



APPENDIX 3

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

EXAMPLES



Section 17 of 17 (pp179-181)

from the joint submission responding to the QLRC
'A framework for a decriminalised sex work industry
in Queensland' Consultation Paper WP 80'

Appendix 3 Anti-discrimination examples

Sex workers are commonly discriminated against in the areas of provision of goods and services, especially housing/accommodation, health care, financial services and online platforms, police services, advertising and education.

These are a sample of the areas of discrimination reported to Respect Inc

Finance	Banking facilities such as Eftpos and loans being refused.
	Accounts being closed or refused without notice or cause.
	Insurance companies refusing coverage for life insurance or income protection. As Workcover QLD still does not provide coverage to sex workers within brothels, these sex workers continue to be recognised as independent contractors.
Education	Schools refusing children of sex workers to be enrolled.
	Training providers refusing to acknowledge the skills and knowledge gained as a sex worker or refusing enrolment by 'out' sex workers.
Community groups	Churches and clubs refusing enrolment or membership.
Welfare programs	Community services refusing to provide assistance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forms of aid such as Emergency Relief Funding • Children/family support programs • Homeless outreach charities • Domestic violence support services
	Homelessness support services where evictions upon discovery of sex worker status or discovery of sex work activities outside of the housing provided occur regularly.
	Children's community services disadvantaging families where one family member has identified as a sex worker.
	Centrelink threatening to cut off payments due to sex work.
	Centrelink-associated job providers not acknowledging that sex work is a valid form of employment.
Media	Advertising media charging more for sex work ads and refusing to charge on account, insisting on pre-paid accounts and refusing to allow the option of opting out of additional, expensive online advertising.
	Vilifying media articles.
Policing	Refusal to take reports across a variety of criminal actions towards

	sex workers, using stigma and discrimination to drive unbelieveability of the sex worker making the report.
	Accusing sex workers of conducting illegal activity due to lack of knowledge on sex work laws.
Employment	Where a person is dismissed or harassed until they resign due to knowledge of their past or current sex worker status.
	Refusal to grant Blue Cards to allow employment in sectors that work with minors if a person discloses their sex work.
Accommodation	Eviction.
	Refusing an accommodation booking.
	Charging more per night, additional fees.
	Inability to rent a premises or house due to stigma and discrimination around sex workers being bad tenants or attracting more traffic to the location.
	Adding sex workers to a banned list.
	Supplying untrue or derogatory references to other housing or accommodation providers.
Health	When sex worker status is discovered refusal to continue with diagnostics unless an STI test is performed.
	Obsessive focus around sexual health, STI's and BBV's.
	Mental health professionals blaming sex work for a broad range of health conditions, regardless of the sex worker's experiences.
	Recommendations to stop work as the remedy for all difficulties or diseases.