

Yes, sexuality and gender based bullying can be against the law.

If the bullying behaviour is sexual in nature it can be sexual harassment.

Teach everyone

Whether you are teaching about abstinence or safe sex, make it clear your message applies to gender and sexuality diverse students.

Challenge comments and jokes

Don't laugh at homophobic or transphobic jokes as by doing this you may be seen as encouraging unlawful behaviour.

Consider publicly challenging a comment to signal a caring attitude and zero tolerance to bullying. If publicly challenging students is against your school policy, perhaps

privately challenge a comment or intr.167Dg3oig3ovicg-b

Glossary of Terms

gender - The sense of self associated with cultural

sexuality - Sexuality is a central aspect of being human throughout life and encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction.

sexually - Sexual in nature.

diversity - State of being diverse or different.

sexual orientation - A person's sexual identity in relation to the gender to which they are attracted.

trans - An umbrella term including transsexual and transgender.

transgender - A term used to describe a broad

range of gender identities and/or behaviours. This usually includes all trans people, but some transsexual or other gender diverse people prefer not to use this term.

transsexual - A person who lives as the opposite sex to the one assigned at birth and who may choose to undergo hormone therapy or surgery.

intersex - A person who is born with reproductive organs, genitalia and/or sex chromosomes that are not exclusively male or female.

Disclaimer:

The material on this fact sheet is not intended to be legal advice. The Commissioner expressly disclaims any liability in respect to anything done or not done to any person in reliance upon any of the contents of this publication.