



HIV/AIDS Vilification

What is HIV/AIDS vilification?

HIV/AIDS vilification is against the law. It is a public act that could incite hatred, serious contempt or severe ridicule towards people who have HIV or AIDS or thought to have HIV or AIDS.

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 HIV/AIDS vilification?

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

If you are unsure if you have experienced HIV/AIDS 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.

Useful contacts

Translating and Interpreting Service – 131 450

Law Access – 1300 888 529

Complaint case study

Davidson* is a gay man with HIV.

He was being harassed and threatened by multiple neighbours because he is both gay and has HIV.

Davidson lodged a complaint with ADNSW.

The complaint was not resolved during conciliation and was referred to NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

The Tribunal found the neighbours liable, and they were ordered to pay compensation to Davidson.

*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 HIV/AIDS 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

Postal address

Locked Bag 5000

Parramatta NSW 2124

Website

antidiscrimination.nsw.gov.au