ProBono.org.za has a comprehensive **Equality Court Handbook** that covers the 7 steps above and the next steps required to help bring a successful claim.

## **EQUALITY COURTS IN GAUTENG**

Equality Courts are based in High Courts and Magistrates' Courts.

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In the year 2000 the Equality Act<sup>1</sup> was passed. The Equality Act, in part, aims to create a place where people who have experienced unfair discrimination, hate speech and harassment can find justice and an effective remedy. To do this the act created special Equality Courts with trained judges and Equality Court clerks.

In one Equality Court judgement an Equality Court judge said Equality Courts must:



Be user-friendly,



Be informal,



**Encourage participation,** 



Be efficient,



Be "available to all, including the poor and oppressed" and,



Not be expensive or intimidating.<sup>2</sup>

For these reasons, if you or someone you know has experienced unfair discrimination, harassment or hate speech a local Equality Court can help secure justice.