



GUIDELINES ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 1993

September 2009

The Human Rights Act 1993, and its subsequent amendments, prohibits discrimination on the grounds of:

- Sex, and including pregnancy and childbirth
- Marital Status
- Religious Belief
- Ethical Belief
- Colour/race/ethnic or national origins, including nationality or citizenship
- Disability (if special services can reasonably be provided)
- Age
- Political opinion
- Employment status, including unemployed or beneficiary
- Family status
- Sexual orientation
- Discrimination occurs when a person is treated unfairly or less favourably than another person in the same or similar circumstances.

The Act prohibits discrimination on these grounds in employment, access to education and training, the provision of goods and services and the provision of accommodation.

Human Rights Commission

The Human Rights Commission can receive, investigate and provide mediation services to resolve complaints relating to unlawful discrimination.

Human Rights Review Tribunal

The Human Rights Review Tribunal can hear proceedings to enforce the terms of a settlement for a dispute relating to unlawful discrimination. The Tribunal has the power of a court and its decisions are legally binding.

Further information

Human Rights Commission

www.hrc.co.nz

Email: infoline@hrc.co.nz (for general enquiries)

InfoLine 0800 496 877 (toll free)

Fax: 09 377 3593 (Attn: InfoLine)