

Equal Opportunities case studies

Questions for discussion

For each case below consider:

- a) What are the advantages and disadvantages of calling each of these ministers?
- b) What can the church do to enable their ministry?

Case studies

1. A skilled, experienced and able white man of 35 with three small children and a wife who is committed and active in the church.
2. A bright, lively and energetic single white woman of 28.
3. A wise and caring white man of 61 who had a heart attack followed by a bypass operation four years ago.
4. A black Caribbean man of 35 with one successful ministry behind him; with a wife and two children aged 6 and 8.
5. A white woman with walking difficulties - cannot do stairs, needs accessible toilet facilities, but drives and is very able.
6. A white man with visual difficulties - cannot drive, needs large print to read. He has a warm and caring personality.
7. A married man of Indian origin aged 58, with nine years of good ministry behind him.
8. A lesbian woman who has been together with her partner for 20 years and is now in a civil partnership. Has been in ministry for 30 years and is much loved by her present congregation.
9. A gay man who has been together with his partner for 20 years and is now in a civil partnership. Has been in ministry for 30 years and is much loved by his present congregation.
10. A recently divorced man of 48 who has been out of ministry for the last two years and is looking to be in a different area of the country.