

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

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| 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
a property?

Know your rights as
a renter



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

FOR TENANTS AND RENTERS:

- 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 applicant, or tenant, in the private rental market you have a range of rights in terms of your application for a property and the terms which you can rent the property.

AN OWNER OR AGENT IS UNABLE TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST YOU ON ANY OF THE LISTED GROUNDS IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- (A) BY REFUSING YOUR APPLICATION FOR ACCOMMODATION;
- (B) IN THE TERMS OR CONDITIONS ON WHICH ACCOMMODATION IS OFFERED TO YOU (E.G. CHARGING A HIGHER RENT);
- (C) BY DEFERRING YOUR APPLICATION FOR ACCOMMODATION OR ACCORDING TO YOU A LOWER ORDER OF PRECEDENCE IN ANY LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR THAT ACCOMMODATION.
- (D) BY DENYING YOUR ACCESS, OR LIMITING YOUR ACCESS, TO ANY BENEFIT ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCOMMODATION (E.G. NOT ALLOWING YOU TO USE THE POOL);
- (E) BY EVICTING YOU FROM THE ACCOMMODATION YOU RENT JUST BECAUSE OF YOUR RACE, IMPAIRMENT, ETC; OR
- (F) BY SUBJECTING YOU TO ANY OTHER DETRIMENT IN RELATION TO ACCOMMODATION.