

Dear members of the Australian Human Rights Commission,

I write to express my disagreement with the AHRC's preliminary decision to reject the Lesbian Action Group's exemption application for a single-sex event to celebrate International Lesbian Day.

The Lesbian Action Group's proposal to host a single-sex event on International Lesbian Day was an earnest effort to create a safe and affirming space for lesbians to celebrate their identity and connect with other lesbians who share similar experiences. It is essential to recognise that such events play a crucial role in fostering a sense of community and solidarity.

While I acknowledge that the AHRC's mission includes upholding the principles of non-discrimination and equality, it is equally important to consider the specific needs and vulnerabilities of various communities. Single-sex events, especially on an occasion as significant as International Lesbian Day, are important.

I respectfully urge the AHRC to reconsider its decision and to engage in a more comprehensive dialogue with the Lesbian Action Group. By doing so, the AHRC can take a proactive approach to find a balanced solution that respects the rights and needs of lesbians while upholding the principles of equality and non-discrimination.

I appreciate your attention in this matter and your commitment to protecting human rights and promoting equality. I hope that, upon further reflection, the AHRC will work collaboratively with the Lesbian Action Group to find a resolution that respects the rights of lesbian women.