# When Does Inappropriate Language/ Behavior Cross the Line and What Do To About It?

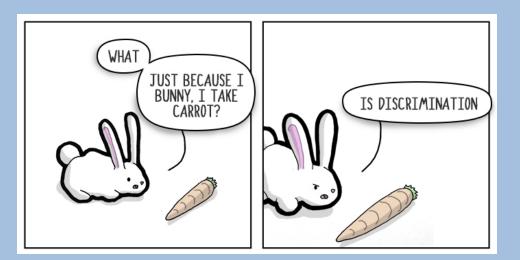
Caroline Tom

January 20, 2022



# Inappropriate vs. Illegal

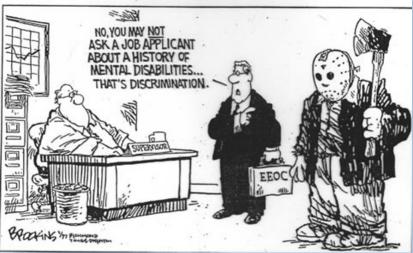
- Unwelcome conduct based on:
  - Age
  - Disability
  - Family and Medical Leave
  - Gender
  - Sexual orientation
  - Genetic information
  - National origin
  - Pregnancy status
  - Race
  - Religion



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## **Federal Protections**

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

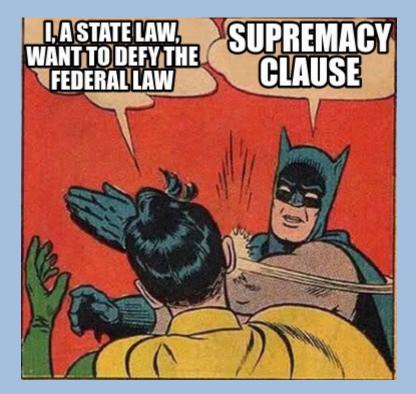




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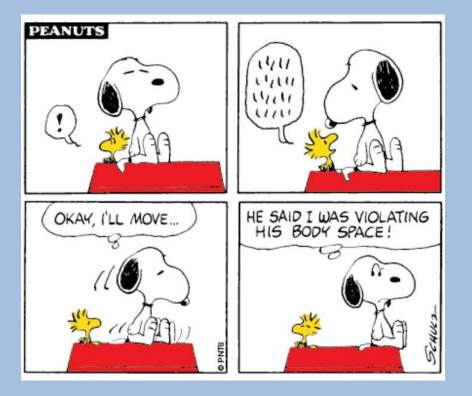
## **State Protections**

Texas Commission on Human Rights Act (Chapter 21, Labor Code) To better execute federal anti-discrimination policies.





## When does it cross the line?



- Enduring the offensive conduct becomes a condition of continued employment,
- The conduct is severe or pervasive enough to create a work
  environment that a
  reasonable person would
  consider intimidating,
  hostile, or abusive.



## What to do?

- Protect your health and safety first.
- Speak to the harasser.
- Utilize internal employee resources.
- Document everything.
- Get legal help.



"Our tolerance is not zero, it's watch out below."



#### Questions?



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