

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS AS A TENANT?

Do you need answers to questions such as:

- Can a landlord refuse to rent to me because I have children?
- Can I ask my landlord to install a ramp for my wheelchair?
- Can a landlord refuse to rent to me because I'm gay and that conflicts with his religious beliefs?
- I'm looking for a home to purchase and the realtor is discouraging me from looking in Brentwood. Is that legal?
- I was turned down from renting an apartment because the landlord said he doesn't rent to women with tattoos. Is that legal?

Your local fair housing organization investigates housing discrimination and informs tenants and landlords of their rights and responsibilities.

Housing discrimination issues are addressed through community education, investigation of complaints to uncover discriminatory practices, and enforcement through litigation. If you or somebody you know has been a victim of housing discrimination, contact your local fair housing organization today.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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FAIR HOUSING FOUNDATION

LONG BEACH:

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WHAT IS FAIR HOUSING?

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

WHAT IS FAIR HOUSING?

Fair Housing means that you have the right to live where you choose without discrimination based on your personal characteristics. Fair housing laws protect your rights; they also enable fair housing organizations and governmental agencies to help you enforce your rights.

Do you know if you been the victim of illegal housing discrimination? Housing discrimination can take many forms and many are subtle. Some examples of illegal discrimination in housing include:

- Refusing to rent a second-floor unit to a family with children.
- Applying different rent or mortgage interest rates based on an applicant's race, gender, or other protected category.
- Refusing to rent to a person who uses a wheelchair because it would be "inconvenient."
- Making repairs for tenants of one race or nationality, but not for others.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I MAKE A COMPLAINT?

Your local fair housing organization will investigate your complaint to determine if illegal discrimination may have occurred. Your local fair housing organization may conduct tests and surveys, interview witnesses, and gather documents. If evidence of discrimination is found, we will take steps to achieve your goals, which may include conciliation (working with the housing provider to remedy the problem), litigation (with representation by staff attorney or in collaboration with outside private attorneys) or referral to a government agency, including the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing or the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

WHY SHOULD I REPORT HOUSING DISCRIMINATION?

BECAUSE...

- Many acts of discrimination can only be investigated if someone reports them.
- You have protection under the law against intimidation or harassment because you exercise your right to report discrimination under the fair housing laws.
- Reporting discrimination is the first step to stopping it in your community.

Civil rights laws promote a just and fair society. In the long run, a fair society is a better place for everyone to live in—renters, property owners, and home seekers. The laws that protect another person today may be the laws that will protect you tomorrow.

FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| • Race | • Familial Status
(* Families with children under 18) | • Ancestry |
| • Color | • Physical or Mental Disability | • Age |
| • Religion | • Sexual Orientation | • Source of Income |
| • Gender | • Marital Status | • Or Other Arbitrary Basis |
| • National Origin | | |