

WELCOME TO THE TWELFTH EDITION OF OUR

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

LGBTI LEGAL SERVICE INC



## 2022 UPDATE

We hope that our community had a safe, relaxing and enjoyable holiday period. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation in Brisbane, LGBTI Legal Service staff have been working remotely from home. This has caused minor inconveniences to day-to-day work but overall we have still been able to run operations as per normal. Evening advice clinics returned on January 15 and have been conducted offsite and via telephone. We had endeavoured to start the new year bringing back face-to-face appointments but the Omicron variant had other ideas! These sessions continue to run on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings by appointment only. We have lots of exciting things happening in 2022 including law reform, attending events and fundraisers.

# Citipointe Christian College issues discriminatory enrolment contract

On 28 January 2022, 1 week prior to commencement of the school year, Citipointe Christian College sent an updated enrolment contract to all parents. The contract states that bisexuality and homosexuality are 'sinful and offensive' and that openly gender diverse and trans students can be expelled from the school. These statements create a climate of fear and intolerance within schools that reinforce harmful prejudices and cause harm to young LGBTQ+ people at a time when they most need support.

The Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act does not permit religious schools to refuse enrolment based on gender identity or sexuality, or discriminate against existing students. The contract raises further concerns about whether these policies would be legal under the proposed Religious Discrimination Bill. Matilda Alexander, Patron of the Service, in an interview with the Guardian, said "This demonstrates what schools are likely to do after that law is passed – a licence to discriminate against very vulnerable young people and their families who just need access to education, they just need support,".

The Service thanks those who have reached out to share their experiences and concerns with Citipointe Christian College. The Service encourages anyone who believed the contracts discriminated against them to contact our Service for Free legal advice.



**Follow us on social media to keep updated on news and upcoming events**



@LgbtiLegalService



LGBTI Community Legal Service



@LGBTILegal

LGBTI Legal Service pay our deepest respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQ+ Sistersgirls & Brotherboys community and recognise the ongoing battle for visibility and inclusivity.

We pay respect to Elders past present and emerging. We acknowledge the wisdom, strength and truth telling of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In the spirit of reconciliation, we are committed to fostering a culture of shared knowledge and learnings with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people accessing justice.



# KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR OUR NEW WEBSITE

Next month we will be launching our brand new website! It has been a long time coming, but we are nearly there! Our fresh new website will be much more user friendly, easier to navigate and easier on the eye. On the new website, clients will easily be able to contact us for an appointment and users will have access to a plethora of legal resources and factsheets.

The website will also include a blog! Blog posts may include articles from staff or Management Committee members, summaries of landmark cases and any updates in relation to the Service.

Stay Tuned!



## WHAT AREAS OF LAW CAN WE ADVISE ON?

- FAMILY LAW
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- CRIMINAL LAW
- EMPLOYMENT
- DISCRIMINATION
- GENERAL CIVIL LAW

So, how do I make an appointment to get some legal advice?

Call us on **3124 7160** and one of our staff will talk you through the process. Or you can email us at: [mail@lgbtilegalservice.org](mailto:mail@lgbtilegalservice.org)

