

Pregnancy Termination

Access Zones

Under the new *Reproductive Health (Access to Terminations) Act 2013* **access zones** have been established. This fact sheet provides a brief overview about access zones.

An access zone is the area within 150 metres from premises where terminations are provided. Within an access zone a person must not engage in any *prohibited behaviour*.

If a person engages in *prohibited behaviour* in an access zone they risk a fine or imprisonment.

Prohibited behaviour means:

- besetting, harassing, intimidating, interfering with, threatening, hindering, obstructing or impeding a person
- a protest relating to terminations that can be seen or heard by a person attempting to access premises providing terminations
- obstructing a footpath to premises that provides terminations
- intentionally recording, by any means, a person attempting to access premises where terminations are provided without that person's consent
- any other behaviour prescribed in regulations made under the Act (no regulations are currently prescribed).

For example, a person cannot stand in an access zone holding placards or handing out pamphlets denouncing terminations. Silent protests outside clinics are not allowed.

Access zones will ensure women can access reproductive health services free from harassment and intimidation.

For further information about the *Reproductive Health (Access to Terminations) Act 2013* email womens.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au or visit www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/pophealth/termination_of_pregnancy

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