Mothers are the sole or primary provider in four-in-ten households with children….8.6 million (63%) are single mothers.  
- Pew Research Center

Victims of gender-based violence too often face discrimination in housing, such as evictions or housing denials based on the violence they have experienced or sexual harassment by landlords and housing managers.”  
- The American Civil Liberties Union

“Finding safe and affordable housing is an essential piece of the economic security puzzle for all people, but LGBT women often pay an unfair price in the housing market because of their sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.”  
- Center for American Progress & Movement Advancement Project

“We all benefit socially, politically and economically from gender equality in our everyday lives. When women are empowered, the whole of humanity benefits. Gender equality liberates not only women but also men, from prescribed social roles and gender stereotypes.”  
- HeForShe

If you think you have been discriminated against in a housing transaction, contact:

Northwest Fair Housing Alliance  
35 W. Main Ave, Suite 250  
Spokane, WA 99201  
Ph. 509-325-2665  
1-800-200-FAIR (3247)  
Fax: 1-866-376-6308  
www.nwfairhouse.org

We can advise you of your options & advocate for you. Our services are free.

HUD-Housing & Urban Development  
Alaska, Idaho, Oregon & Washington  
1-(800)-877-0246  
www.hud.gov

WA State Human Rights Commission  
1-800-233-3247  
www.hum.wa.gov

The National Domestic Violence Hotline  
1-800-799-7233 and 1-800-787-3224 (TTY)  
www.thehotline.org

ACLU Women’s Rights Project  
(212) 549-2644  
www.aclu.org/womensrights

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Women & Fair Housing

Women & Housing: Towards Inclusive Cities

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

NORTHWEST FAIR HOUSING ALLIANCE

(509) 325-2665  
1 (800) 200-FAIR (3247)  
www.nwfairhouse.org

Protections in renting or buying a home

“A safe, secure, affordable and appropriate house and home is a measure of a quality of life that every human being aspires to.”  
Women and Housing: Towards Inclusive Cities

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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www.nwfairhouse.org
Federal Protections: Sex/Gender

The federal Fair Housing Act protects individuals against housing discrimination because of sex, gender or gender identity.

Additional Federal Protections

The federal “Equal Access Rule” protects LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) individuals who experience housing discrimination in federally subsidized housing and lending programs.

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) expands housing protections for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and sexual assault.

Washington State Protections

The Washington Law Against Discrimination (WLAD) prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity. This includes a prohibition of discrimination against women who are pregnant.

Examples of fair housing violations:

- It is illegal for a housing provider to deny you housing, or terminate your tenancy because you are pregnant or become pregnant.

- Sexual harassment by landlords, managers, or maintenance is illegal. Asking for sexual favors to obtain housing, keep housing or in exchange for repairs, amenities, or rent is against the law. A manager is also obliged to provide housing free of sexual harassment from other tenants and must issue notices to violators including termination if it continues.

- Refusing to rent to a woman or terminating her tenancy because she is a domestic violence survivor is illegal.

- If you are pregnant and seeking a home loan, a bank or lender may not deny you the loan because you will be going on maternity leave or delay giving you a loan until you return to work.

- Sexual harassment by landlords, managers, or maintenance is illegal. Asking for sexual favors to obtain housing, keep housing or in exchange for repairs, amenities, or rent is against the law. A manager is also obliged to provide housing free of sexual harassment from other tenants and must issue notices to violators including termination if it continues.

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