



WHY TASMANIA NEEDS A HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

- Friday, July 28, 2017
- 5:30pm 7:00pm
- Scotch Oakburn College, Horton Auditorium 85 Penquite Road, Launceston

Website: <http://www.tashumanrightsact.org/>

Event Type: Panel Discussion and Public Forum

Event Description: We hear a lot about freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom from discrimination. But, really, how well are the rights and freedoms of Tasmanians protected? And what about the right to an education, adequate housing and a clean environment? What happens if one person's rights conflict with those of another's? Why do some states have a Human Rights Act and others (like Tasmania) do not?

Come and hear from a distinguished panel about why we need a Human Rights Act and how it can contribute to building the fair and prosperous future we want for all Tasmanians.

Panellists:

Robin Banks was Tasmania's Anti-Discrimination Commissioner from 2010 to 2017. She has extensive experience working for the human rights of people with disability, young people, Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders, and people experiencing homelessness.

Kristen Desmond is the mother of three children with disability. She is the former Chair of the national peak body Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA). She founded the Tasmanian Disability Education Reform Lobby and is a former Senior Vice President of Autism Tasmania. She is currently a member of the Tasmanian Education Inclusion Advisory Group – Disability Focus and was a former member of both the Tasmanian Ministerial Taskforce for Improved Support for Children with Disability and the Tasmanian Government's Autism Advisory Panel. Kristen was named Launceston City Council's 2016 Citizen of the Year and was a Tasmanian State Finalist in the 2014 Australian of the Year Awards.

Rodney Croome AM is a long-time LGBTI human rights advocate in Tasmania, nationally and internationally. He is the former national director of Australian Marriage Equality. Rodney fronted the successful campaign in the 1990s to decriminalise homosexuality in Tasmania. He is the author of 'From This Day Forward: Marriage Equality in Australia' (Walleah Press). Rodney was named 2015 Tasmanian of the Year.

Rajan Venkataraman is a Member of the Board of Civil Liberties Australia. For twenty years, he worked with the Australian public service as a policy adviser on international relations and national security. He also served as an Australian diplomat and trade negotiator. Rajan volunteers as a tutor with 26TEN, Tasmania's adult literacy and numeracy program.

Contact: Rajan Venkataraman rajan@cla.asn.au

wheelchair access: Yes

