**Article 14 and 15 - Liberty and freedom from inhuman treatment**

We will cover article 14 on the liberty and security of the person and article 15 freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

**Article 14 – Liberty and security of the person states that:**

*1. States Parties shall ensure that persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others:*

1. *Enjoy the right to liberty and security of person;*
2. *Are not deprived of their liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily, and that any deprivation of liberty is in conformity with the law, and that the existence of a disability shall in no case justify a deprivation of liberty.*

*2. States Parties shall ensure that if persons with disabilities are deprived of their liberty through any process, they are, on an equal basis with others, entitled to guarantees in accordance with international human rights law and shall be treated in compliance with the objectives and principles of this Convention, including by provision of reasonable accommodation.*

This article is about our right to be free and not be denied the right to live, move and be where we choose to be. No one can stop us from having the right to freedom.

**Article 15 – Freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment states that:**

1. *No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. In particular, no one shall be subjected without his or her free consent to medical or scientific experimentation.  
     
   2. States Parties shall take all effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, from being subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.*

No one has the right to torture us or be cruel or inhumane. They cannot degrade us or punish us because we are disabled.

In summary, these rights are about our right to freedom of movement and freedom from being punished, abused or tortured.

If you are in these situations talk to someone you trust, get help from the Human Rights Commission or alternatively contact DPA NZ Ltd for help.