

**[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF
PAKISTAN]**

A

Bill

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. Short title and commencement:-

(1) This Act may be called Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority Regulations 2012.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

(3) **Religious content.**- No content shall be aired that contains derogatory remarks about any religion or sect or community or uses visuals or words contemptuous of religious sects and ethnic groups or which promotes communal or sectarian hatred or disharmony.

(4) **Ethical & social values.**- Licensee shall show deference to the ethical and social values of the country and ensure that:

- i) any content that maligns or slanders any individual in person or certain groups, segments of social, public and moral life of the country is not broadcast or distributed;
- ii) Content does not make careless references to any class or group of persons as being inherently inferior or in any way discriminate against any section of the community on account of religion, gender, age, disability or occupational status.
- iii) content is not obscene or indecent;

Explanation: For the purposes of these regulations content shall be deemed to be obscene if its effect is such as to tend to deprave and corrupt persons who are likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear the matter contained or embodied in it.

- iv) Offensive or derogatory jokes, words, gestures, dialogues and subtitles are not broadcast or distributed;

- v) behavior such as smoking and drug abuse is not presented as glamorous or desirable;
- vi) alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or any other narcotics shall not be shown;
- vii) content does not contain anything that denigrates men or women through the depiction in any manner of the figure, in such a way as to have the effect of being indecent or derogatory;
- viii) content does not contain an abusive comment that, when taken in context, tends to or is likely to expose an individual or a group or class of individuals to hatred or contempt on the basis of race or caste, national, ethnic or linguistic origin, color or religion or sect, sex, sexual orientation, age or mental or physical disability;
- ix) No content is aired that is offensive to commonly accepted standards of decency or is defamatory;

(5). Coverage of incidents of accidents, violence and crime.

(i) Coverage of incidents of violence and crime shall not incite, glamorize or in any way promote violence or anti-social behaviour.

(ii) Appropriate warning shall be given upfront for content which may be potentially disturbing or upsetting so as to enable viewers to make an informed choice.

(6) Extreme caution shall be exercised in handling themes, plots or scenes that depict sex and violence, including rape and other sexual assaults.

(7). Ban on government employees to work in the print and electronic media:

No government employee can work in electronic and print media.

(8). Punishment on violation of the rules:

(i) Cancellation of the license for two years for the TV channel in case violation of rules.

(ii) Fine of Rs. Two million in case violation of rules

(9) Tax from Cable operators: Business and Income tax is to be collected from the cable operators according to rules given in the Federal Board of Revenue's Tax net list.

STATEMENT OF OBJECT AND REASONS

It is has become necessary to introduce new laws in the media of Pakistan to correct the direction of electronic media which is not playing due role as the fourth pillar of the state.

Mover

Syed Haseeb Ahssan Hashmi

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