

## Who Can Help if I've Experienced Housing Discrimination?

If you have questions about whether you have experienced fair housing discrimination or you can to learn more about the Fair Housing Act, please contact Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc.

If you believe you have experienced fair housing discrimination and you want to make a fair housing complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, please see the information in this brochure for how to file a complaint.

This brochure is a product of Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc. The content within this brochure is current as of August 2023.



### File a Fair Housing Complaint

Contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to file a fair housing complaint.



1-800-669-9777 or 1-800-877-

8339



<https://www.hud.gov/fairhousing/fileacomplaint>



### Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc.

Contact us for fair housing questions and speak with one of our attorneys for free. Partner organizations may also contact us to arrange a free fair housing presentation to their staff.



(208) 746-7541



[www.idaholegalaid.org](http://www.idaholegalaid.org)



## Religious Discrimination under the Fair Housing Act

Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc.



## What is the Fair Housing Act?

Under the Fair Housing Act (FHA), it is illegal to discriminate against a person in the sale or rental of a home based on their:

- ✓ Familial Status\*
- ✓ Race
- ✓ Color
- ✓ National Origin
- ✓ Religion
- ✓ Sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), or
- ✓ Disability (including mental and physical impairments).

### \*What is Familial Status?

Familial status protection includes:

- families with children under the age of 18;
- pregnant persons;
- any person in the process of securing legal custody of a minor child (including adoptive or foster parents); and
- persons with written permission of the parent or legal guardian (like a parental power of attorney).

## Who May Be Liable under the Fair Housing Act?

Mortgage lenders, real estate agents or brokers, appraisers, homeowner associations, and homeowner insurance agencies may not engage in discrimination against a person based on their protected class in any part of the home buying or selling process or during any other housing-related transaction.



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## What May Religious Discrimination under the FHA Look Like?

In the process of buying, selling, renting or engaging in other housing-related transactions, it is illegal to discriminate based on religion under the Fair Housing Act. Religious discrimination under the FHA could take the form of:

- Applying different terms or conditions of housing, denying applications or steering or restricting persons to certain neighborhoods or buildings because of their religion, shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics, and/or,
- Advertisements that specify preference or restrictions based on religion.

Title VI also prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. This extends to people who experience discrimination, including harassment, based on their actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics, or citizenship or residency in a country with a dominant religion or distinct religious identity.

These are only some examples. Fair housing discrimination may take many forms.