

# EQUALITY ACT 2010

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 16: General and Miscellaneous**

#### *Schedule 3: Services and public functions: exceptions*

#### **Part 7: Separate and single services**

#### **Separate services for the sexes: paragraph 26**

#### **Single-sex services: paragraph 27**

#### Examples

738. These exceptions would allow:

- a cervical cancer screening service to be provided to women only, as only women need the service;
- a fathers' support group to be set up by a private nursery as there is insufficient attendance by men at the parents' group;
- a domestic violence support unit to be set up by a local authority for women only but there is no men-only unit because of insufficient demand;
- separate male and female wards to be provided in a hospital;
- separate male and female changing rooms to be provided in a department store;
- a massage service to be provided to women only by a female massage therapist with her own business operating in her clients' homes because she would feel uncomfortable massaging men in that environment.