

What Is Fair Housing?

Presented by
Long Island Housing Services, Inc.

LIHS gratefully acknowledges the support of the U.S. Dept. of Housing
and Urban Development Fair Housing Initiatives Program.

*Long Island Housing
Services' Mission:*

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

Long Island
celebrates the



50th Anniversary
of the
Fair Housing Act



What is Fair Housing?

Fair housing means that all people have the right to live in the housing of their choice that they can afford free from discrimination.*

***Discrimination:** Denial of equal treatment and opportunity



It is U.S. policy and law to promote equitable housing choice and eliminate segregation.

What is Fair Housing?

Fair housing laws ensure equal access and mandate that people have equal housing opportunities and not be subjected to discrimination based upon legally protected categories.



Who is protected
under the
Fair Housing laws?



Everyone

is protected under the

Fair Housing laws!



**FAIR
HOUSING**
laws
exist on
3 levels:

- **U.S. government**
- **New York State**
- **County**



It is against *Federal* (U.S. Government)
Fair Housing Law to discriminate in
housing because of a person's:

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Disability
- Familial Status



Sexual Harassment under the Fair Housing Act

Discrimination based on sex includes a protection against sexual harassment:

- Deliberate or repeated unwelcome comments
- Gestures or physical contact that create a hostile environment

Example: Asking for sexual favors in exchange for an apartment, in lieu of rent, offers of reduced rent or extra amenities, etc.



In NEW YORK state, it is also against the law to discriminate in housing because of a person's:

- Marital status
- Sexual orientation
- Gender Identity
- Gender Expression
- Source of Income*
- Military Status
- Age (over 18)
- Creed
- Arrest**



*Source of income includes all legal income including W2, 1099, Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8), One Shot Deal, SSD, SSI, and court-ordered child support.

** Arrest includes favorably resolved arrest, an adjournment in contemplation of dismissal (ACOD), and a sealed conviction record, or a youthful offender adjudication.

In addition to Federal protections on the basis of Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex, Disability, and Familial Status.



In SUFFOLK County, it is also against the law to discriminate in housing because of a person's:

- Group Identity*
- Veteran Status
- Status as a Domestic Violence Victim

**Group Identity includes actual or perceived:*

- Age (over 18)
- Alienage or Citizenship Status
- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Military Status

In addition to **Federal** (Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex, Disability, and Familial Status) and **New York State** (Marital Status, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Age (over 18), Military Status, Creed, Source of Income, and Arrest) protections.

Nassau County has the same protections covered under Federal and State laws, plus Veterans status and Ethnicity.



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 info@LIFairHousing.org.



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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, 4th 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

