Cheatography

Contract Law Cheat Sheet by livjharrison via cheatography.com/192137/cs/39942/

ACTIONABLE MISREPRESENTATION

Unambi-	C to prove	No duty to
guous,	objective	check misrep-
false,	inducement	resentor's
statement	AND D to	statement. If
of fact,	prove C	unreasonable
addressed	was not	not to check/-
to C,	induced,	negligent
induced C	OR C to	check done -
(need not	prove	possible
be the only	subjective	contributory
reason but	induce-	negligence.
material)	ment.	

Mere Puff - Not Misrepresentation

E.g. 'desirable residence', 'fertile and improvable', 'a fantastic investment opportunity'

Silence -	Not Misrepresentation
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No duty to disclose facts	Impossible to
which, if known, might	know precisely
affect other party's	what should be
decision to contract.	disclosed.

Statement of Future Intent. - Not Misrep

Cannot	Repres-	E.g. wife says she
be true	entor	will not remarry
or false	makes a	and this is her
at the	promise	intention. Later,
moment	and then it	changes her mind
it is	is preven-	and remarries.
made.	ted/circu-	She did not
	mstances	misrepresent her
	alter so	current intention.
	they	
	change	
	their mind.	

Statment of Opinion - Not Misrepresentation

-	
Same	E.g. D said his 'idea was that
facts held	the land would carry 2000
by D & C.	sheep' (when land has never
Honestly	been used for sheep before).
held by D.	

Statement of Fact - Misrepresentation

E.g. statements of law, statement asserting a given state of affairs.

Contracts uberrimae fidae - Misrepresentation

Some contracts necess-	E.g. insurer
itate one party in partic-	must disclose
ularly strong position to	material facts in
know material facts and	a contract of
disclose those.	insurance.
	E.g. fiduciary
	relationships
	like, company &
	directors;
	trustee & benefi-
	ciaries.

Half-Truths - Misrepresentation

Statement that	E.g. selling property as
is technically	'fully let' knowing all
true but	tenants have given notice
misleading.	to quit.

Statement of Opinion > Fact - Misrepresent-
ationRepresentorE.g. 'This will makehas superior200,000 gallons of petrolknowle-per year' - said whendge/exper-representor had enoughience thanexperience to know it can't

Statement of FI > Fact - Misrepresentation

be true.

Where X states they intend to do something but know they cannot do it/do not intend to do it.

representee.

- Misrepresentation E.g. 'I will buy it next month for £1000', knowing they cannot afford it or having no intent to buy it.

Continuing Misrepresentation - Misrep

If statement is	Existing	E.g.
made initially	fact	selling a
which is true but	which	shop
becomes false	was true	stating
before contra-	but later	income of
cting, representor	becomes	£1000p/m.
must correct	false.	If income
misrepresent-		falls to
ation.		£100p/m,
		must
		disclose.

CATEGORIES OF MISREPRESENTATION

Remedies available depend upon the category of the misrepresentation in question.

Categories - Fraudulent

Proof of fraud: false represent-	Deliberat-
ation made knowingly or	e/dish-
without belief in its proof or	onest
made recklessly careless	failure to
whether it be true or false.	disclose
Motive = immaterial	Burden of
	proof on C
	(extremely
	difficult)

Categories - Negligent

Where	Burden of	E.g. X told Y
representor	proof on D	£100 cost
cannot prove	to prove	taken from
that they had	they had	Doc 1. True
reasonable	reasonable	cost was
grounds to	grounds in	found in Doc
believe (and	believing	2. X failed to
continued to	their	show object-
believe) the	statement.	ively
statement		reasonable
was true up		grounds for
to time of		disregarding
contract.		figure in Doc
		2 and relying
		instead on
		Doc 1.

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Categories - Innocent

Representor had	
reasonable grounds for	
belief in the truth of their	
statement and believed	
it up to time of contra-	
cting.	

Burden on neither; innocent is simply a statement not made fraudulently/negligently.

Rescission

Representee must communicate intention/initiate proceedings for rescission

Only awarded where parties can be restored to original position pre-contract.

Bars to Rescission

Affirm- ation	Contract was affirmed through words/conduct
Lapse of time	Action for rescission must be brought promptly
Third party rights accrue	If at any time prior to rescission, person acquiring goods under contract passes good title of those goods to an innocent third party, cannot rescind.
Impos sibility	If it is no longer possible to restore parties to previous position. E.g. change in nature/status of shares after being induced to take shares.

REMEDIES FOR MISREPRESENTATION		
Voidable but not	Rescission, damages,	
void.	indemnity	

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Indemnity

Covers	Where	E.g. If representee
expenses	action for	induced into
for	misrep-	buying leasehold
obliga-	resent-	property, obliga-
tions	ation	tions arising from
assumed	gives	this (council tax,
as direct	damages,	service charge
result of	indemnity	etc.) would be
contract	NOT	covered by
	awarded	indemnity

Damages for Fraudulent Misrep

Places innocent party	C must mitigate
in position they would	losses as soon as
have been but for the	fraud discovered
misrepresentation	
Contrib. not available	Damages reduced
as defence	by value of any
	benefit C acquired
	as a result of

Damages for Negligent Misrepresentation

contract

Places innocent party in	Damages can
position they would have	also be given
been but for the misrep-	in lieu of
resentation	rescission

Contrib available where loss was partly fault of representee

Damages for Innocent Misrepresentation			
Only entitled	No	Court has	
to rescission	automatic	discretion to	
and indemnity	right to	award	
(if applicable)	damages	damages in	
		lieu of	
		rescission	

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EXEMPTING MISREPRESENTATION

Cannot exclude/restrict liability unless it satisfies requirement of reasonableness.

ALTERNATIVE CLAIMS TO MISREPRES- ENTATION		
Claim for	Where misrepresented	
breach:	statement is incorporated	
	into contract	
Claim in	Where duty of care exists	
negligent	in tort	
missta-		
tement:		