

Your right to a fair go

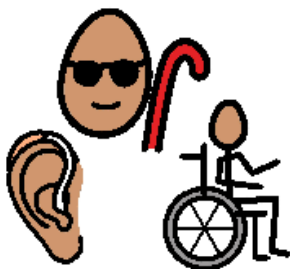
This is a fact sheet about discrimination when

- a person has a disability or impairment
- a person thinks another person has a disability or impairment.



What is discrimination?

Discrimination is when a person treats another person unfairly or differently.



What is disability or impairment?

- A person's body part does not work properly or does not work at all.
- A person's body does not work properly because the person has a disease.
- A person has a mental or psychological disorder.
- A person has difficulties with learning.



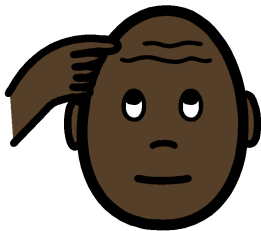


When is discrimination against the law?

It is against the law to discriminate against a person because

- **a person has a disability or impairment now .**
For example, a person has epilepsy or cannot walk
- **a person had a disability or impairment in the past.** For example, a person was sick when they were a child.

Also, it is against the law to discriminate against a person because



- **you think a person has a disability or impairment now but they do not.** For example, you think a person has an intellectual disability because the person speaks slowly
- **you think a person had a disability or impairment in the past but they did not.** For example, you think a person had depression.



Discrimination is not against the law when the behaviour happens in private places. For example, at home.



Discrimination is against the law when the behaviour happens in public. For example,

- accommodation. For example, in the house you rent, in a hotel
- clubs and with club members. For example, at a bowls club, at bingo night
- selling land. For example, with a real estate agent
- education. For example, at school, at TAFE
- work. For example, when you try to get a job, with a workmate at your job
- shops. For example, at a supermarket, at a bakery
- sport venues and clubs. For example, at a football club
- local government places. For example, at a local park.



You can complain

You can make a complaint. It might be the only way to help make things better.

You can tell the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission what has happened to you.

You might be worried about what people might say or do. For example, you might be worried that you might lose your home or lose your job.

People are not allowed to treat you unfairly or threaten you when you make a complaint.



It is ok to make a complaint.



Who can help you make a complaint?

- A person who has the same complaint as you.
- An organisation that understands your complaint.



How can the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission help?

We can

- help you write down your complaint
- talk to the people who are treating you unfairly
- get you an interpreter for free
- bring everyone together to talk about the problem.

We cannot

- take sides
- talk about your complaint to other people.

We help work out complaints about discrimination.

We want both sides to agree.

Our service is

- confidential
- free
- fair.

Contact us



Phone for information (03) 9281 7100

Toll free (from the country) 1800 134 142



TTY (03) 9281 7110



Email information@veohrc.vic.gov.au



You can ask for a free interpreter if you need one.

The fact sheet is only a guide. You might want to talk to a lawyer or advocate as well.

The Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission keeps your information private. For more information, contact us or look at our website www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/privacy

Easy English version 1. June 2009.

Developed by Communication Resource Centre. A service of Scope (Vic) Ltd. Phone 9843 2000. Website www.scopevic.org.au.

To see the original document **Your right to a fair go. Discrimination – Disability/Impairment** contact the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission.

The Picture Communication Symbols © 1981 – 2009 by Mayer-Johnson LLC. All Rights Reserved Worldwide. Used with permission.

Valuing People ClipArt © Inspired Services, UK.

www.inspireservices.org.uk.