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# Sex Discrimination Act 1975

## **CHAPTER 65**

# **SEX DISCRIMINATION ACT 1975**

## PART I

# DISCRIMINATION TO WHICH ACT APPLIES

- Direct and indirect discrimination against women
- 2 Sex discrimination against men.
- 2A "Discrimination on the grounds of gender reassignment."
  - 3 Direct and indirect discrimination against married persons in employment field
- 3A Discrimination on the ground of pregnancy or maternity leave
- 3B Discrimination on the ground of pregnancy or maternity: goods, facilities, services or premises
- 4 Discrimination by way of victimisation.
- 4A Harassment, including sexual harassment
  - 5 Interpretation.

## PART II

#### EMPLOYMENT FIELD

## Discrimination by employers

- 6 ... applicants and employees.
- 6A Exception relating to terms and conditions during maternity leave
  - 7 Exception where sex is a genuine occupational qualification.
- 7A "Corresponding exception relating to gender reassignment."
- 7B "Supplementary exceptions relating to gender reassignment."
- 8 Equal Pay Act 1970.
- 9 ... contract workers.
- 10 Meaning of employment at establishment in Great Britain.

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10A	Offices ar	d posts	to which	section	10B	applies

## 10B Office-holders

#### Discrimination by other bodies

- 11 Partnerships.
- 12 Trade unions etc.
- 13 Qualifying bodies.
- 14 Persons concerned with provision of vocational training.
- 15 Employment agencies.
- 16 Manpower Services Commission etc.

#### Special case

- 17 Police.
- 18 Prison officers.
- 19 Ministers of religion etc.
- 20 Midwives.

## Relationships which have come to an end

- 20A Relationships which have come to an end
- 21 Mineworkers.
- 21A Public authorities

## PART III

#### DISCRIMINATION IN OTHER FIELDS

## Education

- 22 ... Bodies in charge of educational establishments.
- 22A Meaning of pupil in section 22.
- 23 Other discrimination by local education authorities.
- 23A Discrimination by Further Education and Higher Education Funding Councils
- 23B Discrimination by Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Councils.
- 23BA Discrimination by Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council
  - 23C Discrimination by Funding Agency for Schools or Schools Funding Council for Wales.
  - 23D Discrimination by Training and Development Agency for Schools.
    - 24 Designated establishments.
  - 25 General duty in public sector of education.
  - 25A General duty: post-16 education and training etc.
    - 26 Exception for single-sex establishments.
    - 27 Exception for single-sex establishments turning co-educational.
    - 28 Exception for physical training.

## Goods, facilities, services and premises

- 29 Discrimination in provision of goods, facilities or services.
- 30 Discrimination in disposal or management of premises.
- 31 Discrimination: consent for assignment or sub-letting.
- 32 Exception for small dwellings.

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- 33 Exception for political parties.
- 34 Exception for voluntary bodies.
- Further exceptions from ss. 29(1) and 30.
- 35ZA Excluded matters

**Barristers** 

35A ... Barristers.

Advocates

35B ... Advocates.

Relationships which have come to an end

35C Relationships which have come to an end

Extent

36 Extent of Part III.

#### PART IV

#### OTHER UNLAWFUL ACTS

- 37 Discriminatory practices.
- 38 Discriminatory advertisements.
- 39 Instructions to discriminate.
- 40 Pressure to discriminate.
- 41 Liability of employers and principals.
- 42 Aiding unlawful acts.

#### PART V

## GENERAL EXCEPTIONS FROM PARTS II TO IV

- 42A Selection of candidates
  - 43 Charities.
  - 44 Sport etc.
  - 45 Insurance etc.
  - 46 Communal accommodation.
  - 47 Discriminatory training by certain bodies.
  - 48 Other discriminatory training etc.
  - 49 Trade unions etc.: elective bodies.
  - 50 Indirect access to benefits etc.
  - 51 Acts done for purposes of protection of women.
- Acts done under statutory authority to be exempt from certain provisions of Part III.
- 52 Acts safeguarding national security.
- 52A Construction of references to vocational training.

## PART VI

#### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION**

- 53 Establishment and duties of Commission.
- 54 Research and education.
- 55 Review of discriminatory provisions in health and safety legislation.

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56 (1) As soon as practicable after the end of each...

#### Codes of practice

56A Codes of practice.

## *Investigations*

- 57 Power to conduct formal investigations.
- 58 Terms of reference.
- 59 Power to obtain information.
- 60 Recommendations and reports on formal investigations.
- 61 Restriction on disclosure of information.

#### PART VII

#### **ENFORCEMENT**

#### General

62 Restriction of proceedings for breach of Act.

## Enforcement in employment field

- 63 Jurisdiction of **employment tribunals**.
- 63A Burden of proof: employment tribunals
  - 64 Conciliation in employment cases.
  - 65 Remedies on complaint under section 63.

