

FAIR HOUSING

RACE/COLOR

Housing Discrimination Based on Race & Color is Illegal

The federal Fair Housing Act makes it unlawful to discriminate in the rental or sale of housing on the basis of a person's race or the pigment of a person's skin.

This includes your actual race or perceived race, even when it is not stated or obvious. You are also protected if you identify as multiracial, or if you are associated with (such as being married to) a person of a certain race or color.

Race vs Color

Race discrimination involves treating someone differently because they're of a particular race or have personal characteristics (like hair texture or facial features) associated with a certain race.

Color discrimination is based on a person's skin color, complexion, or pigmentation.

Do neutral policies discriminate?

Some policies that appear race-neutral, like zoning, tenant screening, or residential preferences, can still be discriminatory if they unfairly harm people of certain races.

Where can this happen?

- Rental Housing
- Home Sales
- Appraisals
- Mortgage Lending
- Home Insurance
- Housing Advertisements



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HOME is a private, non-profit fair housing agency serving the Greater Cincinnati area.

FAIR HOUSING: RACE/COLOR DISCRIMINATION

This can look like...

- Lying to a Black prospective renter or buyer about housing availability
- Quoting higher rents to an Asian prospective renter
- Making racist comments about tenants of a racial group



This can also look like...

- Warning a white couple they might be uncomfortable in a neighborhood with predominantly residents of color
- Attempting to maintain a building or neighborhood's "character" by only sharing information about available homes with people of a certain race
- An agency refuses to provide loans or insurance coverage because a property is located in a particular area



Think you've experienced discrimination?

Contact HOME for help! We will:

- Record the facts about what happened to you
- Investigate and help to resolve the complaint
- Offer advice and counsel about enforcement options



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