

You're welcome, but leave your kids at home

Parents may be more doting on little emperors than



ANDREA MAVES

Children should be seen and not heard, according to the adage — and it seems there are some who would like to return to those days. Child-free social clubs and internet forums are springing up across the nation, and there are moves afoot in WA to enable accommodation providers to market themselves as adult-only.

Restaurants also seem more reluctant to accept children if the increasing number of complaints to the Equal Opportunity Commission about dining out with children are anything to go by, and there have also been complaints from women who have been asked to leave cafes after trying to breastfeed their children.

Equal Opportunity Commissioner Yvonne Henderson said age-based discrimination complaints — which include discrimination against older people — rose from 31 in 2008-9 to 39 last year, and there were many more who phoned to ask the commissioner's advice on the issue without lodging a formal complaint. Ms Henderson said many people didn't realise it was against the law to discriminate against a person based on their age, and restaurants and resorts could not ban children.

She said there had been several recent complaints to the commission from parents who had been told by restaurant managers that they could not bring children,

or that if they did, they'd have to finish their meal by a set time.

"We actually get quite a lot of complaints in regards to restaurants and we have conciliated them all — I can't think of any that have gone to the tribunal," she said.

Breastfeeding complaints and inquiries have involved discrimination in the workplace and in public places such as cafes.

Ms Henderson said one recent complaint had come from a woman who had been told she could breastfeed her baby at work, in the staff lunch room, and only if the baby was brought in during her normal break times. However, the woman's employer changed his mind and said she could breastfeed only in the toilet.

The matter was resolved through conciliation. "It is really distressing for mothers to be told they've got to go off and try to feed their babies while sitting in a cramped toilet, and in most cases, once people realise how upsetting that is, they become more reasonable," she says.

Amendments to the Equal Opportunities Act specifically outlawing discrimination against breastfeeding mothers passed through Parliament this year but still have not been officially proclaimed.

2010 ARMADALE BY-ELECTION

Notice of Election Saturday 2 October 2010

If you are an elector in the district of Armadale

Vote Today

between 8am and 6pm.

You can vote at any of the following locations:

- **Armadale Primary School**
1 Carradine Road ARMADALE ☒
 - **Armadale-Kelmscott Senior Citizens Centre**
Greendale Centre Coombe Avenue ARMADALE ☒
 - **Cecil Andrews Senior High School**
39 Seville Drive SEVILLE GROVE ☒
 - **Challis Primary School**
40 Braemore Street ARMADALE ☒
 - **Grovelands Primary School**
1 Grovelands Drive CAMILLO
 - **Wanne Park Primary School**
Burswood Drive Wanne Road BROOKDALE ☒
 - **Kelmscott Senior High School**
50 Third Avenue KELMSCOTT ☒
 - **Kingsley Primary School**
Lathwell Street ARMADALE ☒
 - **Neerigen Brook Primary School**
21 Seventh Road ARMADALE
 - **St Mary in the Valley Anglican Church Hall**
6 River Road KELMSCOTT ☒
 - **Westfield Park Primary School**
Chr Cammillo Road & Hemingway Drive CAMILLO
- ☒ Best wheelchair access and parking

Voting is compulsory.

The successful application, please check the Commission's website occasionally work overtr busy times. A full Australian (manual and auto) with a go-essential.

If you believe you have what w contact Steven Mansell on (08, 311 email steven.mansell@burswoodhonda.c

Voting is compulsory today.

ARMADALE BY-ELECTION



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