



HATE HAS NO PLACE IN HOUSING

Fair Housing Laws Protect People from Hate and Harassment in Housing regardless of Disability or National Origin

There has been an increase in acts of hate and harassment, targeting people because of their national origin, or because of disability. Over a third of these incidents occur where people live.

It is illegal for landlords or any of their employees to harass or intimidate their renters. It is also illegal for neighbors to harass or intimidate their neighbors.

You have the legal right to feel safe in your home. Federal and state fair housing laws protect all of us, regardless of immigration status, abilities or gender. This flyer will help you know your rights and what to do if you are a victim of hate and harassment where you live.

If your landlord or another tenant commits any of these hateful acts, it may be a violation of fair housing law:

- Calls you names based on your disability, the country you are from;
- Sexually harasses you;
- Says that you don't belong in your apartment, that you should live in an institution;
- Blocks a path you need for your wheelchair;
- Asks unwelcome questions about or makes assumptions about your disability;
- Paints graffiti on your home or car;
- Leaves threatening letters on or under your door;
- Threatens you through social media.

If you think you have been a victim of hate and harassment in housing or you have been a victim of housing discrimination, call the Fair Housing Council of Oregon at 503-223-8197 ext. 2 or email us at information@fhco.org — *We can help!*

We have a hotline with staff trained to help people in these situations. If you don't speak English well, we will access translation. The help we give you is confidential: We will not share any information you give us without your permission. Our services are free.

Hate and Harassment in Housing is Illegal.

It is Also Illegal for Landlords to Discriminate Against You:

- Refusing to rent to you because of the country you are from, because of your disability or because of your religious faith;
- Refusing to rent to you because you or some of your family members don't speak English;
- Charging you more rent or a higher security deposit because of where you are from or because of your disability;
- Only making repairs in exchange for sexual favors;
- Telling you that you must speak only English when outside of your apartment;
- Forcing you to choose an apartment near other people who are from the same country, speak the same language as you, or are of the same religion as you;
- Refusing to allow to have a service animal;
- Enforcing rules against you or your family, but not enforcing the same rules against anyone else.



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We can help in a variety of ways. We can advocate with your landlord. We can explain to your landlord that they are legally required to protect you from other tenants who harass you. We can help you file a legal complaint or connect you with an attorney. We also can refer you to other organizations that can be of help.

It is important to report acts of hate and harassment, and all types of discrimination in housing—not only for our own safety and wellbeing, but to protect others from experiencing the same incidents in the future.



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