

Elkhart Human Relations NewsLetter

Elkhart Human Relations
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FEBRUARY 2024



Fair Housing Act Protected Class: NATIONAL ORIGIN

IT IS ILLEGAL FOR ANY HOUSING PROVIDERS SUCH AS LANDLORDS AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS TO DENY YOU HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES BECAUSE OF YOUR ETHNICITY.

THE FAIR HOUSING ACT PROHIBITS HOUSING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON NATIONAL ORIGIN.

Fair Housing For All - National Origin

Find the words in the puzzle. Words go diagonal and up and down.

N R K S M H F L M G S D O E J I Q B J P
H N I S U W I O A B U Q G B V R N C I W
D T N P A O Y S R Z H I N V V D O G D W
B P G Q N I M L T X E G A C N B S J E B
T Y R E N T E T I O V B V B T X I R G I
G Q O L N J A S N M R G H C K R N L D A
C E F R F K F K X K C Y C S C M C R E R
N K L J P P E M K C I S Y G N B L V I I
A Q J K L O R I G I N G U F A P A P A V
T M C X H F W P Q P O R A H X A S Z T A
I F B C B A J R V F P D P D C J S Y I L
O F K E Y I R O Q U T Q R B Q N E L L X
N R A U R R Z T C T E Q I X H R S T T J
A I F A W Y Y E A U T P L K E S C B J R
L R E L B B A C B R F O H X E E N I R R
O L I G W M T T S E V E N E S B T E P Y
C I O G T A J E F L J P Y Q A E H W W W
Z X Z B H E U D N A Q J R U F T E B M Q
H F V O A T D K P U I W I A U Z C X H H
W U X G H K S X B V C M P L I E K S H G

MARTIN
APRIL
FAIR
SEVEN
EQUAL
FUTURE

LUTHER
ELKHART
NATIONAL
PROTECTED
RIGHTS

KING
RENT
ORIGIN
CLASSES
HISTORY

Upcoming Events:

HOW TO FILE A FAIR HOUSING COMPLAINT

This workshop will be held at the
Elkhart Library- Downtown
300 S. Second Street

February 13 - 5:00 pm
February 14 - 5:00 pm

YOUTH FAIR HOUSING POSTER CONTEST

Starts February 19, 2024
Ends March 15, 2024

RULES:

- Open to Elkhart youth Grades 7-12
- 11 x 14 posters provided for free
- Tape entry form to back of poster
- All posters should contain wording and imagery that conveys this year's fair housing theme NATIONAL ORIGIN-EQUAL HOUSING RIGHTS FOR ALL NATIONALITIES

PRIZES:

7-8th Grade

1st Place: \$100.00

2nd Place: \$50.00

3rd Place: \$25.00

9th Grade

1st Place: \$100.00

2nd Place: \$50.00

3rd Place: \$25.00

10-12th Grade

1st Place: \$100.00

2nd Place: \$50.00

3rd Place: \$25.00

* We can drop off poster boards and pick up finished artwork-
Give us a call HRC 574-322-4431

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Youth Poster Contest

FEBRUARY 2024

THE HISTORY OF THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

On April 11, 1968, Congress passed the federal Fair Housing Act one week after the death of Martin Luther King Jr.

The Fair Housing Act introduced meaningful changes that made it illegal to:

- refuse to sell or rent a dwelling to any person because of Race, Color, Religion, or National Origin.
- discriminate based on Race, Color, Religion, or National Origin when they want to sale or rent a dwelling
- advertise to show that you only want people of a particular Race, Color, Religion, or National Origin
- coerce, threaten, intimidate, or interfere with a person's enjoyment or exercise of housing rights based on a discriminatory reason. This includes retaliation.

In 1974, Congress amended the federal Fair Housing Act to include Gender.

In 1988, Congress amended the federal Fair Housing Act to include Disability and Family Status.

HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) is one of the largest federal civil rights agencies. Individuals who believe they have experienced housing discrimination can file a complaint with FHEO for free.

FHEO has local partners as well. Elkhart Human Relations is your local office who takes in complaints of housing discrimination at no charge.

THE POSTER

It's your time to SHINE and BE CREATIVE !!

**Poster design should visually and creatively express -
Equal Housing Rights for all Nationalities**

CELEBRATING THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

Now that you know the history of the Fair Housing Act and who you can contact to file a fair housing complaint, can you name the 7 Protected Classes? If you said Race, Color, Religion, National Origin, Gender, Disability and Family Status then you are correct!

This year we will be celebrating the Fair Housing Act by holding a Youth poster with the theme of National Origin. What does that mean? I'm glad you asked! National Origin is a person's ancestry, ethnicity, birthplace, culture, or language. The fair housing act protects you regardless of your immigration status.

People cannot be denied housing because they are from another country, because they have a name or accent from another country, or because they are married to a person from another country.

Types of housing discrimination due to national origin may include:

- Charging different deposits or application fees
- Selectively screening tenants for citizenship and immigration status
- Refusing to rent to refugees
- Steering prospective buyers or renters to "other" neighborhoods or away from certain neighborhoods
- Requiring that someone "must speak English" in order to be rented to.

If a person feels they been discriminated against based on their national origin, then they can file a fair housing complaint with the Elkhart Human Relations.

2023 Poster Contest Winners

**Michael T.
Zoe H.
Aalaiceah W.
Karter E.
Michael C.
Maya J.**