



# Legal clinic round table

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# What is a legal clinic?

A **legal clinic** (also **law clinic** or **law school clinic**) is a legal aid or law school program providing services to various clients and often **hands-on-legal experience to law school students**. Clinics are usually directed by clinical professors. Legal clinics typically do *pro bono* work in a particular area, **providing free legal services to clients**.

Legal clinics originated as a method **of practical teaching of law school students**, but today they **encompass also free legal aid with no academic links**. There are practice-based law clinics with no academic link which provide hands-on skills to lawyers, judges and non-lawyers on practical ethical dimensions of the law at the same time offer free public defence legal services.

# Legal clinics in Sweden

In Sweden, the obstacles for legal clinics are few

- In Sweden, anybody is allowed to call themselves a lawyer
- In Sweden, anybody is allowed to represent a client in court
- In Sweden, anybody is allowed to practice law
- Only to be a public defender or bankruptcy estate trustee, you need to be a member of the Swedish bar association

# Legal clinic at Örebro University

The law students' association  
provide legal services to the  
general public in Örebro

Medborgarjuristerna – the  
citizens' lawyers

[https://medborgarjuristerna.se/  
hem](https://medborgarjuristerna.se/hem)



# Legal clinic at Örebro university

- Since 2011, the legal association, in collaboration with Örebro municipality, has been running non-profit legal advice for residents of Örebro.
- Örebro municipality refers people who needs help in the wide field of administrative law to the Citizens' lawyers
- The business has attracted the attention of Örebro municipal management and is much appreciated.
- The advice is given by law students who have studied at least two years in the law program at Örebro University.
- Pro bono legal advice on Wednesdays

# Legal clinic at Örebro university

## Våra rådgivare

ANNIE



Annie är duktig när det kommer till avtal och frågor om fastighet och hyra! Annie har läst 5 terminer på Juristprogrammet och har jobbat hos oss i 1 år.

ADAM



Adam är duktig med frågor gällande skatt och frågor om skuld och fodring! Adam har läst 4 terminer på Juristprogrammet och har jobbat hos oss i 3 månader.

# Legal clinic at Örebro University

The legal clinic is not connected to a course but is an independent initiative from the law students



# How can we train our students if we cannot have a "sharp" law practice?

Three experiences from Örebro University

- Moot court
- Gender awareness experiment
- Annual general shareholder meeting



# Moot court

- Our own court room at Örebro University
- The students are trained in rhetoric the first three years
- Film it for feedback
- The students get a case and turns it into a trial
- Different roles – there must be a possibility to change roles
- Important to change the cases each year
- Important that it is focused also on substantive law, not only at the roles



# Moot court

## Advantages

- Moot court course
- Fits also for online
- Participants from different countries
- Easy to arrange
- The students are normally very well prepared and perform excellently
- Good preparation for court practice

# Gender awareness experiment

- Case study on courses in family law and labour law
- The students get a case to assess and play different roles
- Family law: a custody case
- Labour law: a prison guard who had a personal relation with one of the prisoners
- Half of the group hears the story told by a woman and half of them by a man
- There are clear differences on how the students assess the cases depending on if there is a man or a woman who tell the story
- This case study makes the students aware about their own gender biases and stereotypes, which is very valuable for them in practice

# Annual general shareholder meeting

- For many years we dedicated large resources to a plays annual general shareholder meeting
- Rigmor Argren has done research on the films
- It was the same play each year
- In the end, it was almost exclusively a theater

If it is the same case each year, and the focus is on producing a film, the preparation for law practice may not be so efficient



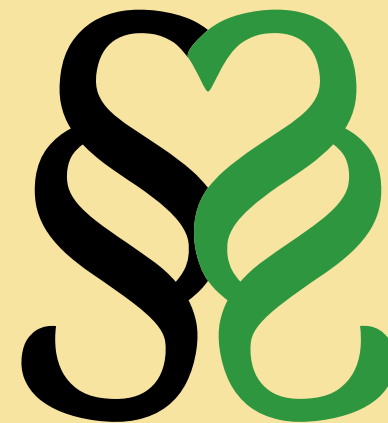
# Thank you for your attention

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# Legal clinic panel



örebro  
Rättighetscenter

**Caroline Daly**  
*Operation manager*

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019-184017

# Örebro Rättighetscenter

- against discrimination and for human rights



Örebro County



CSO



One of 18

# Funding

- Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil society (MUCF)
- Örebro Municipality
- Örebro Region County
- Projects



