



Homosexual vilification

What is homosexual vilification?

Homosexual vilification is a public act that could incite hatred, serious contempt or severe ridicule towards people who are homosexual.

Public acts include:

- communications that can be seen or heard by the public (this includes print, radio, video or online)
- signs, flags or clothing that could be seen by the public
- distributing and sharing information to the public.

Act under review

The NSW Law Reform Commission has been asked to review the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977* (NSW).

Anti-Discrimination NSW supports amending the grounds in the Act to include protection based on:

- sexual orientation
- gender identity
- intersex (or sex characteristics).

Learn more about the Law Reform Commission's process at **lawreform.nsw.gov.au**.



What can I do if I experience homosexual vilification?

If you feel you have been vilified,
you can contact us to make a
complaint.

If you are unsure if you have
experienced homosexual
vilification or need more
information, you can contact our
enquiry service.

Public acts that threaten or incite violence

Any public act that threatens or
incites violence towards a group
of people on the basis of their
race, religious belief or affiliation,
sexual orientation, gender
identity, intersex status or
HIV/AIDS status is a criminal
offence that should be referred to
the police.

In an emergency, phone Triple
Zero (000). For non-urgent police
assistance and general enquiries,
phone 131 444.

Useful contacts

**Translating and Interpreting
Service** – 131 450

Law Access – 1300 888 529



Complaint case study

Padma* received a letter from her neighbour that contained offensive homophobic content.

The neighbour also made public comments that were derogatory about Padma's sexuality.

Padma lodged a complaint with ADNSW as she believed his actions vilified people from the LGBTQIA+ community.

At conciliation, the neighbour admitted fault and expressed deep regret about the situation.

He wrote a letter of apology to Padma, acknowledging his homophobic behaviour. This apology was accepted by Padma and resolved the complaint.

***Name has been changed to protect the privacy of the individual.**



This factsheet has general information about vilification and there are exceptions to the law. Please contact us if you have questions about homosexual vilification or you would like information about how to make a complaint.

Anti-Discrimination NSW

Enquiries

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Free call: 1800 670 812

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Website

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