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CASE REPORT

1. Complaint reference number 75/99

2. Advertiser DirecDial Financial Services Ltd

3. Product Insurance4. Type of advertisement Radio

5. Nature of complaint Discrimination or vilification Other – section 2.1

6. Date of determination Tuesday, 9 March 1999

7. DETERMINATION Dismissed

DESCRIPTION OF THE ADVERTISEMENT

The radio advertisement comprises a male voiceover talking about the advertiser's product. His script includes the following words, 'Caught in the traffic...again. Well, while you're sitting there check the state of some of the other cars. There's bound to be one old banger held together with little more than rust, there'll be the vroom vroom hot Holden and no doubt the oft spotted Falcon Ute... Don't laugh they're costing you money but not if you're with Direcdial Insurance. We won't insure them so good risks save...'

THE COMPLAINT

Comments the complainant made regarding this advertisement included the following:

'As a proud owner of a 1968 Holden with a V8, I found this ad to be extremely offensive... Insurance companies have been trying to defame people who choose to drive older (Classic) cars for a long time now by implying that we are bad drivers with unsafe cars... I feel that it is about time that people were not discriminated against for driving older model cars.'

THE DETERMINATION

The Advertising Standards Board ('the Board') considered whether this advertisement breaches Section 2 of the Advertiser Code of Ethics ('the Code').

The Board determined that the advertisement did not constitute discrimination or vilification and did not breach the Code on this ground. The Board was satisfied that the advertisement did not offend any other section of the Code and dismissed the complaint.