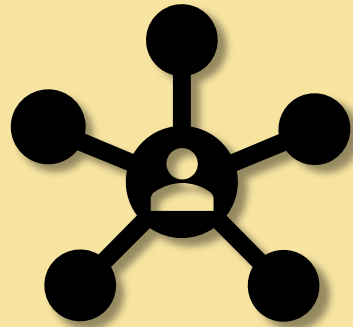


# Who are we?

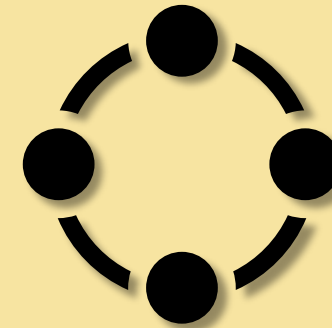
- Board
- 5 employees
- Interns
- Volunteers
- Members



# Discrimination Act, 2008:567

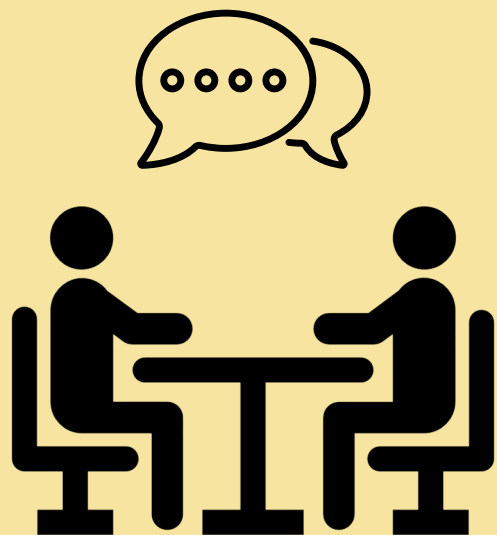


Prohibition of  
discrimination  
and reprisals

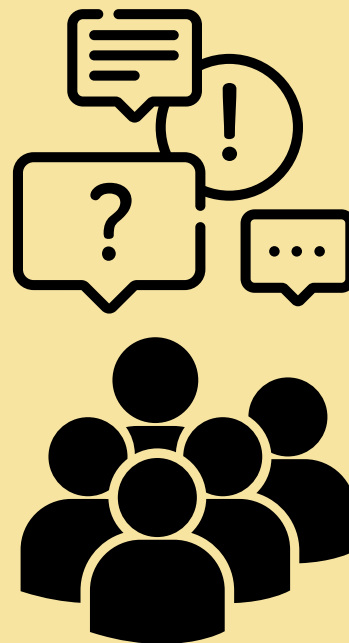


Regulations on  
prevention –  
active measures

# What do we do?



Legal counseling



Knowledge and  
awareness raising



Advocacy

# What do we do

Compliance with  
the Discrimination  
Act

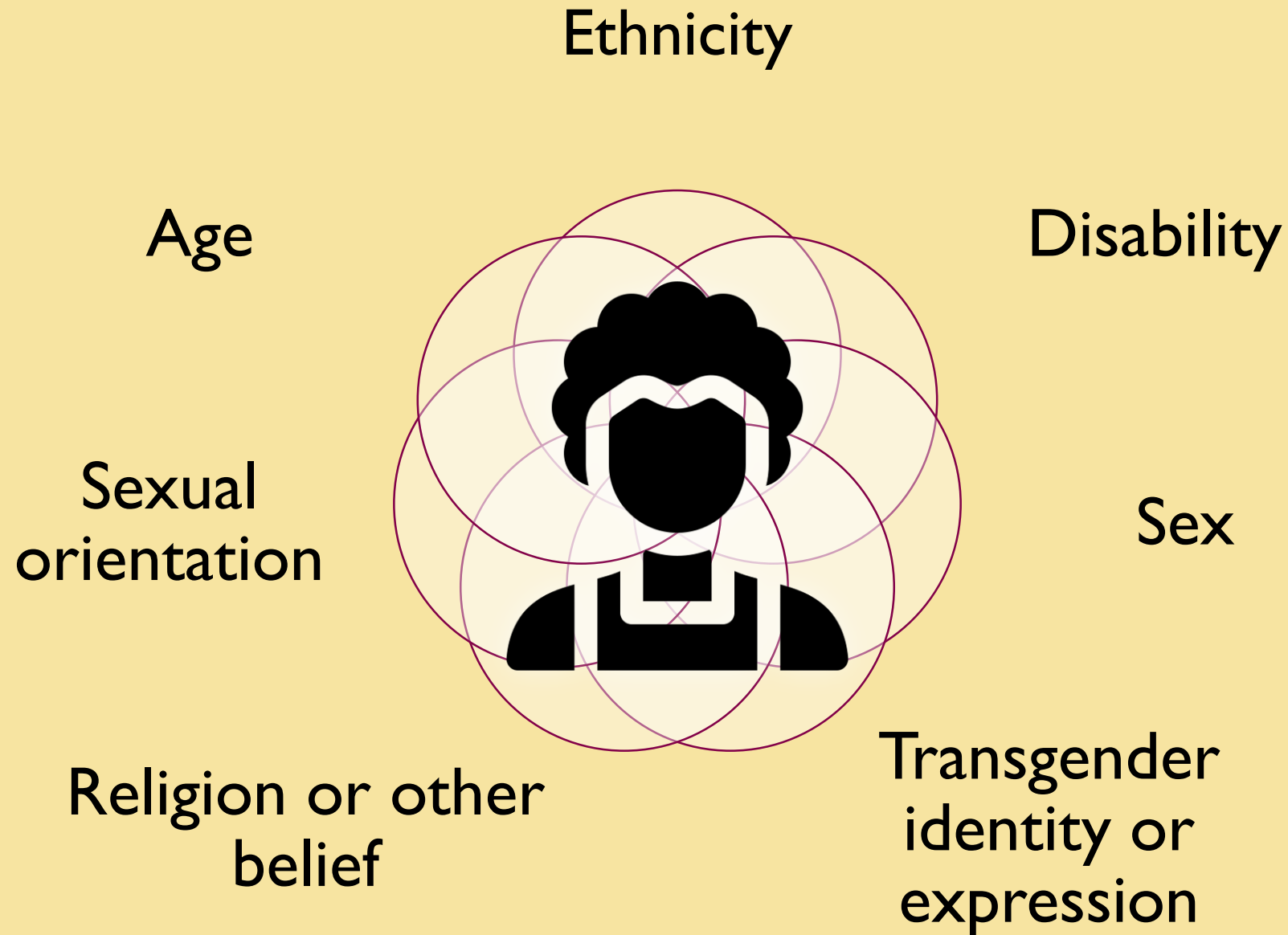
Active measures to  
prevent  
discrimination

**Obstacles for equal rights and possibilities**

**Risks of discrimination**

**Discrimination**

(Malmö mot diskriminering, 2020)



