Discrimination

We are all different, and we are all equal.
This fact sheet explains what discrimination is and where to get help if you have been treated unfairly.

It is written in an easy to read way. Pictures are used to explain some ideas.

When this booklet talks about the law, it means the Anti-Discrimination Act 1998.

You can ask for help to read this document. A family member, friend or support person may be able to help you.

If you have any questions you can also ring Equal Opportunity Tasmania on 1300 305 062 or (03) 6165 7515.
Discrimination

Discrimination is when someone is treated unfairly because of something they can’t change like their race, disability or who they love.

People and organisations need to make sure they don’t discriminate deliberately or by accident.

They need to make sure they do things in a way that gives everyone a fair go.

It is against the law to discriminate.

You can look it up at www.equalopportunity.tas.gov.au
It is against the law to discriminate against people because of:

- their age
- their skin colour, language or where they were born
- their sex
- disability
- being gay, lesbian, straight or bisexual
being pregnant

breastfeeding

being intersex

a change in gender or transgender

being single or in a relationship
lawful sexual activity

being married, divorced or single

family responsibilities

having children, or not having children

some criminal records
their religion

being active in workplace politics

who they vote for, or political actions

some medical records
These are all different ways of being. They are called attributes.

It is also against the law to treat someone badly because of the people they are friends with or work with.

Everybody has the right to feel equal.
It is against the law to discriminate:

- at work places and offices
- in hotels and pubs
- in places everyone can use
- in shops, supermarkets and other places where you can buy things
- in who gets to be in clubs or club activities
in housing as well as short term accommodation

in taxis and buses

in school, TAFE or training

when making rules or agreements about work rights

when the government deals with people.
What can you do if you feel you have been treated unfairly?

You can make a complaint

You can talk to the person if you feel able to

You can ask an advocate or someone you trust to help you with your complaint

You can contact Equal Opportunity Tasmania
We can listen to you and explain how the law works.

We can help with writing down a complaint.

We can talk about learning what’s OK and what to do if something is bad.

This service is free.
Call 1300 305 062 or (03) 6165 7515

Or e-mail
office@equalopportunity.tas.gov.au

Or visit
Level 1, 54 Victoria Street
Hobart, Tasmania, 7000

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