



# Your Fair Housing Rights

Fair Housing Choice is rooted in the right to live where one wants to live without being hindered by discrimination — because neighborhood conditions play a substantial role in the life outcomes of inhabitants.

In order to recognize signs of discrimination, home seekers should know their Fair Housing Rights. Here are some common examples of what housing discrimination may look like.

- 1** While seeking housing you are asked unlawful questions, such as:  
*Do you have a disability?*  
*What is your religion?*  
*How old are you?*  
*Where were you born?*  
*Are you gay?*  
*Are you married?*  
*What is your race?*  
*Do you have children?*
- 2** You call to inquire about a property and are quoted a price. When you arrive to meet the agent or landlord, you are quoted a higher price or shown a different dwelling unit.

- 3** You are given the runaround. You make appointments but are never shown the apartment. You are not given the opportunity to fill out an application, but you believe others have.

- 4** You call to set up an appointment to view an apartment. But, when you arrive the landlord says the apartment is no longer available.
- 5** A landlord refuses to allow for reasonable revisions to a lease or permit physical modifications to a unit in order to reasonably accommodate a tenant with a disability.

- 6** A landlord requires a greater security deposit from an applicant with children or a disability than from an applicant who has no children or is not disabled.



- 7** A broker/agent consistently takes you to see properties only in neighborhoods occupied by members of your minority group — especially when houses in your price range are for sale in other neighborhoods.

- 8** A landlord refuses to rent to you for no apparent reason and you notice that there are no people of color living in the complex.

- 9** Tenants allege that they are refused repairs by the landlord or property manager because of their national origin, race, or sex — while other tenants receive timely repairs.

- 10** A landlord refuses to permit a resident with a disability to have a service or emotional support animal or requires a pet deposit for a service animal.

- 11** A lending institution says you have bad credit or income that's too low and you know that it is not true.
- 12** An insurance agent refuses to insure your home or drops your insurance because you are in a "high-risk" neighborhood.

- 13** A landlord is requiring a passport, birth certificate, or any document that reveals your age, race, national origin, or alien/citizenship status.

If you have experienced any of these types of difficulties with your application, lease, or lease renewal and you believe you are being denied housing or treated differently, please contact the

— **Tompkins County Office of Human Rights** —



**Fair Housing**  
*It's Not An Option.*  
**It's The LAW!**