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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1997 No. 869**

**The Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997**

**PART VII**

**THE COMMISSION FOR RACIAL EQUALITY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**

*Investigations*

**Restriction on disclosure of information**

**50.**—(1) No information given to the Commission by any person (“the informant”) in connection with a formal investigation shall be disclosed by the Commission, or by any person who is or has been a Commissioner, additional Commissioner or employee of the Commission, except—

- (a) on the order of any court; or
- (b) with the informant’s consent; or
- (c) in the form of a summary or other general statement published by the Commission which does not identify the informant or any other person to whom the information relates; or
- (d) in a report of the investigation published by the Commission or made available for inspection under Article 49(5); or
- (e) to the Commissioners, additional Commissioners or employees of the Commission, or, so far as may be necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, to other persons; or
- (f) for the purpose of any civil proceedings under this Order to which the Commission is a party, or any criminal proceedings.

(2) Any person who discloses information in contravention of paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

(3) In preparing any report for publication or for inspection the Commission shall exclude, so far as is consistent with its duties and the object of the report, any matter which relates to the private affairs of any individual or the business interests of any person where the publication of that matter might, in the opinion of the Commission, prejudicially affect that individual or person.