# What are Family Status protections under the Fair Housing Act?

Presented by Long Island Housing Services, Inc.

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### Long Island Housing Services' Mission:

Elimination of unlawful housing discrimination and promotion of decent and affordable housing through advocacy and education.





## Familial Status includes

### **Familial Status includes:**

- Someone with 1 or more children under the age of 18
- A pregnant woman
- Foster parents and adoptive parents



Someone who has custody or guardianship of a child



# Familial Status Protections

### The Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to:

- Require an additional security deposit
- Segregate families with children (e.g. only downstairs units)
- Limit or restrict the use of the housing complex's pool, elevators, common areas, etc.
- Evict a family after a baby is born or adopted

### **Examples of Familial Status Discrimination**

"I don't rent to families with children." "I won't rent a one-bedroom apartment to parent and child."

"It's not safe for young children because there are stairs."



Harassment by the owner, employees of the owner, the management company, employees of the management company, or other tenants.



# How Do You Protect Your Fair Housing Rights?

Anyone who believes he or she has been discriminated against can file a complaint.

If you want to discuss options, or obtain help from a professional Fair Housing advocate...

Contact Long Island Housing Services, Inc.

(631) 567-5111 ext. 375

info@LIFairHousing.org

Si usted cree que ha sido discriminado al buscar vivienda, llame a Long Island Housing Services al 631-567-5111 ext. 378 para hablar con un investigador o defensor de vivienda justa capacitado. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a <a href="mailto:info@LIFairHousing.org">info@LIFairHousing.org</a>.

### Long Island Housing Services, Inc.

631-567-5111 ext. 375 info@LIFairHousing.org

#### **Federal**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development New York FHEO Office 26 Federal Plaza, Room 3532 New York, NY 10278-0068 800-669-9777

### **Nassau County**

Nassau County Commission on Human Rights 240 Old County Road Mineola, NY 11501 (516) 571-3662

### **New York State**

N.Y. State Division of Human Rights One Fordham Plaza, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Bronx, NY 10458 1-888-392-3644

### **Suffolk County**

Suffolk County
Human Rights Commission
100 Veterans Memorial Highway Suite #1
Hauppauge, NY 11788
(631) 853-5480