# Knowledge and awareness raising

Nivå	Synliggöra	Förstå	Förändra	Process	Exempel
1	Kunskap	Inspiration			Informationspass
2	Kunskap	Reflektion	Inspiration		Föreläsning om diskriminering
3	Djupare kunskap	Reflektion	Reflektion	Inspiration	Workshop om normer
4	Djupare kunskap	Djupare reflektion	Uppstart, med stöd	Reflektion	Workshop om förebyggande arbete
5	Djupare kunskap	Pågående analys	Med stöd	Med stöd	Stöd i långsiktigt jämlikhetsarbete

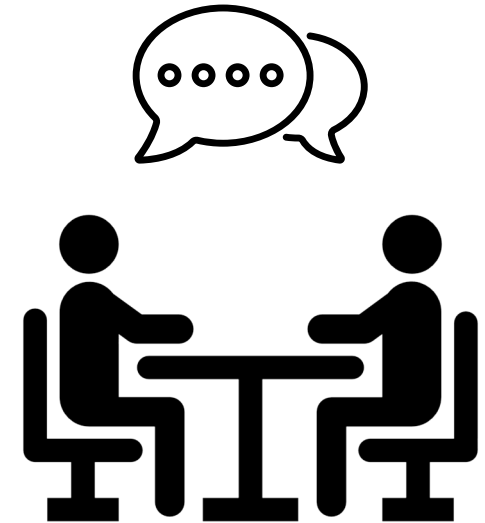
# Challenges

Resources  
and short  
term funding

Understanding  
the law

CSO position  
and toothless  
law

Rule of law





Jana Kirst, Head of Legal Clinics

