



FAIR HOUSING PROJECT

Legal Aid of North Carolina

PO Box 26087, Raleigh, NC 27611
855-797-FAIR (3247) (toll-free)

www.fairhousingnc.org
www.legalaidnc.org



About the Fair Housing Project

THE FAIR HOUSING PROJECT OF LEGAL AID OF NORTH CAROLINA is available to provide information concerning a person's rights under the federal Fair Housing Act. If you believe you are a victim of housing discrimination, contact us at 855-797-3247(toll-free) for assistance. Our staff will discuss the situation with you and help you decide what to do next. Your inquiry will be kept confidential.

When necessary, our staff can assist you in filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or other administrative or judicial bodies.

The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under a grant with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Government.



HOUSING DISCRIMINATION STOP SEXUAL HARASSMENT BY YOUR LANDLORD

www.fairhousingnc.org
www.legalaidnc.org



FAIR HOUSING PROJECT



If you need help, call the Fair Housing Project toll-free: 855-797-3247

SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN RENTAL HOUSING

Fair Housing Laws

The federal Fair Housing Act and North Carolina State Fair Housing Act prohibit discrimination against individuals based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability.

Sexual harassment is discrimination under fair housing laws.

It is illegal for your landlord to try to evict you or raise your rent for reporting sexual harassment.

It is also illegal to coerce, intimidate, or interfere with a person seeking to exercise rights under the Fair Housing Act.

What Is Sexual Harassment?

There are generally two types of sexual harassment: *Quid Pro Quo* and *Hostile Environment*. Often victims of sexual harassment suffer from both.

- (1) *Quid Pro Quo*, or “This for That,” harassment is when a housing provider asks for sex or sexual favors to avoid eviction or in exchange for free rent, repairs, excused late payments or fees, etc.
- (2) A *Hostile Environment* is when a housing provider creates a threatening or uncomfortable environment because of unwanted sexual behavior. Examples include: when your landlord enters your unit without permission, makes unwanted sexual advances or comments, touches you, or threatens to evict you if you turn down his sexual advances.

Sexual harassment can come from a landlord, owner, manager, employee, or neighbor.

It does not matter if the harasser is male or female.

How To Stop Sexual Harassment

What to do if you are the victim of sexual harassment in your housing:

- Contact the Fair Housing Project.
- Contact your local sexual assault/domestic violence agency.
- Keep any documents related to the harassment.
- Keep a journal of incidents of sexual harassment.
- Do not wait until you are evicted before you report sexual harassment.

If your landlord has “ideas” about repairing your unit, collecting “rent,” or “lending a hand,” we have some ideas, too.

Contact the Fair Housing Project at 855-797-3247