

## Australian Classification

## Sandra's story



Learn how proud Wodi Wodi Nan – Sandra – recently learnt about gambling-like content in video games, how to spot it using new classifications and how she now plans to keep a closer eye on the games her grandchildren play.

Sandra is nearly 80 and loves being a grandmother. She is a proud Wodi Wodi woman who has 9 grandkids and 3 great-grandkids – the oldest is almost 40 and the youngest is 3 months old.

She says being a nan is even better than being a mum. As a nan, Sandra has done everything from pouring pretend cups of tea, to cheering on the sidelines at sports games. But there's one thing she doesn't do with her grandkids – play video games.

Sandra visits her 2 teen grandsons quite often. She's noticed how much they love gaming and admits that she is worried about what sort of content is in the games they play. She's concerned about the way some games use "popups" to get kids to spend money.

Sandra heard there's been some changes to classifications of video games. She understands there are some games that have gambling-like

content where kids pay for mystery prizes or rewards.

'Gambling has caused real harm in parts of our family, so I'm interested in preventing things like that with my grandkids. Gaming is a new world for me so having classifications that clearly flag this content helps us keep an eye on the younger generations.'

Sandra had been hesitant to ask too many questions or interrupt them on their games. Now that she knows there might be something in the games that could cause harm to her grandsons, she plans on keeping a closer eye when she visits for school holidays.

'I want to understand what they're playing and what risks are there. I might be old, but I still want to be part of their lives and help them grow up safe and strong.'

Sandra says she still has a lot to learn. She's planning to read more about gaming, potential harms, how games are rated and what signs to look out for.

'Now I've got the information I need I'll feel more confident about telling the boys what they need to know. I can work with them and their parents to keep them safe.'

Classifications are in place to help parents and grandparents spot new video games with gambling-like content – **M** for games with ingame purchases with an element of chance (e.g. loot boxes) and **R18+** for games with simulated gambling. You can use classification advice to choose games that are right for your family.

Visit <u>classification.gov.au/NewGameRatings</u> for more information.

