

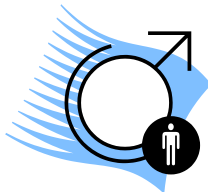
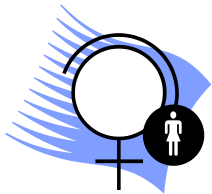
## ***WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM DISCRIMINATED AGAINST?***

As soon as you feel, think, or believe that housing discrimination happened, go home and **make notes** about:

- √ What happened, what was said
- √ Where it happened
- √ When it happened – date, time and place
- √ Name, address, and phone number of the landlord and/or manager
- √ Names, addresses, and phone numbers of any witnesses who saw or heard what happened, including anyone you talked to about the unfair treatment

**Keep records** such as:

- √ **Newspaper Ads**
- √ **Apartment Rules**
- √ **Warning Notices**
- √ **Eviction Notices**
- √ **Rent and Deposit Receipts**
- √ **Copy of Lease**
- √ **Repair Request**
- √ **Inspection Notices**



## **Where to File a Complaint if Your Rights Have Been Violated:**

The Fair Housing Programs  
of Steubenville, Toronto & Jefferson County  
Ohio Valley Fair Housing Center  
115 South 3rd Street, Suite 108  
Steubenville, OH 43952  
(740) 283-6000 extension 1700

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Fair Housing Hub  
U.S. Department of HUD  
Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building  
77 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 2101  
Chicago, IL 60604-3507  
(312) 353-7776  
1-800-765-9372  
TTY 1-800-927-9275

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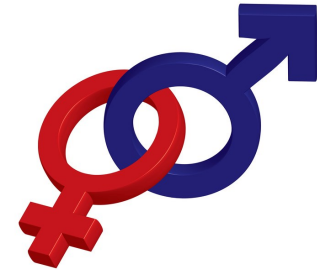
Ohio Civil Rights Commission  
Akron Regional Office  
Akron Government Center  
161 South High Street, Suite 205  
Akron, OH 44308  
(330) 643-3100 or  
1-888-278-7101



## **HOUSING DISCRIMINATION:**

**Based on Sex (Gender)**

**Housing Discrimination is NOT acceptable**



CALL THE

The Fair Housing Programs  
of Steubenville, Toronto & Jefferson County  
Ohio Valley Fair Housing Center  
115 South 3rd Street, Suite 108  
Steubenville, OH 43953  
(740) 283-6000 extension 1700  
(740) 283-6082 fax

## What is discrimination?

Landlords, real estate agents, home sellers, and banks cannot treat men and women differently. You cannot be refused an apartment, denied a loan, or subjected to different rules because of your sex. The law also prohibits sexual harassment, which is described below.

## What is sexual harassment?

The law recognizes two types of sexual harassment: “quid pro quo” and hostile environment. “Quid pro quo” harassment is when a landlord demands sexual favors as a condition of your getting or keeping housing. Hostile environment harassment occurs when a landlord makes persistent or severe unwelcome sexual advances, such as lewd comments or touching. Both types of sexual harassment are illegal.

## Can a landlord or bank have different income requirements for women?

No. A landlord or bank cannot require women to have higher incomes on the assumption that they will stop working during motherhood or on any basis. Landlords, banks, and real estate agents must apply their standards equally to men and women.

## Some Examples of Discrimination:

*“If you are nice to me, I’ll make sure you get the apartment.”*

*“Where’s your husband?”*

*“Isn’t your income going to go down when you have children.”*

*“I prefer to rent to women—they are quieter.”*

*“Hey, sexy lady, won’t you come over to my place?”*

*“You want your roof fixed? Well, all you have to do is go out on a date with me.”*

*“I want to rent to a man, so he’ll be able to make any repairs himself.”*

*“I’ll let you pay your rent late if you come over for drinks with me.”*

## Do the Fair Housing laws apply to all housing?

The laws against sex discrimination apply to all housing EXCEPT:

- ◆ A home in which the landlord lives and rents out only one room
- ◆ Where the renters will be sharing a living space with the landlord
- ◆ Single-sex dormitories at colleges or other educational institutions

**CALL THE FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION IF YOU SUSPECT YOU ARE BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST!**

*The purpose of this brochure is to raise awareness among community members, tenants, homeowners, landlords, and other housing providers about the fair housing rights .*

If you believe you have been the victim of housing discrimination we will:

- ◆ **Take down information about what happened;**
- ◆ **Investigate any complaint we receive;**
- ◆ **Offer counseling about fair housing laws;**
- ◆ **Provide assistance in complaint filing with HUD and OCRC and counseling regarding our rights for filing in the courts.**

If you think you may have experienced illegal housing discrimination, or if you have questions, contact the:

**The Fair Housing Programs  
of Steubenville, Toronto & Jefferson  
County  
Ohio Valley Fair Housing Center  
115 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 108  
Steubenville, OH 43952  
(740) 283-6000 extension 1700**