

Causation

Law

Linking the breach to the harm, factually and legally.

The claimant must show the harm would not have occurred but for the breach, and that it is not too remote.

But for the breach, would the harm have happened?

Harm would have occurred anyway

Causation fails

Unforeseeable type of harm

Too remote

Free deliberate act by another

May break the chain

THE COMMON MISTAKE

× **Assuming a proven breach establishes liability**

✓ **Causation is separate and often decisive**

A defendant may have plainly breached a duty while the harm would have happened regardless. The claim then fails.

Educational reference. Special rules apply where multiple causes operate, particularly in industrial disease cases.