

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



December 26, 1974

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 74-258

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: CIVIL RIGHTS PAMPHLET

REFERENCE:

Section 80.6(d) of Health, Education, and Welfare Regulations requires the Department of Benefit Payments to ascertain that information about civil rights regulations and their applicability to programs under the Department's jurisdiction is furnished to prospective program participants, beneficiaries and other interested parties.

As part of the California Welfare Civil Rights Program, the Department of Benefit Payments has updated "Your Civil Rights Under California Welfare Programs." This pamphlet was designed to apprise all persons of the protection against discrimination afforded by law and state regulations. We are enclosing a supply of this pamphlet for your distribution to all your welfare offices at no cost to you. This pamphlet will soon be available to you in Spanish for distribution to those offices where the need for this publication in Spanish exists.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Dennis O. Flatt'.

DENNIS O. FLATT
Deputy Director

Enclosure

cc: CWDA

OBSOLETE

Superseded by ACL # 77-15

Issued 3-17-77

What is Discrimination?

If a person seeking or receiving welfare payments or services is denied help or treated differently because of his or her race, religion, color, national origin, or political belief, that is discrimination.

Discrimination is Against the Law

Discrimination because of race or religion has been against the law for many years in California welfare programs. Additional protection against discrimination was provided in 1964 by the Federal Civil Rights Act. Today a person applying for or receiving public assistance or services cannot be discriminated against because of race, religion, color, national origin, or political belief.

Who Cannot Discriminate?

The Civil Rights act makes it against the law for many different public and private people and organizations to discriminate. Among those who cannot discriminate are the State Department of Benefit Payments, all county welfare departments, boarding homes and institutions, day nurseries for children, nursing homes and hospitals, work or training programs, doctors, dentists, and druggists.

If You Think You Have Been Discriminated Against

First, talk to your eligibility worker or social worker. He or she will help you if you think you have been discriminated against or if you have any questions about discrimination.

Second, if you think you are still being discriminated against, you or your representative may file a complaint with your county welfare department. The department will investigate your problem.

Third, if you are not satisfied with the investigation, you may write and explain your complaint to the Department of Benefit Payments.

Address your letter to:

**Department of Benefit Payments
744 P Street
Sacramento 95814**

Fourth, if you still believe you have a problem with discrimination, you may write the federal government.

Send your letter to:

**U. S. Department of Health, Education,
and Welfare
50 Fulton Street
San Francisco 94102**