## Enforcement of Part III

- 66 Claims under Part III.
- 66A Burden of proof: county and sheriff courts
- 66B National security

#### Non-discrimination notices

- 67 Issue of non-discrimination notice.
- 68 Appeal against non-discrimination notice.
- 69 Investigation as to compliance with non-discrimination notice.
- 70 Register of non-discrimination notices.

## Other enforcement by Commission

- 71 Persistent discrimination.
- 72 Enforcement of ss. 38 to 40.
- 73 Preliminary action in employment cases.

## Help for persons suffering discrimination

- Help for aggrieved persons in obtaining information etc.
- 75 Assistance by Commission.

## Period within which proceedings to be brought

76 Period within which proceedings to be brought.

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#### PART VIII

#### SUPPLEMENTAL

- 76A Public authorities: general statutory duty
- 76B Specific duties
- 76C Specific duties: Scotland
- 76D Specific duties: enforcement
- 76E Codes of practice
  - 77 Validity and revision of contracts.
  - 78 Educational charities in England and Wales.
  - Fig. 79 Educational endowments etc. to which Part VI of the Education (Scotland) Act 1962 applies.
  - 80 Power to amend certain provisions of Act.
- 81 Orders.
- 82 General interpretation provisions.
- 83 Transitional and commencement provisions, amendments and repeals.
- 84 Financial provisions.
- 85 Application to Crown.
- 85A Application to House of Commons staff.
- 85B Application to House of Lords staff.
  - 86 Government appointments outside section 6.
  - 87 Short title and extent.

#### **SCHEDULES**

# SCHEDULE 1 — EQUAL PAY ACT 1970

# PART I — AMENDMENTS OF ACT

- 1 (1) In section 1(6), paragraph (b) is repealed and the...
- 2 (1) The following is substituted for section 2(1)—
- 3 In section 6 the following is substituted for subsection (1)—...
- 4 Section 8 is repealed.
- 5 in section 9(1), the words "Except as provided by subsection...
- 6 (1) For references to an equal pay clause in each...

## PART II — ACT AS AMENDED

#### 1970 CHAPTER 41

- 1 (1) If the terms of a contract under which a...
- 2 Disputes as to, and enforcement of, requirement of equal treatment.
- 3 Collective agreements and pay structures.
- 4 Wages regulation orders.
- 5 Agricultural wages orders.
- 6 Exclusion from ss. 1 to 5 of pensions etc.
- 7 Service pay.
- 9 Commencement.
- 10 Preliminary references to Industrial Arbitration Board.
- 11 Short title, interpretation and extent.

SCHEDULE 2 — Transitional Exemption Orders for Educational Admissions

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## Public sector (England and Wales)

- 1 Where under section 35, 41 or 259 of the Education...
- 3 Regulations under section 485 of the Education Act 1996 may...
- 4 Regulations under section 218 of the Education Reform Act 1988...
- 4A Where, under section 113A of the Learning and Skills Act...

# Private sector (England and Wales)

5 (1) In the case of an establishment in England and...

## Public and private sectors (Scotland)

- 6 Any application for a transitional exemption order made by the...
- 7 An application under paragraph 6 shall specify the transitional period...
- 8 The Secretary of State on any application under paragraph 6...
- 9 The Commission on any application under paragraph 6 may if...

# SCHEDULE 3 — Equal Opportunities Commission

## Incorporation and status

- 1 On the appointment by the Secretary of State of the...
- 2 (1) The Commission is not an emanation of the Crown,...

# Tenure of office of Commissioners

3 (1) A Commissioner shall hold and vacate his office in...

## Tenure of office of chairman and deputy chairmen

4 (1) The chairman and each deputy chairman shall hold and...

## Remuneration of Commissioners

- 5 The Secretary of State may pay, or make such payments...
- 6 Where a person ceases to be a Commissioner otherwise than...

## Additional Commissioners

7 (1) Paragraphs 2(2), 3(1) and (6), and 6 shall apply...

#### Staff

- 8 The Commission may, after consultation with the Secretary of State,...
- 9 (1) Employment with the Commission shall be included among the...
- 10 The Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 shall not require...

## Proceedings and business

- 11 (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Commission...
- 12 The validity of any proceedings of the Commission shall not...
- 13 The quorum for meetings of the Commission shall in the...

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#### Finance

- 14 The Secretary of State shall pay to the Commission expenses...
- 15 (1) The accounting year of the Commission shall be the...

# Disqualification Acts

16 (1) In Part II of Schedule 1 to the House...

## SCHEDULE 4 — Transitional Provisions

- 1 Section 12 does not apply, as respects any organisation,—
- 2 Until 1st January 1978, section 12(2) does not apply to...
- 3 (1) Until a date specified by order made by the...
- 4 (1) If the responsible body for any educational establishment which...
- 5 (1) Section 6 of the Equal Pay Act 1970 (as...

## SCHEDULE 5 — MINOR AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

# Factories Act 1961 (c. 34)

1	In section 15(2) (unfenced machinery: operations carried out by
2	
-	
4	

SCHEDULE 6 — FURTHER REPEALS

## **Status:**

Point in time view as at 03/10/2005.

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