



Fair Housing

Sex (Gender)

Housing Discrimination Based on Sex (Gender) Is Illegal

The Fair Housing Act makes it unlawful to discriminate in housing on the basis of sex. Landlords cannot advertise a preference for male or female tenants.

An exemption is allowed where roommates share bathrooms or kitchens. Such shared housing may be restricted to only men or only women.

What is Sexual Harassment?

It is unlawful to coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of any housing right.

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that involves unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct that creates a hostile environment for women, such as:

- Repeated flirtation / sexual advances
- Pressure for dates / sex.
- Talking dirty or using sexual innuendoes.

Owners are held responsible if an employee or maintenance worker is sexually harassing a tenant.

If You Suspect Housing Discrimination, Call

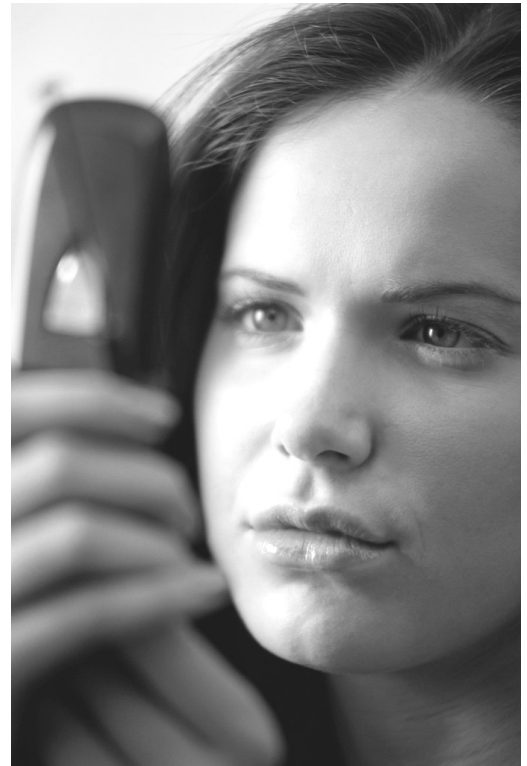
Housing Opportunities Made Equal

2400 Reading Road, Ste. 118
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Visit our web site: www.homecincy.org



Examples of Illegal Activity


- A nonprofit cannot reserve its apartments for single mothers. It must also accept single fathers.
- Some courts have said that it is illegal discrimination to evict a woman who is the victim of domestic violence, because of what has happened to her.


HOME is a private, non-profit fair housing agency serving all of the Greater Cincinnati area. If you believe that you may have experienced discrimination, we can help you by:


- Recording the facts about what happened to you
- Investigating and help resolve the complaint
- Offering advice and counseling about your legal options





Tips To Protect Your Rights


 **DO NOT** sign a lease or any paper you do not understand. If needed, a family member, case worker, or friend can go with you to sign the lease. Even a HOME staff member can go over your lease with you. Call HOME at (513) 721-4663 if you need help with your lease.


 **DO NOT** take an unfinished or dirty apartment. Your landlord must provide a clean, safe, and secure living space for you before you sign your lease.

 When you pay your rent or security deposit, ask for a receipt anytime you give your landlord a payment. The landlord is allowed to ask for the payment and you are allowed to have a record of that payment.

 When you first move into an apartment, walk through your apartment with your landlord to make sure everything is working properly and make a checklist of all damages.

 Take pictures of the new apartment when you move in so you are not responsible for any damage that you did not cause. In your pictures, hold up a newspaper from that day with the date on it, so you can show the date when the pictures were taken.

 If you have a companion animal that any health care professional (Doctor, Therapist, Case Worker, Clergy, etc.) tells you that you need, tell your landlord about the animal and he has to give you permission. The landlord cannot charge you a pet deposit or fee because a service or companion animal is **NOT** a pet.

 **YOU ARE** responsible for any damages to the home or apartment you are renting. **YOU ARE** also responsible for any damages caused by your guests or friends.

A Landlord **CANNOT**:

- Refuse to rent to a person with a mental or physical disability.
- Ask about your disability. It is your private information and you do not have to tell the landlord about your disability, any medication you are taking, and/or any treatment you are receiving.
- Set different rents, security deposits or conditions on a person with a disability.

REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR RENT ON TIME AND BE A GOOD TENANT!



If you have any tenant-landlord problems call HOME at

(513) 721-4663