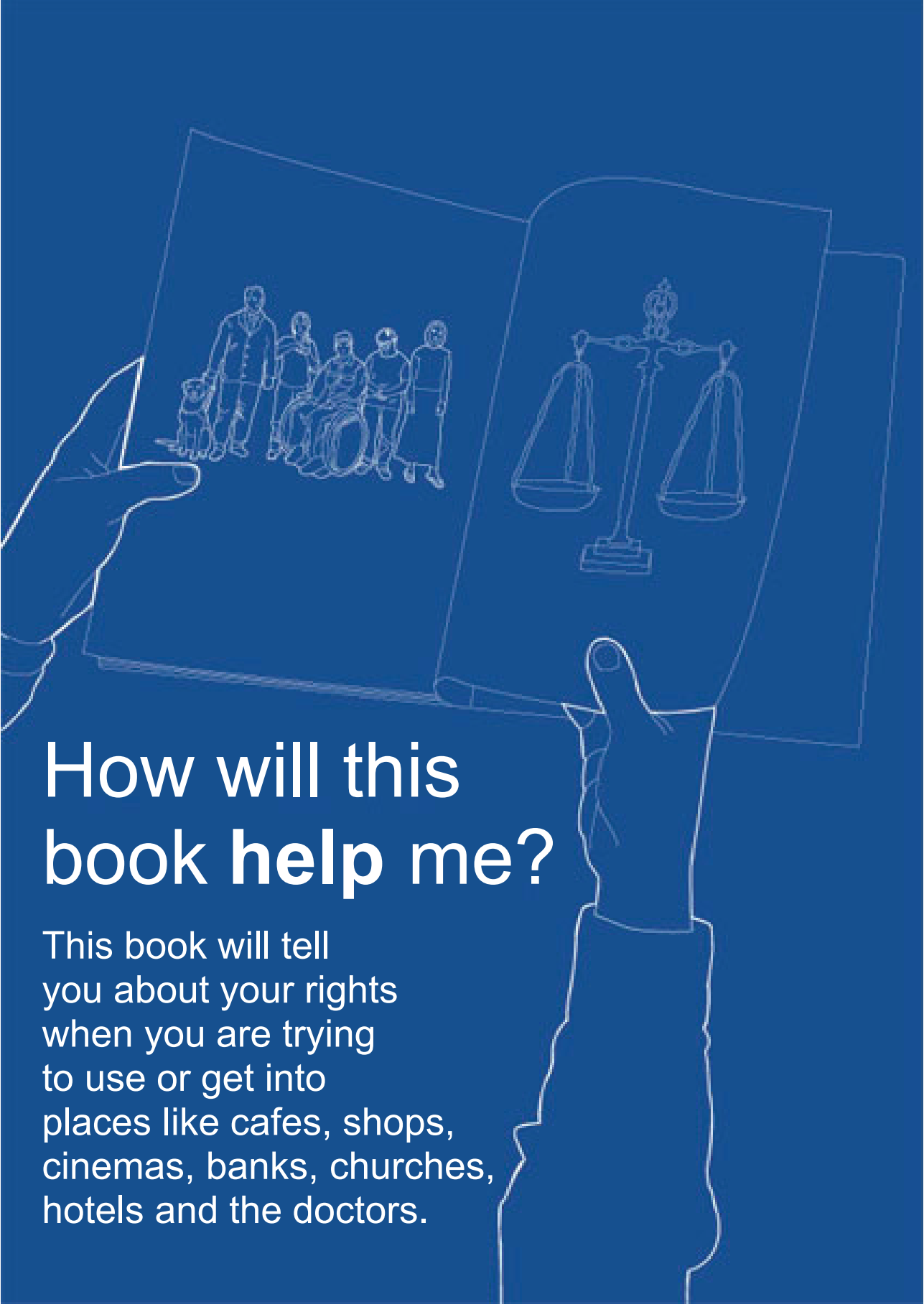


Disability Discrimination Act Your Rights

- when trying to use places like cafes, shops, cinemas, banks, churches, hotels and the doctors

An illustration on a dark blue background shows a hand holding an open book. The left page features a line drawing of a diverse family group, including a man, a woman, a child, a person in a wheelchair, and a dog. The right page features a line drawing of a pair of scales of justice. Below the book, a hand is shown pointing upwards towards the text.

How will this book help me?

This book will tell you about your rights when you are trying to use or get into places like cafes, shops, cinemas, banks, churches, hotels and the doctors.



What is the Disability Discrimination Act?

The Disability Discrimination Act is a rule which gives you rights if you **are treated worse** than other people because of your disability.

The Disability Discrimination Act also asks that **rules are changed** to help you get into places like cinemas, shops or pubs or when trying to get a job or doing a job.



Who has rights under the Disability Discrimination Act?

