

SOME CASE EXAMPLES:

- A woman alleged that when her real estate company was informed her family included a disabled child, she was no longer acceptable as a potential tenant of a rental property. The company denied this allegation stating there were many variables taken into account when offering tenancy and the fact the family had a disabled child was not one of them. The company then listed a recent history of dispute with the family. Following a conciliation conference, the woman accepted the company's explanation and the matter was resolved.
- An Aboriginal woman believed her family was evicted because her landlord treated her differently from a non-Aboriginal family. She felt the eviction was caused by her deceased husband's past anti-social conduct, and current complaints about her son. She felt a non-Aboriginal family would not have been treated so harshly. Following a conciliation conference at the Commission with the landlord, accommodation was provided to the woman and her family.

The Commissioner for Equal Opportunity provides information about the Act, investigates and conciliates complaints, conducts community education and training and develops programs to promote equal opportunity.

CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:

BY TELEPHONE

Administration and Corporate feedback line:
1300 136 237
Building Commission - 1300 48 90 99
Consumer Protection - 1300 30 40 54
National Relay Service: 13 36 77 (for the hearing impaired)
EnergySafety - 9422 5200
Labour Relations - 1300 65 52 66
Science and Innovation - 9282 0777
WorkSafe - 1300 30 78 77

CONTACT THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION:

BY TELEPHONE

General enquiries	08 9216 3900
Training courses	08 9216 3927
Facsimile	08 9216 3960
Country callers	1800 198 149
TTY	08 9216 3936

EMAIL: eoc@eoc.wa.gov.au **WEBSITE:** eoc.wa.gov.au

BY VISITING OUR OFFICE

Level 2, Westralia Square, 141 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

BY POST

PO Box 7370, Cloisters Square, Perth WA 6850

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Accommodating
Everyone

Looking to rent
your property?

Know your rights as
a property owner
or agent



Government of Western Australia
Department of Commerce
Consumer Protection

 Equal Opportunity Commission

IT IS UNLAWFUL UNDER THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACT 1984 FOR AN OWNER OR AGENT TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST SOMEONE SEEKING PRIVATE RENTAL ACCOMMODATION BECAUSE OF THEIR:

RACE

RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL CONVICTION

IMPAIRMENT

AGE

SEX

PREGNANCY

MARITAL STATUS

GENDER HISTORY

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Agents and owners of property:

- It is unlawful for an owner or agent to discriminate against someone seeking, or renting, private rental accommodation because of the race, sexual orientation, disability, or age, of a relative or associate of that person.
- It is unlawful for an owner or agent to sexually or racially harass someone seeking or renting private rental accommodation.
- It is also unlawful under the *Residential Tenancies Act 1987* to refuse to let a property to person/s because they have a child or children who will live at the property.
- As an owner, or agent, of a rental property you have a range of rights and responsibilities in terms of who you rent your property to, and the conditions you rent it under.

You need to be aware that it is unlawful for a person, whether as owner or agent, to discriminate against another person on any of the grounds listed:

- (a) by refusing the other person's application for accommodation;
- (b) in the terms or conditions on which accommodation is offered to the other person (e.g. charging a higher rent);
- (c) by deferring the other person's application for accommodation or according to the other person a lower order of precedence in any list of applicants for that accommodation.
- (d) by denying the other person access, or limiting the other person's access, to any benefit associated with accommodation occupied by the other person (e.g. not allowing them to use the pool);
- (e) by evicting the other person from accommodation occupied by the other person; or
- (f) by subjecting the other person to any other detriment in relation to accommodation occupied by the other person.