



Disclaimer: the material in this fact sheet is intended as a general guide only. You should not act on the basis of the information in this fact sheet without first getting legal advice about your own particular reason. The information is based on the laws in Victoria as of June 2023.

DISCRIMINATION

INCLUDED IN THIS FACT SHEET ARE:

Discrimination

Protected Characteristics

More Information

DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination is when you are treated unfairly or less favourably than other people because of certain personal characteristics called "protected characteristics".

Protected Characteristics

Protected characteristics are:

- Age;
- Breastfeeding;
- gender identity;
- disability ;
- employment activity;
- industrial activity;
- lawful sexual activity;

- marital status;
- status as a parent or carer;
- physical features;
- pregnancy;
- race;
- sex;
- sexual orientation;
- political or religious beliefs or activities;
- an expunged homosexual conviction; and
- personal association with anyone who has any of these characteristics.

Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination.

There are laws against discrimination.

Before you make a complaint, seek legal advice.

MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about discrimination laws, and how to make a complaint, visit:

- Victoria Legal Aid – Discrimination: <https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/find-legal-answers/discrimination-harassment-and-bullying/discrimination-and-victimisation>
- Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission: <https://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/>
- The Law Handbook: https://www.lawhandbook.org.au/2020_11_01_00_discrimination_and_human_rights/
- Australian Human Rights Commission: <https://www.humanrights.gov.au/>

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YOUTHLAW

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