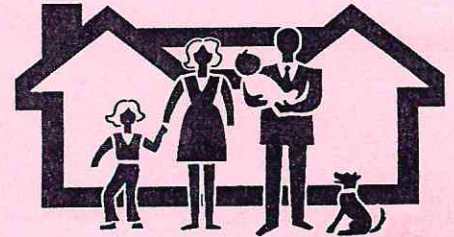


Why Fair Housing???????



You Should Know-----

Fair housing is an absolute right throughout this country. The federal laws, along with local and state laws, were enacted to provide a method of enforcement of this right.

The Federal Fair Housing Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 as amended in 1988) prohibits discriminatory housing practices. There are a few limited exceptions. No one may take any of the following actions based on race, color religion, national origin, sex, familial status or handicap (disability):

- Refuse to sell or rent housing.
- Refuse to negotiate for housing.
- Make housing unavailable.
- Deny a dwelling.
- Set different terms, conditions or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling
- Provide different housing services or facilities.
- Falsely deny that housing is available for inspection, sale or rental, when, in truth it is.
- For profit, persuade or attempt to influence owners to sell or rent (blockbusting).
- Deny anyone access or membership in a facility or service related to the sale or rental of housing that includes brokers and multiple listings of property.

The Civil Rights Acts of 1866 and 1871 prohibit discrimination based on race.

The Ohio Fair Housing Law (Section 4112.02(H) of the Ohio Revised Code) gives all persons in the protected classes the right to live whenever they can afford to buy a home or rent an apartment. It is unlawful, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or ancestry, disability or familial status to:

- Refuse to rent, sell, finance, or insure housing accommodations or residential property.
- Represent to any person that housing accommodations are not available for inspection sale, rental or lease.
- Refuse to lend money for the purchase, construction, repair, rehabilitation, or maintenance of housing accommodations or rental property.
- Discriminate against any person in the purchase, renewal, or terms and conditions of fire, extended coverage, or homeowner's or renter's insurance.
- Refuse to consider without prejudice the combined income of both spouses.
- Print, publish, or circulate any statement or advertisement which would indicate a preference or limitation.
- Deny any person membership in any multiple listing services, or real estate broker's organization.

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission serves as the enforcement agency for state fair housing law.
For more information call:

Ohio Civil Rights Commission
Central Office
(614)466-2785
(614)466-9353 TTY
(888)278-7101 (tollfree)
website: www.state.oh.us/crc

Southeastern Legal Services
(740)374-2629

Local Contact Office
(740)373-6623
Teresa Smith





Fair Housing isn't just a good idea, it's the law!

Federal law prohibits housing discrimination based on your race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status, or disability. If you have been trying to buy or rent a home or apartment and you believe your rights have been violated, you can file a fair housing complaint.

HUD enforces Fair Housing Laws. There are several ways to file a complaint:

- You can file a complaint right now, by using our online form at

<http://www.hud.gov/complaints/housediscrim.cfm>

- You can call toll-free 1-800-669-9777.
- You can print out a form , complete it, and drop it off at your local HUD office: Columbus Field Office, 200 N. High St, 7th Fl, Columbus, OH 43215

or mail it to: Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building
77 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 2101
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507

- You can write us a letter with:
 - Your name and address;
 - The name and address of the person your complaint is about;
 - The address of the house or apartment;
 - The date when this incident occurred;
 - A short description of what happened; and
 - Mail it or drop it off at one of the HUD Offices listed above.