

Segregation Position Statement

Written by Disabled Peoples Organisations and
Disability Representative Organisations



Easy Read

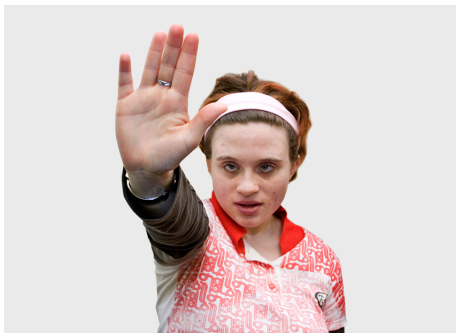
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Contents

How we will use this statement	1
Background	2
Why we need change	5
What needs to change	7



How we will use this statement



We will use this statement to tell the government that **segregation** must be **stopped**.



Segregation is when someone keeps people separate from the community.

This can happen when someone thinks some people are not equal to others.



We will talk about why segregation is **wrong**.



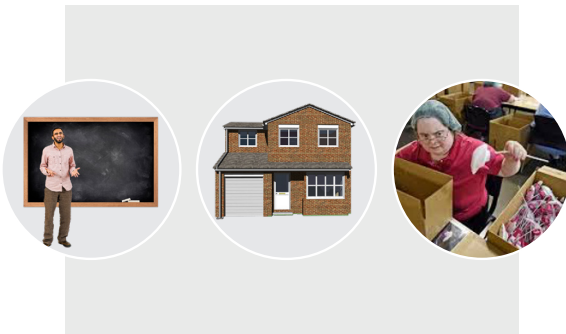
We will tell the government what **they need to do** to stop segregation.

Background



The Australian government has made special laws and programs for people with disability.

Some of these laws and programs can keep people with disability separate from other people.



These laws and programs are a type of **segregation**.

Examples of segregation are

- Special schools
- Group homes and institutions
- Workplaces that are only for people with disability



Segregation is **not** fair.

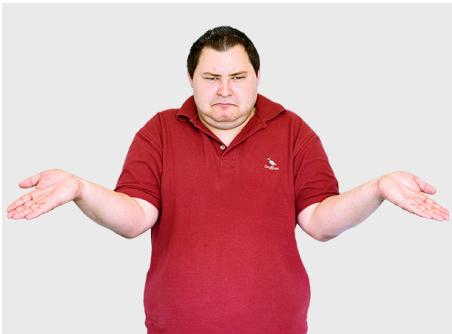
People with disability are **not** treated like everyone else.

This is called **discrimination**.



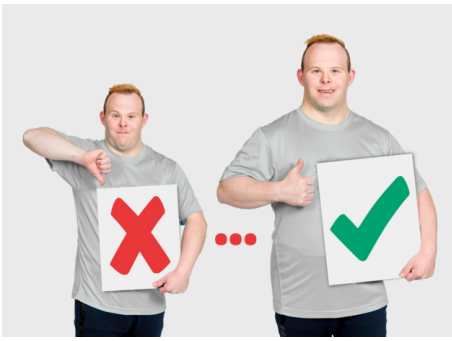
Discrimination happens when people with disability do not get the same choices as other people about

- what school they go to
- where they live
- where they work



This can happen because

- there is not enough money to give people with disability choices
- there are not enough services to give them choices
- the only choices they have are special programs for people with disability



Some good things have happened to improve life for people with disability.



For example Australia has

- closed lots of big residential institutions
- started the NDIS



- created the National Disability Strategy
- set up the Disability Royal Commission **DRC** for short



- signed the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disability **CRPD** for short.

Why we need change



The CRPD says people with disability have the same human rights as everyone else.

They have the right to choose

- what school they go to
- where they live
- where they work



People with disability should **not** have to choose programs that separate them from other people.



People with disability have the right to be **included** in the community.



People with disability have the right to **make decisions** about their life.

Sometimes other people make decisions for them.



People with disability should be supported to make their own decisions.



The **CRPD** says that segregation and discrimination must **stop**.

What needs to change



Australian Government



The Australian government needs to know people with disability have the **same rights** as everyone else.



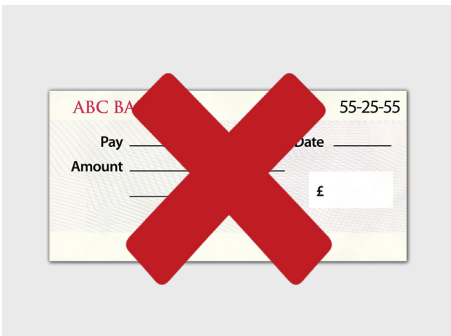
The government needs to

- listen to people with disability
- look at old laws and policies
- make new laws and policies to stop segregation
- make sure people who make policy decisions know about human rights of people with disability
- stop giving money to programs that separate people with disability from the community



The Disability Royal Commission (**DRC**) **must say** segregation is wrong.

Segregation means people with disability could be treated badly.



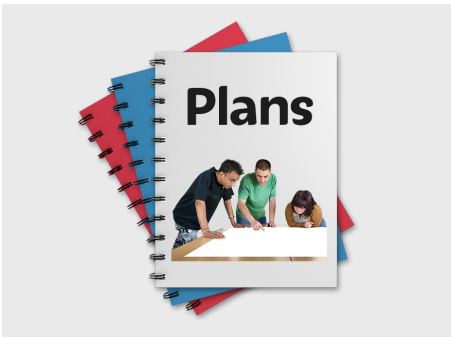
The DRC must say money for programs that separate people with disability has to stop.



We need the DRC to listen to people with disability.



We need new ways to make things better for people with disability.



The Australian government needs to make plans so people with disability

- are supported to make their own decisions.
- get support to have equal job opportunities
- have homes that are inclusive and accessible
- get support to go to any school



All new laws and policies must give people with disability the same rights as everyone else.



Segregation must stop.



Everyone has the right to make their own decisions.

Organisations signing this document

