

THE EQUALITY ACT REVIEW

SCOPE & AIMS

JANUARY 2020

1. About

The Equality Act 2010 was established to cover nine characteristics: Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage or Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex, Sexual Orientation.

In recent years however, we have seen the gender pay-gap issue, punish a Muslim day letters and rising rates of Islamophobia, concerns about anti-Semitic attitudes and behaviour, the Windrush Scandal, the Grenfell Tower disaster, rising poverty and homelessness, and widening inequality. All of these issues have in common the way in which they compel us to question what equality means in today's society.

We believe that the equality act needs to be reviewed in order to strengthen the rights people have, thereby ensuring that they are protected against any such factors that may give rise to discrimination. In doing so, we hope to be able to achieve the vision of a fair and equal society for all.

Our campaign

- Add categories that are not already covered (i.e. homelessness, poverty, low socio-economic status).
- Improve education around the act to ensure its implementation.
- Ensure compatibility with prosecution.
- Have a mandatory review every 10 years.

To achieve the above, we aim to conduct a formal inquiry into reviewing the equality act. This will involve parliamentary discussions to address how the equality act can be improved, and public consultations to enable the public to have their say. Together, we want to inform policy around the equality act with our findings.

2. Scope and Aims 2020

We have a number of goals to achieve in 2020. These are as follows:

- a) **100 MPs pledge:** we are aiming to have 100 MPs pledge their support to the campaign to review the Equality act 2010.
- b) **Consult the public:** We aim to open a public consultation asking members of the public, academics, activists, professions to submit their recommendations as to how to improve the equality act.
- c) **Present findings:** We aim to present the findings of the six-month public consultation in Parliament in summer 2020.
- d) **Present a Bill:** We would like to present a bill to Parliament asking MPs to formally review the Equality Act 2010.

3. How you can get involved

- a) Follow us on twitter @EqualityActRev.
- b) Retweet and spread the word.
- c) Share your thoughts via the public consultation page.
- d) If you are an MP, pledge your support today.
- e) If you are part of an organisation, pledge your support today.