

These notes refer to the Equality Act 2010 (c.15) which received Royal Assent on 8 April 2010

EQUALITY ACT 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 2: Equality: Key Concepts

Chapter 1: Protected characteristics

Section 12: Sexual orientation

Examples

- A man who experiences sexual attraction towards both men and women is “bisexual” in terms of sexual orientation even if he has only had relationships with women.
- A man and a woman who are both attracted only to people of the opposite sex from them share a sexual orientation.
- A man who is attracted only to other men is a gay man. A woman who is attracted only to other women is a lesbian. So a gay man and a lesbian share a sexual orientation.