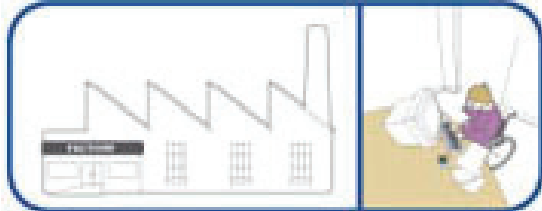
If you have a **disability** you may have rights.

You may have a disability if you have problems with:

- learning, understanding or remembering things
- moving around
- seeing or hearing
- using your hands.

How will the Disability Discrimination Act help me?

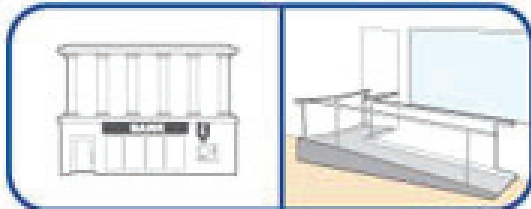
The Disability Discrimination Act may help you when you:



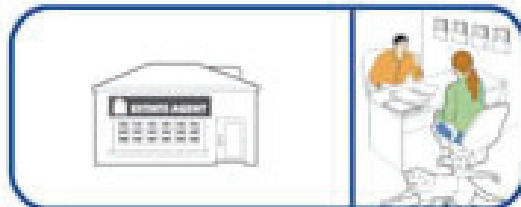
- are trying to get a job or you are doing a job



- go shopping or to the doctors or to church



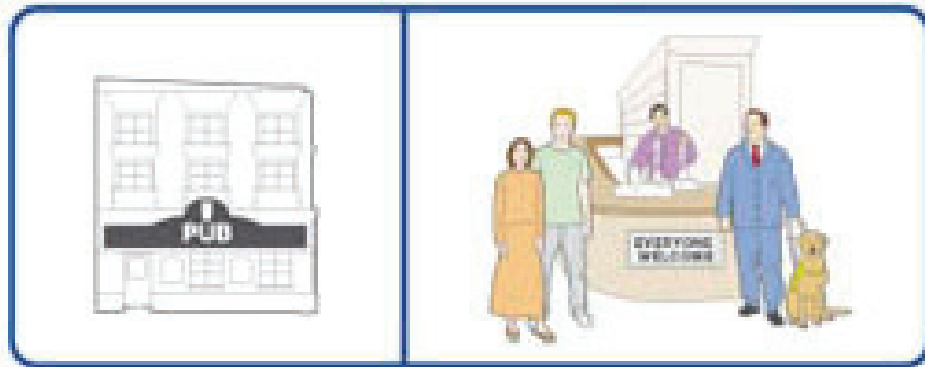
- want to get into or use places like cinemas, cafes, pubs, or banks



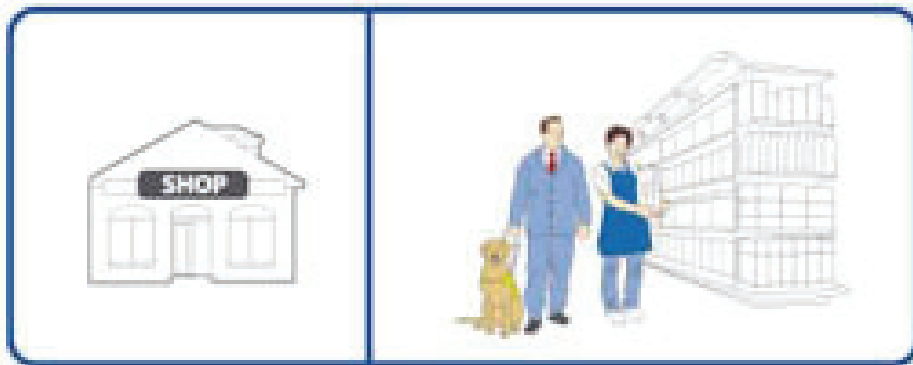
- are trying to find a place to live.

What are my rights?

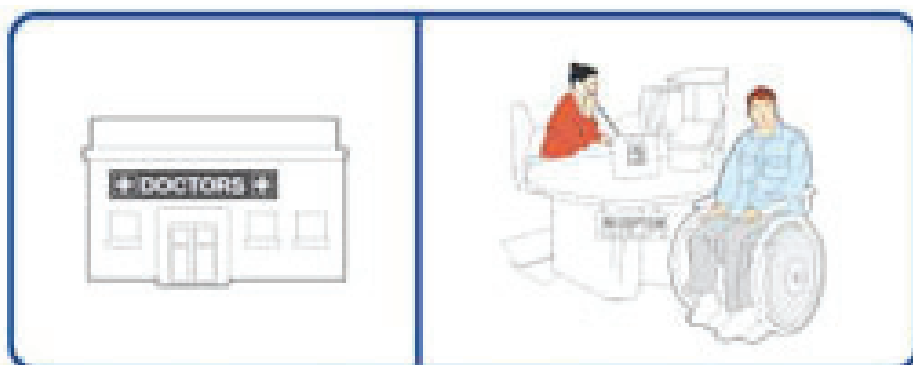
People in charge of places like shops, churches, cafes, cinemas and pubs should:



- treat you the same as other people



- give you extra help so that you can use their service



- change the way they provide their service.

