

What is the Fair Housing Act?

In 1968 the Fair Housing Act (FHA) was signed, making it illegal for people to discriminate in any aspect of housing based on an individual's race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability. The FHA defines these as their seven federally protected classes.

Where the Fair Housing Act Applies

The Fair Housing Act applies to when people are renting or buying a home, getting a mortgage, seeking housing assistance, or engaging in any other housing-related transactions.



DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN FILE A COMPLAINT?



CONTACT US

We will respond within 1 business day and refer your complaint to the proper agency.

Complaint Hotline:
520-306-0938
hotline@seriaz.org
AZ Relay Friendly Business

This material is based on work supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under FHIP Grant EO1 FEO120038.

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Helping communities in the Southwest since 1994.



Fair Housing Education

www.seriaz.org/projects/fair-housing

3202 E. Grant Rd., Tucson, AZ 85716



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History

Founded in 1994, Sonora Environmental Research Institute, Inc. (SERI) is a local non-profit in Tucson, Arizona working with low-income and minority communities in the Southwest to help protect the environment and improve community health. Through outreach and education, SERI is helping the community eliminate housing discrimination and protect the rights of all in fair housing.

SERI refers complaints to regional agency partner, Southwest Fair Housing Council (SWFHC), who will then assist clients with allegations of illegal housing discrimination by providing investigative assistance, counseling, mitigation of complaints, and referrals to resources across Arizona.

What is Prohibited?

- Refuse to rent, sell, or negotiate housing.
- Otherwise make housing unavailable or discourage the purchase or rental of a dwelling.
- Set different terms, conditions or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling.
- Provide a person different or limit privileges in housing services or facilities of a dwelling.
- Falsely deny that housing is available for inspection, sale or rental.
- Make an advertisement of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination.
- Impose different sales prices or rental charges for the sale or rental of a dwelling.
- Use different qualification criteria or applications, or sale or rental standards or procedures.
- Harass a person.
- Assign a person to a particular area of a building or neighborhood.
- Refuse to make a mortgage loan or provide other financial assistance for a dwelling.
- Refuse to provide information regarding loans.
- Impose different terms or conditions on a loan, such as different interest rates, points, or fees.

Possible Signs of Discrimination

“The advertisement is wrong. The rent is really \$50 higher per month starting in August.”

“We only take people who speak English clearly.”

“You might be more comfortable living elsewhere. I’ll show you neighborhoods with mosques.”

“Unfortunately, steps are all we have. We can’t accommodate a walker for you.”

“There’s a lot of traffic in this area. It isn’t safe for kids to live here.”

“We recommend you and your family rent on the first floor for easier access.”

“A professional couple is preferred for this rental due to high turnover in the past.”

“Unfortunately, toilet and washer repairs are not available until next week.”

“This is a one-person bedroom, sorry.”

“Due to your background, we will need to collect additional documents.”

“No dogs allowed on this property, no exceptions.”

“The apartment I told you about during our phone call has already been rented.”