CHAPTER 3: Human rights law

The body set up in place of the race, gender, and disability rights commissions is the Equality and Human Rights Commission, which is charged with advising on and enforcing good practice in all aspects of human rights and discrimination, including types of discrimination not covered by the previous bodies. See www.equalityhumanrights.com.

Human rights
Liberty is the leading organization monitoring the effectiveness of the HRA and bringing test cases. It has a range of useful information at www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk.

The Department of Health has ceased to maintain a website on ‘Managing Your Organisation: Human Rights’, which included useful case studies with reference to actual court decisions on the impact of the HRA on areas of work which will be relevant to social workers and health professionals. You may still find it on the government’s online archive.


Useful guidance to the HRA includes the following:


The Equality Act 2010


More general articles on legal action around rights relevant to social work practice include