

# Broader & Beyond Under-16s Social Media Ban Online Hui

**Addressing online safety, risks, wellbeing,  
and protection of rangatahi**

The Inclusive Aotearoa Collective Tāhono, Wellington  
Abrahamic Council, Ethnic Research Aotearoa, Auckland  
North Community and Development, and the Coalition of  
Ethnic Communities are pleased to invite you to an Online hui  
titled Broader and Beyond Under 16s Social Media Ban  
featuring Assoc. Prof. Peter Thompson from VUW School of  
Arts & Media on Thursday 23 October 2025.

The Broader and Beyond Under 16s Social Media Ban is a  
community-led initiative to facilitate community engagement  
and conversation, gather evidence, and co-develop a legal  
framework for online safety and platform accountability that  
is broader and beyond the proposed social media ban for  
under-16s.

This online hui offers an opportunity to share the impact of  
online/social media on individuals and families from some of  
New Zealand's less often heard community voices and  
facilitate key stakeholders in the community to engage with  
the topic and have a collective approach going forward.

The negative impact of social media is not a mere side effect;  
it is often a direct consequence of the platforms' business  
models, which are built on capturing and holding user  
attention at any cost. For young people, who are in a critical  
stage of development, these impacts can be profound and  
long-lasting.

Peter Thompson will provide some clarity around the  
principles and mechanisms through which harmful online  
content might be regulated, based on the international study  
researching UK, EU, Canada, Ireland, and Australia.

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## Date:

Thursday 23 October 2025

## Time:

4:30 pm – 6:00 pm (Online hui)

[Register here](#)



**Dr. Peter Thompson, Associate  
Professor School of English, Film,  
Theatre, Media and Communication,  
and Art History Victoria University of  
Wellington**

Assoc. Prof. Peter Thompson will help to  
provide more context to the question if we  
should dismiss social media or shift the  
responsibility and accountability to end users  
and their guardians by banning access, or  
encourage and teach digital literacy and  
mindful usage, or look for ways to shift  
responsibility and accountability to the  
providers by calling for transparency in content  
moderation and algorithms as well as  
establishing mechanisms for redress and user  
appeals.

