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Delay in activating Human Rights Act 1998

Contrary to what the Director of *Justice* says (letters, 13 May 1999), the Government is acting responsibly in delaying implementation of the main provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998. The administration of justice according to the rule of law requires certainty in the law. The 1998 Act placed a fearsome engine of uncertainty at the heart of our existing body of statute and common law. Courts, magistrates and officials, as well as the legal departments of companies and others, need extensive training in the repercussions of the Act. Even then they are likely for years to come to be confused and baffled in many areas of their work.¹

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¹ *The Times*, 21 May 1999.