

newsletter

Elkhart Human Relations
January 2024

It is unlawful to discriminate in housing on the basis of Race, Religion, Gender, Family Status, Disability, Skin Color, and National Origin

Happy New Year

In 2023, the Elkhart Human Relations Commission saw cases of housing discrimination in three of the seven protected classes.

Let's work together to put a stop to unlawful housing discrimination practices in Elkhart.



Race

Disability

Family Status

Protected classes are legally protected characteristics with which people identify. They are the features or social markers that categorize others and ourselves. The Fair Housing Act was enacted with the understanding that some social markers are stigmatized and prevent qualified groups of people from accessing the housing of their choice. The seven federally protected classes are race, religion, national origin, color, familial status, sex, and disability. These classes or characteristics are protected under the federal Fair Housing Act. This means that every state has at least these seven protected classes.

Most homes are covered under the Fair Housing Act with few exemptions. The types of housing that are covered include apartments, private homes, nursing homes, dormitories, mobile home parks, homeless shelters, and many other dwellings. This means that discrimination during the rental process, the home purchase process, and other housing-related transactions such as appraisals, homeowners insurance, and mortgage lending are illegal.

Taken from: <https://www.equalhousing.org/fair-housing-topics/what-is-a-protected-class-under-the-fair-housing-act/>

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