

23 April 2021

Committee Secretariat  
Transport and Infrastructure Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

Email: [ti@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:ti@parliament.govt.nz)

## **RURAL WOMEN NEW ZEALAND (INC) SUBMISSION**

Harmful Digital Communications (Unauthorised Posting of Intimate Visual Recording) Amendment Bill

### **Introduction**

Rural Women New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission for the Harmful Digital Communications (Unauthorised Posting of Intimate Visual Recording) Amendment Bill

### **Comments**

1. RWNZ used our current public policy to guide our submission which indicates that psychological violence and coercive control should be captured by legislation in some way to ensure that women and children are safe from this
2. RWNZ believes that unauthorised posting of intimate visual recordings is considered under psychological violence and/or coercive control.
3. We would also like to add, that the abuse of animals can be used in this way and whilst this bill doesn't cover it, we would like to make the point that being forced to watch animal cruelty online could be used to coerce or psychologically damage a family member.
4. RWNZ therefore supports this bill.

### **About Rural Women New Zealand**

1. Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) is a not-for-profit, member-based organisation that reaches into all rural communities and has an authoritative voice on rural environment, health, education, technology, business and social issues.

2. RWNZ strives to ensure that all rural residents, workers and families have equitable access to services, inequalities are addressed by Government, and the wellbeing of rural communities is considered from the beginning of all policy and legislative development.
3. RWNZ is affiliated to the Associated Country Women of the World and as such upholds all United Nations, ILO, FAO and WHO conventions and outcome statements as they relate to women and rural women in particular.
4. RWNZ would like to draw particular attention to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3, Good Health and Wellbeing; Goal 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

We look forward to discussing this further with you in our oral submission and we are hoping to share experiences that have been shared with us.

Yours sincerely,

Sharron Davie-Martin  
Member, RWNZ Board  
Convenor, Social Issues  
**Rural Women New Zealand**  
PO Box 12-021, Wellington 6144  
P 04 473 5524  
W [www.ruralwomennz.nz](http://www.ruralwomennz.nz)