

306. Response to Orbicom's Question on Threats to Freedom of Expression

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https://orbicom.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/KE_20230315.pdf

Mark Mercer

Orbicom's question: What parameters define freedom of expression and which among them are currently under threat?

Freedom of expression makes possible deep and true connections among people. If you prize the ability to think and value for oneself, you will be honest and sincere. You will not seek to manipulate others into accepting your views or values. You will respect the intellectual and moral autonomy of your fellows.

A great danger to freedom of expression, then, is the demand now on us to concern ourselves with the feelings and identities of others. Being careful not to offend or upset people will lead us away from honesty and candour and into insincerity and manipulation. Institutional directives to respect feelings and identities are directly opposed to respect for intellectual and moral autonomy and cannot but bring us to a world of phony interpersonal relations.