

# Avoid giving Legal Advice by mistake!

What's the difference between legal information and legal advice?

It's sometimes hard to tell!  
This info sheet aims to help you understand the difference.



## LEGAL INFORMATION

IT'S OKAY TO PROVIDE

- ✓ **General information** about the law and the operation of the legal system.
- ✓ Information based on a **simple reading of the law.**
- ✓ Information about **options and possible outcomes** in a given situation, that is, what the person could do and what might happen as a result.
- ✓ Information that helps someone to **identify that their situation involves a legal issue** and that they may wish to seek legal advice or a legal opinion.

## LEGAL ADVICE (OR LEGAL OPINION)

YOU SHOULD NOT

- ✗ State how the law applies to a person's **particular situation.**
- ✗ Provide an **interpretation of the law**, that is, something that requires more than a simple reading of the law
- ✗ **Recommend a particular course of action**, that is, provide **an opinion** on what a person should do and/or their chances of success if they choose a certain option.
- ✗ Give the impression that you are providing **expert legal advice** to help someone decide what course of action to take.

