



FAIR HOUSING AND HOW TO DEAL WITH LANDLORDS.

Fair Housing Laws and Definitions

- **The Fair Housing Act of 1968** prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability.
- **Familial Status:** one or more individuals who are under eighteen years of age and who live with a parent or guardian having legal custody of that person, or who live with the designee of the parent or guardian having legal custody of the person or any person who is pregnant, or in the process of securing legal custody of any individual who is under eighteen years old.
- **Blockbusting:** the act of intimidating owners to sell or rent by telling them that minority groups are moving into the neighborhood and property values will decrease.
- **Insurance and Mortgage Redlining:** The practice of refusing to make loans or sell home owner's insurance to homeowners because of the minority composition of a neighborhood.
- If you suspects someone of **Housing Discrimination;** Make immediate detailed notes of your experience; date, time, place, name of agent(s) or landlord(s), what you saw, and what you were told.
- Call or visit the nearest Regional Office of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. An Investigator will speak with you and schedule an appointment to discuss your complaint and help you file a charge.
- A charge of unlawful discrimination in housing must be filed with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission within **one year** of the date the violation allegedly occurred. If it is not filed within this one year period, neither the OCRC or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will have legal authority to act on your complaint.