

It is illegal for a landlord to treat you unfairly because of our:

- Race
- National Origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Marital Status
- Disability
- Age
- Having Children
- Source of Income
- Any other arbitrary reason

As long as everyone is treated the same, a landlord can legally refuse to rent to you if you are a large family wanting to rent a small apartment, don't earn enough money to pay the rent, have bad credit, or a previous bad rental history.

You may have experienced housing discrimination if a landlord has:

- Discouraged you from looking at an apartment.
- Steered you to a different apartment complex.
- Made statements indicating a preference not to rent to you because of your race, marital status, age, disability, or because you have children.
- Told you that there are no vacancies when, in fact, there are.
- Refused to accommodate your disability.
- Imposed different rules for families with children.
- Retaliated against you with an eviction notice for objecting to being treated unfairly.

Take action quickly!

As soon as the discrimination occurs, make notes about:

- ✓ What happened
- ✓ Where it happened
- ✓ When it happened
- ✓ Names, addresses and phone numbers of the landlord and 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 notice

If you have been treated unfairly with applying for housing or as an in-place tenant, The South Bay Fair Housing Project provides free legal assistance with:

- Making a complaint to a government agency
- Investigating the unfair treatment
- Preventing the discriminatory treatment with convincing the landlord to comply with the law
- Enforcing the law through court litigation

**BAY AREA
LEGAL AID**

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*A program of Bay Area Legal Aid and the
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban
Development Fair Housing Initiative
Program*

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**HOUSING
DISCRIMINATION**

Bay Area



Legal Aid

For help, call the

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