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**PRESS RELEASE** 

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE** 

## FPB ADVISES THE PUBLIC NOT TO SHARE THE VIDEO INCITING IMMINENT VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PUBLIC

13 March 2023, Centurion. The Film and Publication Board (FPB) has noted with concern the trending video clip posted by a person claiming to be member of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) on Twitter inciting violence against everyone who will not be participating in the national "shutdown". In terms of the video, any pupil wearing a school uniform on that particular Monday will be beaten up including teachers, policemen and everyone else.

The content of the video clip and the sharing thereof by any member of the public, is in contravention with Section 18H of the Films and Publications Act, 1996 (Act No. 65 of 1996) as amended, (FP Act) which prohibits the distribution of content that incite imminent violence and/or constitute incitement to cause harm.

By the powers entrusted in it, the FPB has written to Twitter to take down the said video from its platform as the video in addition to inciting public violence, it is blatantly threatening to children. Furthermore, the FPB has opened a case at Lyttelton Police station so that the perpetrator can be brought to book. The FPB, as required by the Act, will work with the police in ensuring that the matter is dealt with swiftly to finality. Internally, the FPB shall monitor the Take- down by Twitter to ensure that no further dissemination or distribution by the public occurs. Members of the public are advised not to share, re-post or distribute the said video in any form because they will equally

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be guilty for the dissemination or distribution of prohibited content as defined in the

FP Act, thus being held liable for fines and penalties prescribed by the Act.

"The distribution of the material underlines the continuing unprecedented trend of

online harms directed at children and other vulnerable groups, including women and

people with disabilities. As the FPB, we are gearing ourselves up to aggressively deal

with these online harms so that we have a safer online environment for the entire

South African public. Being online is a human right issue which every South African

should enjoy whether for social, economic, or educational purpose". Said the Chief

Executive Officer of the FPB, Dr Mashilo Boloka.

Members of the public are encouraged to report complaints relating to harmful and

prohibited online content or any content that exposes children to acts of pornography

to clientsupport@fpb.org.za.

**ENDS** 

For media enquiries or interviews, please contact:

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Notes to the Editor

The Film and Publication Board (FPB) is the regulator of the creation, production,

possession and distribution of films, games, certain publications, and more recently

2



certain online content. This is done to provide consumer advice to enable adults to make informed viewing, reading and gaming choices for themselves and children in their care; to protect children from exposure to disturbing and harmful material and from premature exposure to adult experiences, and to make the use of children in, and the exposure of children to pornography, punishable.

Paramount to the mandate of the FPB is the protection of children. Protecting children under the Act is a proportional balancing of the rights afforded in the South African Constitution and Bill of Rights against the right of the child. The protection of children as enshrined in the Constitution and Bill of Rights includes physical, mental, emotional, spiritual or moral harm to be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation. It further ensures that children's best interest is of paramount importance in every matter concerning a child.