Films and programmes classified as Age 15 may contain realistic, authentic or intense depictions or scenes of war, catastrophes, or terrorism acts. Examples include the documentary film *Cries from Syria* (2017) which contains authentic and detailed descriptions of war crimes, torture and victims, and the film *Utøya 22. juli* which is close to reality and provokes feelings of anxiety and panic.

Depictions of serious neglect and abuse will also qualify for a 15 year age limit. The same applies to films and programmes with close sexual portrayals (such as *Pornopung* from 2013), as well as depictions of abuse and murder.

Films and series with extensive action violence or explicit, cynical and/or detailed violence shall be classified as Age 15. This applies for example to several episodes of *Game of Thrones*, crime shows

such as *Homeland* and *Broen* and a movie like *American Assassin* (2017). Other examples are films and series with an unsettling mood and horror effects such as certain episodes of *The Walking Dead* and the *Annabelle* movies.

Other content that usually comes under the Age 15 category, is films and programmes that have a consistent sexualised expression and/or contain acts that can appear offensive and/or disturbing to children and young people under this age limit. This applies to the *Fifty Shades of Grey* movies and *Kjøp meg* (episode in season 1 of the docuseries *Innafor*). In addition, this applies to movies such as *Spring Breakers* (2012) which is consistently sexualised in its expression and depicts the use of drugs and violence in a glorified way.

Age 15: Content and expression			
Mood/expression	Violence	Sexuality	Other themes
Anxiety-inducing mood  Generally gloomy mood in combination with violent, sexual or thematic elements (see list under point 2.3)  Horror effects	Large amounts of action violence  Detailed/explicit/bloody  Realistic  Abuse/torture	Detailed and/or intense sexual depictions  Extensive, but not explicit sexual depictions ("soft porn")	Detailed and/or realistic depictions of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• War</li> <li>• Catastrophes</li> <li>• Terror</li> <li>• Neglect</li> <li>• Abuse/incest</li> <li>• Suicide</li> </ul>

3.6  
Age 18



In some cases, films and programmes must be classified with an Age 18 limit. This mainly applies to films with particularly violent content and/or expression, and that contain a lot of gross, cynical and/or detailed violent acts, often in a combination with an unsettling expression. Individual depictions of more untraditional forms of sex, depictions of a combination of violence and non-consensual sex will normally also qualify for an Age 18 limit. The same applies to films that contain extensive, explicit sexual portrayals (so-called “hardcore porn”, see Appendix 2).

the thriller *The Neon Demon* (2016) which has pervasive anxious mood and depicts an extreme sexual act, and *Raw* (2017) which has a very disturbing theme and contains several detailed depictions related to cannibalism.

See more about Age 18 limit and serious harmful content in appendix 2.

Examples of films with an Age 18 limit include the horror movie *The Belko Experiment* (2017) and the gangster movie *The Villainess* (2017), which both contain large amounts of brutal, cynical and bloody violence and/or murder scenes. Other examples include

Age 18: Content and expression			
Mood/expression	Violence	Sexuality	Other themes
Particularly anxiety-inducing mood combined with detailed/ explicit and rough depictions of violence and/or sex	<p>Large amount of rough, cynical and/or detailed acts of violence</p> <p>Sexualised violence</p>	<p>Depictions of non-consensual sex</p> <p>Combination of sex and violence</p> <p>---</p> <p>“Hardcore porn” (extensive, explicit and detailed sexual depictions)</p>	<p>Glorification of suicide, vigilantism, crude animal abuse</p>

## Appendix 1

### 1 To which platforms and screening facilities does the Audiovisual Programme Act apply?

The Audiovisual Programme Act applies for making audiovisual programmes available to the general public through

- Television (i.e. services that are intended or suitable for watching live and simultaneously by the general public)
- Video On Demand services, streaming, online publications television services, etc. (called “audiovisual on-demand services” in the Act).
- Cinema screenings, television screens in businesses, etc. film clubs, day care centres, schools, day care facilities for schoolchildren (called “screening at a public gathering” in the Act)

- Sale, rental, free distribution of DVD/Blu-ray (called “the making available of a videogram in Norway” in the Act)

