

Investigating racial discrimination

Activity sheet

Short answer questions

1. What year was the *Racial Discrimination Act* passed into legislation?

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2. Who does the Act apply to?

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3. Is the Act a state or federal Act of parliament?

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4. What is 'direct discrimination'? Write about an example of direct discrimination that has occurred in your community.

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5. What is 'indirect discrimination'? Write about an example of indirect discrimination that has occurred in your community.

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6. A local company wants to advertise a position. They have sent you the advertisement in order to make sure it is not discriminatory. What suggestions would you make to the following advertisement?

Sales person needed

Company seeks young, motivated Asian woman to work in local shoe shop. Must have long, dark hair and a pleasant smile. Single women only. Drivers licence essential. Call 858585.

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7. Who does the *Racial Discrimination Act* protect?

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8. What is the role of the Australian Human Rights Commission regarding the *Racial Discrimination Act*?

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9. Which international convention does the *Racial Discrimination Act* come from?

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10. Find out how many states and/ or territories in Australia have introduced laws that deal with racial discrimination.

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Essay questions

1. Explain the importance of the *Racial Discrimination Act* in Australian society.
2. What impact, if any, has the *Racial Discrimination Act* had on Australian society over the last 30 years?
3. Does the *Racial Discrimination Act* need to be amended? Consider relevant cases as well as Australia's commitments under international law.