

# Particular Social Groups Generally

***Matter of Acosta* held that a particular social group is comprised of persons who hold a common, immutable characteristic. 19 I&N Dec. at 211. A particular social group must also be defined with particularity and be socially distinct. *Matter of S-E-G-*, 24 I&N Dec. 579 (BIA 2008); see also *Matter of W-G-R-*, 26 I&N Dec. 208 (BIA 2014). Immutability has been defined as a characteristic that one cannot change or is so fundamental that individual should not be required to change it. *Matter of Acosta*, 19 I&N Dec. at 211. Particularity means that the group cannot be indeterminate, too subjective, inchoate, or variable. *Matter of A-M-E- & J-G-U-*, 24 I&N Dec. 69, 76 (BIA 2007). Lastly, social distinction requires that the group be perceived as a group by the society in which it exists. *Matter of W-G-R-*, 26 I&N Dec. at 216.**

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