



Religious vilification

What is religious vilification?

Religious vilification is against the law.

It is a public act that could incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group of persons, because of their religious belief, affiliation, or activity, or because they do not have a religious belief or affiliation, or do not engage in religious activity.

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.

What can I do if I experience religious vilification?

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

If you are unsure if you have experienced religious 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 person or group of persons 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
LawAccess NSW – 1300 888 529

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

Anti-Discrimination NSW

Enquiries

Phone: 02 9268 5544

Free call: 1800 670 812

Email: complaintsadb@justice.nsw.gov.au

Office location

Locked Bag 5000

Parramatta NSW 2124

Website

antidiscrimination.nsw.gov.au