

Human Rights

Respect · protect · promote

Recognition and equality before the law

Section 15



Easy Read



Queensland
Government

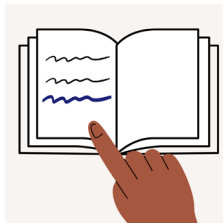
About Easy Read



This is an Easy Read book.



Easy Read uses pictures to explain ideas.



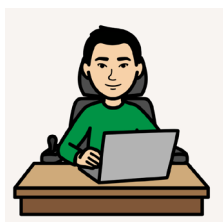
New words are **bold and blue**.



We tell you what new words mean.

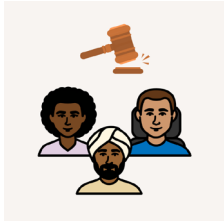


Easy Read includes key information.

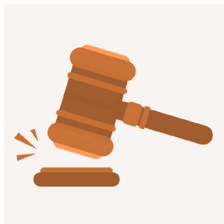


You can find more information here
www.qld.gov.au/humanrights.

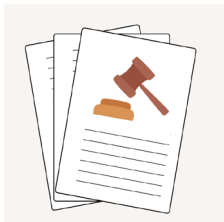
About this book



This book explains the right to recognition and equality before the law.



We call it **the right** in this book.



The right is set out in Section 15 of the **Human Rights Act 2019**.



The Human Rights Act 2019 is a law that protects the human rights of people in Queensland.



The information in this book is **not** legal advice.

What does the right say?

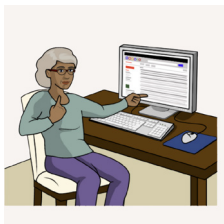


The right says

- all people have rights



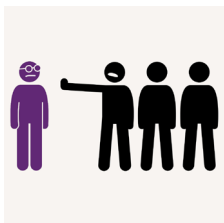
- you have the same rights as everyone else



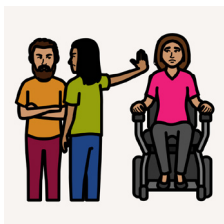
- everyone should be able to use a government service



- everyone should be treated fairly



- **discrimination** is against the law.

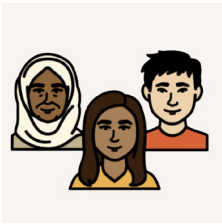


Discrimination means you are treated unfairly because of who you are.

Who does the right protect?



The right protects everyone in Queensland.



The right protects people who

- have different needs



- do not speak English



- do not read or write



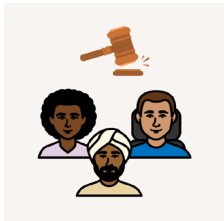
- cannot use services the same way as others do.
For example, people who are blind.

The right has 5 parts

1. The right to recognition



All people have the right to **recognition before the law.**



Recognition before the law means everyone has the same legal rights.

2. The right to enjoy human rights



We all have the right to enjoy human rights free from discrimination.

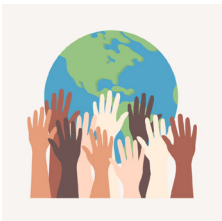


The **Anti-discrimination Act 1991** protects this right.



The Anti-discrimination Act 1991 says it is against the law to discriminate based on

- disability



- race or religion



- sex or sexuality

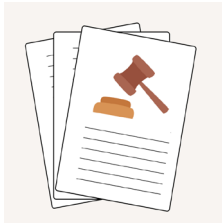


- **political belief**. For example, who you vote for.

3. The right to equality

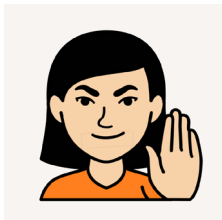


We all have the right to **equality before the law**.

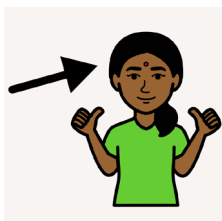


Equality before the law means everyone has equal protection from the law.

4. The right to protection from discrimination



We all have the right to **protection from discrimination**.



Protection from discrimination means the government and its laws need to protect us from being discriminated.

5. Help for disadvantaged people and groups



Disadvantaged people might get more help.

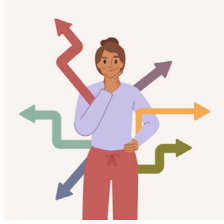


Disadvantaged means some people or groups faced more discrimination in the past.

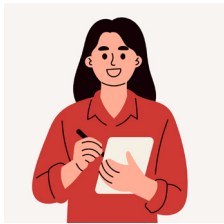


For example, females might have more help to get a truck driver job because this was hard in the past.

When is the right important?



The right is important in many situations.

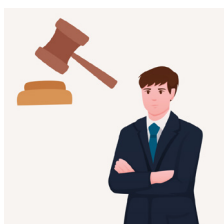


The right is important for people and organisations that

- give services to specific groups



- make rules about who is allowed to use programs and services



- make or follow laws for specific people and groups.

More information

Read Section 15



Queensland Human Rights Commission website
www.qhrc.qld.gov.au/your-rights/human-rights-law/your-right-to-recognition-and-equality-before-the-law

Read the Human Rights Act 2019



Queensland Government Legislation website
www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2019-005