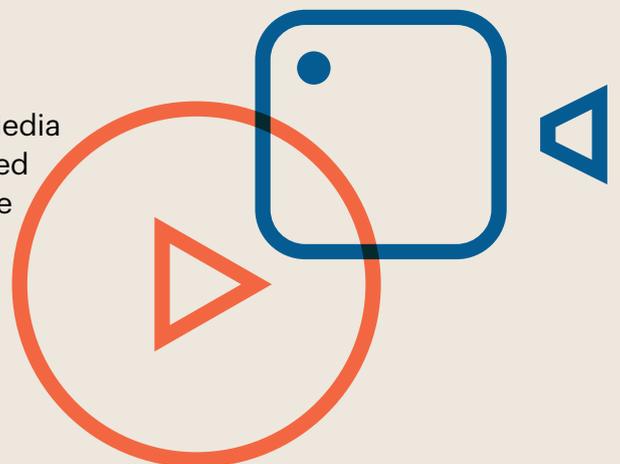
The Act only applies to these types of services and screening facility if they are located in Norway. Norwegian YouTube channels that fulfil the terms in the definition of broadcasting service in the Broadcasting Act are to be regarded as a Norwegian audiovisual booking service and thus subject to the provisions of the Audiovisual Act. Services established abroad, such as Netflix, HBO, etc. are therefore not currently covered under the Act.

## 2 Who is required to classify the content with age limits?

Cinema films<sup>13</sup> shall be classified with age limits by the Norwegian Media Authority. The Norwegian Media Authority's age limits are binding for ten years, and shall accompany the film on all subsequent screenings and distribution platforms.

If you are screening, selling, renting or giving away a film that the Norwegian Media Authority has age classified after the Act enters into force, you must in other words use this age limit and do not need to set a separate age limit.

Audiovisual programmes not assessed by the Norwegian Media Authority shall be age classified by the audiovisual programme distributor<sup>14</sup>.



<sup>13</sup> Audiovisual programmes that is primarily produced for screening in a cinema or other screening facility.

<sup>14</sup> Audiovisual programme distributor; the person that has, or has acquired, the rights to making the audiovisual programmes available in the Norwegian market.

### 3 What programmes are you required to classify with age limits?

Generally, all audiovisual programmes that are made available on a platform or viewing method mentioned in Item 1 of the Appendix, must be classified.

However, the following programme types are exempt from the obligation to classify, and do not need an age limit:

#### **News and current event**

*E.g. News broadcasts and other programmes dealing with current news affairs, such as comments on news or political opinions on news, current events, etc. The programmes can be adapted to a magazine format or be purely debate programmes, and the intention of the programme is primarily to inform viewers.*

#### **Educational and research material**

*Programs where the intention is to convey knowledge and research.*

*Examples include presentations and lectures on scientific topics, technology and experiments. Programs adapted for educational or training situations, and that can be used as an educational tool and be followed by student activities, teaching assignments, tasks, etc.*

#### **Information on non-profit, political or religious activities**

*E.g. programmes about, or containing information about, non-profit organisations or activities. Transmissions from political meetings and debates, programmes containing information about political activities. Transmissions of religious ceremonies where the general public has access (e.g. services, etc.), programmes with information about various religions.*

**Music material**

*E.g. programmes that mainly contain music, such as transmissions from and recordings of cultural events such as opera, musicals, concerts, music videos etc.*

**Sports material**

*E.g. programmes that mainly contain sports, live streams or recordings of sports events, sports magazines, summaries and highlights from sporting events, etc.*

**Hobby, instructional and recreational material**

*E.g. programmes that mainly contain instructions, where the intention is to give the viewers instructions in one or several hobbies. For example, programmes with various activities such as hobby work, games, play, fashion/ make-up, cooking, interior, construction work, etc.*

