

# FAIR HOUSING

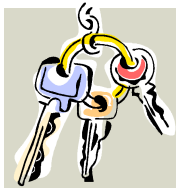
Fair Housing refers to laws and regulations that make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of a protected class in many activities which relate to the sale, lease, or rental of housing.

**It is illegal to discriminate in housing based on the following:**

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Sex
- Religion
- Physical or mental disability
- Familial status (the presence of children under the age of 18 or a pregnant female)

Federal and state laws protect you against housing discrimination and intimidation within the home. These laws apply to activities which include the following:

- Renting
- Buying
- Advertising
- Financing
- Purchasing property
- Insurance
- Building accessible housing



Harassment of a person enforcing fair housing rights is prohibited.

## It may be housing discrimination if...

- you are told the apartment is not available to inspect, but a “for rent” sign is displayed.
- the owner tells you that your children must have separate bedrooms.
- the manager takes your application and promises to call you, but your phone never rings.
- you have a service animal (such as a guide dog) and you are told “No pets allowed.”
- the landlord explains why another place would be better for you.
- the real estate agent steers you away from the neighborhood you requested.
- your condo or homeowners association won’t let you make physical modifications to your unit to meet your disability.
- you are told that all first floor units are rented and children aren’t allowed on the upper floors.
- a lender imposes different terms and conditions on a mortgage loan (such as interest rates or application procedures).



## What to do if you experience housing discrimination



- Keep a written record of all attempted and actual contacts and conversations with the manager, landlord, owner, real estate agent, loan officer, mortgage officer, insurance agent, and others involved.
- Keep all documents, including leases, receipts, applications, letters of denial, and other materials related to the discrimination.
- You may contact:
  - ◆ Your local legal aid or legal services office
  - ◆ Florida Commission on Human Relations 800-342-8170  
e-mail: [chrinfo@fchr.myflorida.com](mailto:chrinfo@fchr.myflorida.com)  
web site: <http://fchr.state.fl.us>
  - ◆ HUD Fair Housing Hotline  
1 - 8 0 0 - 6 6 9 - 9 7 7 7  
e-mail: [Fheowebmanager@hud.gov](mailto:Fheowebmanager@hud.gov)  
web site: [www.hud.gov/offices/fheo](http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo)

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FloridaLaw**Help**.org

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Your local legal aid or legal services office can be located through either the “Find Local Help” or “Directory” links at the top of the page.

If you don't have access to the internet, consult your local Directory Assistance for the number of the legal aid or legal services office nearest to you.



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## FAIR HOUSING PROJECT



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### Are You a Victim



### of Housing Discrimination?

