



How an Australian Human Rights Act benefits everyone

Why we need an Australian Human Rights Act

Everyone should be able to enjoy their rights, like being able to receive quality health care regardless of bank balance, and every child having a great education regardless of postcode. But that is not the reality for everyone in the community, as shown in the Disability, Aged Care, and Robodebt Royal Commissions.

An Australian Human Rights Act will ensure the values we all share - like equality, respect, dignity and compassion - are always at the heart of all government decisions, laws, and services. Including in health, education, and housing.

It will clearly outline our human rights and freedoms so that everyone in our community can uphold their rights and stand up for what we value as a society.

A Human Rights Act will be a powerful tool for people to challenge injustice if their rights are breached.

A Human Rights Act is:

Popular. Regular opinion polling between 2021 and 2023 shows three in four Australians support an Act, with only 3% opposed.

Broad. It benefits everyone but is especially important for people whose rights are most at risk, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, children, people with disability, older people, and people in remote and regional areas. That's why a broad coalition of 104 community organisations support an Act. [View the full list here.](#)

Simple. It outlines what rights everyone in our community have and helps ensure governments and public servants factor them in when making decisions.

Effective. National Acts have been operating successfully in similar nations like the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada. At the state and territory level, Acts are operating successfully in Victoria, the ACT and Queensland.

Evidence shows that Acts help governments to deliver better, more human-focused laws, policies and services. [Our 101 cases website](#) shows examples of the benefits of the state and territory Acts.

Democratic. Australia is the only western liberal democracy in the world without a legislated Human Rights Act. Following a year-long inquiry, the Federal Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights has recommended the Federal Government introduce an Act.

Together, we can make it a reality, but it needs everyone to speak up and call for one.

Join the campaign:
www.humanrightsact.org.au