

CHARACTERISTICS

How intersex people are protected under QLD antidiscrimination law



Sex characteristics are a **protected attribute**. This means you cannot be discriminated against because them



or what other people assume your sex characteristics are; or because of the sex characteristics of someone you are associated with

Sex characteristics include:



sex reproductive features; chromosomes, genes and hormones; and features emerging in puberty



with innate variations of sex
characteristics. Some people may
describe themselves as intersex. These
laws protect people regardless of their
identity or labels they use

Many intersex people suffer harm because of the **assumptions** other people may make about their bodies, their gender, their sexuality, or other parts of themselves, due to their sex characteristics.



examples of possible discrimination

a physiotherapist refuses to work with an intersex person because they "make them feel uncomfortable"



Discrimination based on assumption

Someone tells a woman with a deep voice that she cannot use the women's bathroom because they believe she is a man



Indirect discrimination

An intersex man goes to a health service for ovarian cancer screening. Their information systems don't have a way of recording his information as they assume everyone with ovaries is female



If you believe you have been discriminated against contact the LGBTI Legal Service for free legal advice. This is general information only.