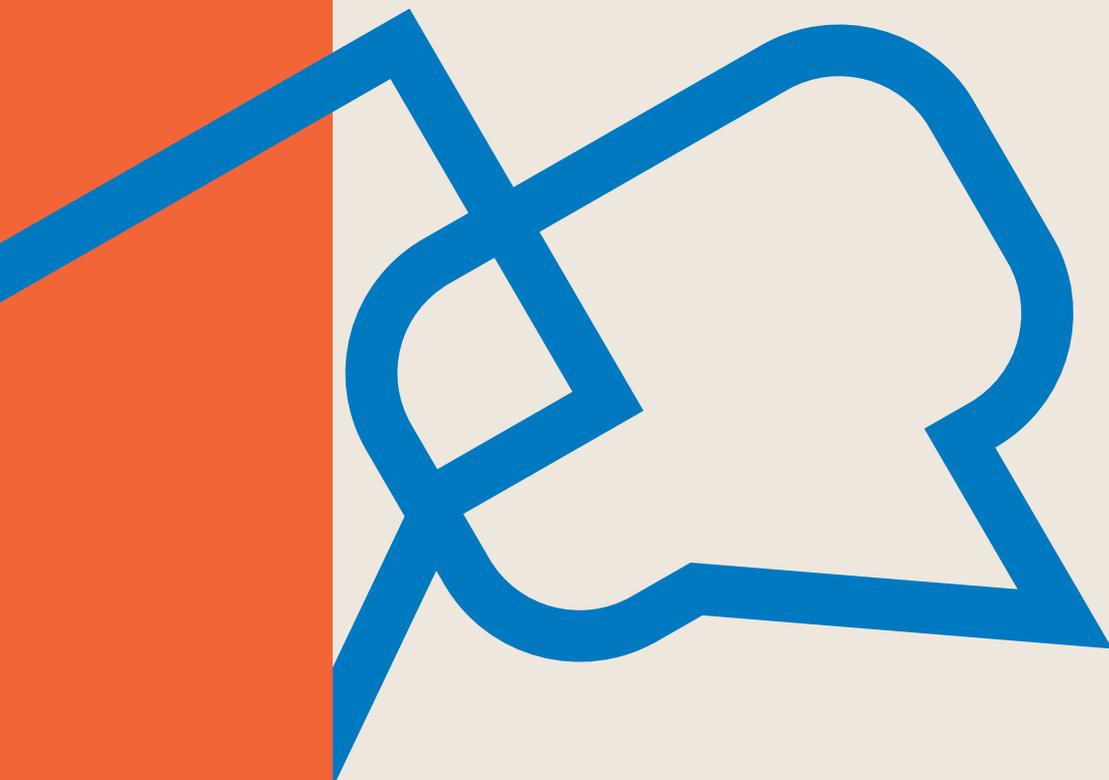
**Live broadcasts**

*Including live transmission of an event at a cinema or other screening facility.*

Changes may occur which may entail that more programmes are to be exempt from the obligation to classify.

## Appendix 2

### 1 Schematic overview of the difference between harmful and seriously harmful content (incl. special rules for television)



	<b>Content</b>	<b>Television</b>
<b>Harmful content</b> <sup>15</sup>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Depictions of sexual activity between consenting adults with the purpose of being exciting, without close-ups of penetration, ejaculation, etc. (so-called "softcore porn").</li> <li>2. Large volumes of violence (detailed, gory, realistic). Abuse and torture.</li> <li>3. Other themes such as intense/ realistic depictions of war, catastrophes, terrorism, gross neglect, assault, suicide.</li> </ol>	<p><b>SEPARATE AIRTIME RULES FOR TELEVISION</b></p> <p><i>(watershed)</i></p>
<b>Seriously harmful content</b> <sup>16</sup> I (Age 18 limit)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Detailed depictions of sexual activity between consenting adults focusing on close-ups of genitalia in motion, close-ups of penetration, oral sex, ejaculation, etc. (so-called "hardcore porn"), and other explicit scenes that may include fetishes</li> <li>2. Very gross depictions of violence that almost conflict with the ban in Section 236 of the Penal Code.</li> <li>3. Other themes such as combinations of sex and violence, glorification of suicide, vigilantism, and gross animal abuse.</li> </ol>	<p><b>NOT PERMITTED FOR BROADCAST</b></p> <p><i>(regardless of airtime)</i></p>
<b>Seriously harmful content</b> <sup>17</sup> II (Age 18 limit)	Content that by itself conflicts with Sections 317 and 311 of the Penal Code but that are permitted due to artistic, scientific, informative or similar considerations <sup>18</sup> .	<p><b>NOT PERMITTED FOR BROADCAST</b></p> <p><i>(regardless of airtime)</i></p>

<sup>15</sup> The descriptions in this item must be compared with the text and table in Chapters 3.5 and 3.6 for a complete overview.

<sup>16</sup> This is content that will be permitted for distribution on DVD with an Age 18 limit, and that can be available on an audiovisual on-demand service.

<sup>17</sup> This is content that will be permitted for distribution on DVD with an Age 18 limit, and that can be available on an audiovisual on-demand service

<sup>18</sup> There must be a concrete assessment on a case-by-case basis. One example from administrative practice is the film "Sansenes rike" ("The Realm of The Senses"), decision made 12th July 2004.



**Medietilsynet**

Mailing- and visitors address:

Nygata 4

1607 Fredrikstad

Telephone: 69 30 12 00

Email: [post@medietilsynet.no](mailto:post@medietilsynet.no)

[www.medietilsynet.no](http://www.medietilsynet.no)

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