

2 February 2024

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email which we received on 2 January 2024. We have considered all of your requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You said:

I am wanting to find out if the Classification office has banned *Mein Kampf*, if not why?

This email is part general and part a OIA.

The reason I am asking is because I found out that through my members of the family that during or after WW2, my grandfather moved from Italy to South Africa and were brought up through indoctrination into the support of Hitler.

I'm wanting to find if your office has an assessment on this book and what damages it could cause to someone's identity, psychologically, etc.

In responding to your request, we have weighed up the factors in the OIA, including the purposes in [section 4](#) and the principle of availability in [section 5](#).

Response to your request

The book *Mein Kampf* is not currently classified in New Zealand. Te Mana Whakaatu—Classification Office does not hold an assessment of this book or any information about the potential impact of it on individuals. Accordingly, your request is refused under [section 18\(e\)](#) of the OIA.

Additional information

The Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 does not require books to be classified before they are made available in New Zealand. Further, the Act does not allow a publication to be banned simply because it may advocate abhorrent, extreme political views, or amount to hate speech.

When the Classification Office has banned publications in the nature of a manifesto, we have identified clear harm arising from them in terms of their likelihood to radicalise New Zealanders to violence. We have determined them to be objectionable because, among other reasons, they “[promote or encourage] criminal acts or acts of terrorism” (per [section 3\(3\)\(d\)](#) of the Act), and because a restriction would not be enough to mitigate likely injury to the public good (see [section 3\(1\)](#) of the Act).

Members of the public may apply to the Chief Censor for leave to submit publications that have not been classified. If you would like to apply for leave to submit *Mein Kampf* to be classified, please let us know and we can send you information about the application process.

Publication of response

This response may be published on the Classification Office’s [website](#). If it is published there, your personal information will be redacted.

Right of review

You have the right to make a complaint and seek a review by the Ombudsman of this response under [section 28\(3\) of the OIA](#). Information about this process is available at ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Thank you for your interest in our mahi.

Ngā mihi nui,
Te Mana Whakaatu—Classification Office