People in charge of buildings should make changes to:



- the signs that they use inside and outside their buildings



- the way into and way out of their buildings



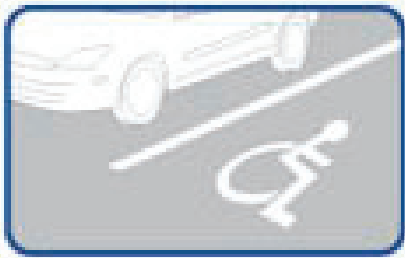
- steps and stairs, lifts and escalators



- telephone and service counters



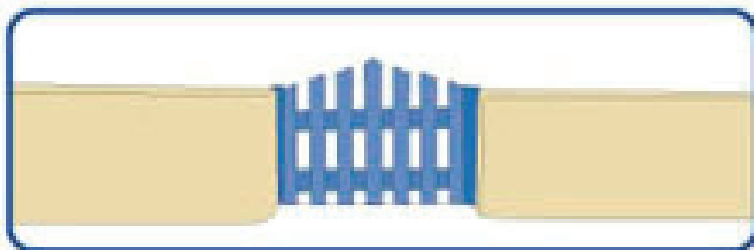
- toilets and places to wash



- places to park



- seats in places like the street, the park or pub garden



- gates and paths.

Are there times when it is ok to treat me differently?

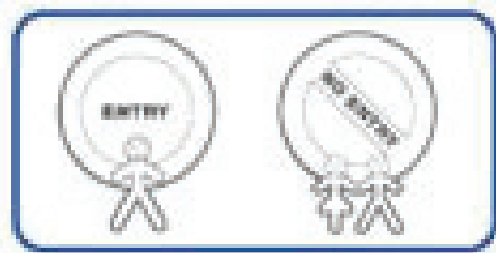
Yes. People in charge of places like shops, churches, cafes, cinemas and pubs can treat you differently if they have a good reason. A good reason is:



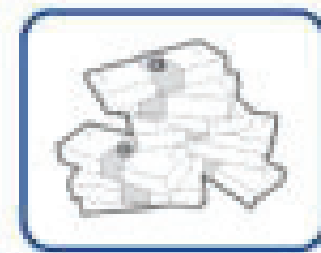
- if there is a risk to health or safety



- if you cannot understand a contract



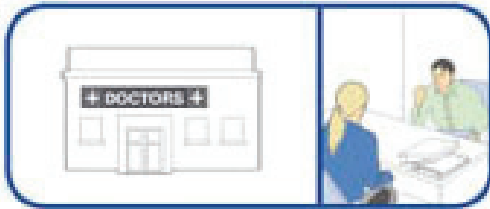
- if serving you means that they cannot serve other people



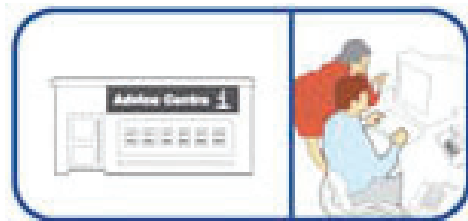
- if it costs more to give you extra help.

What can I do if I find it very hard to get into or use a service?

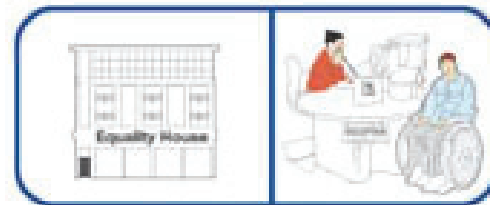
You can:



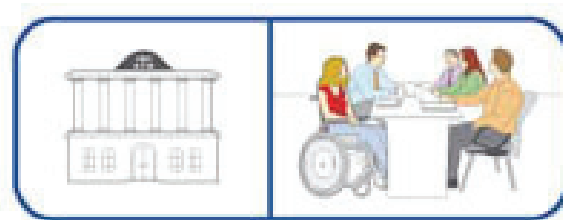
- talk to the **person in charge**



- ask someone for help, like a **local advice centre**



- ask the **Equality Commission** for help

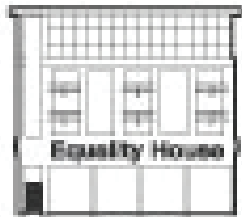


- ask a **Court** to decide if the law has been broken.



More information

To find out more contact the
Equality Commission's
Promotion and Education team



The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland

Equality House
7-9 Shaftesbury Square
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