

The LAG group's request is consistent with lesbian women's rights to meet together. The LAG exemption will allow fairness and respect for women who are protected by the Sex Discrimination Act 1984.

The lesbians of the LAG group are focused on supporting their lesbian community, not opposing other groups within the LGBTI conglomerate. LAG lesbians and others who support their social and political views should be accorded the human right to association, freedom of expression and freedom from violence - the same as other groups.

The Commission's refusal to allow the requested temporary exemption is wrong as it discriminates against lesbian women born and raised female. The Commission's refusal to grant lesbians to organise with other natal lesbians is a breach of their human rights.

The LAG group represents lesbians who are a minority within a minority, and as such should be protected by the law and the Commission from exclusion and discrimination. Please do not ignore this group of lesbian women – they deserve to organise their own events without being deemed unlawful.

The Pride Centre and other LGBTI groups are free to organise for their constituencies, so it would be fair and reasonable for LAG lesbians to do likewise.

Refusal of this LAG exemption would send a message to Australians that some lesbians are not worthy of protection from exclusion, harm, discrimination and abuse. The Sex Discrimination Act 1984 is supposed to protect women from discrimination, so please grant this exemption.