



**Human Rights law is not just 'warm and fuzzy' stuff. The ACT Human Rights Act has the capacity to affect all areas of business, government and private activity.**

**At Trinity Law we have a well trained Human Rights team to provide advice and solutions on all Human Rights issues.**

## Human Rights in the ACT

### What are Human Rights in the ACT?

The Human Rights Act 2004 makes a substantial impact upon the law in the Australian Capital Territory. Traditionally, protecting human rights has been seen as a remote and isolated area of law. This is no longer the case. This area of law now has the potential to extend into significant mainstream business and government economic activity.

With an increase in the number of civil cases being litigated, at Trinity Law we are developing a profile and skill base in Human Rights. This is so we can assist clients of the firm to understand this 'cutting edge' area of the law and also how best to protect their commercial interests and utilise opportunities.

### The Act

Only the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria have legislation that specifically deals with and protects the human rights of its citizens.

Human rights are specified civil and political rights referred to in the Act. They include –

- protection of a family and children
- privacy and reputation
- freedom of movement
- peaceful assembly and freedom of association
- freedom of expression
- freedom to take part in public life

### Privacy

With the world online and the freedom of information having a dramatic impact on the way we communicate and obtain information, there is an increasing focus on the right to privacy. As a firm moving with the developments of the law, Trinity Law can assist you in these types of matters.

### Recent Amendments that have Broadened the Scope of the Human Rights Act

From 1st January 2009 the Human Rights Act was significantly broadened to apply to government agencies and any company which provides outsourced services to or on behalf of government and an action may be brought directly to the Supreme Court.

Though the full impact of these amendments have not yet been fully realised this may have significant impacts on your business. Here at Trinity Law, we can give you advice on how to act consistently with the legislation and in making decisions give proper consideration to a relevant human right.

For more information contact Greg Walker or Maurice Falcetta at Trinity Law on 61 63 5050.