

National Origin Discrimination



National origin discrimination is different treatment in housing because of a person's ancestry, ethnicity, birthplace, culture, or language, and it is illegal. This means people cannot be denied housing opportunities because they or their family are from another country, because they have a name or accent associated with a national origin group, because they participate in certain customs associated with a national origin group, or because they are married to or associate with people of a certain national origin.

Examples of potential national origin discrimination include:

- refusing to rent to persons whose primary language is other than English;
- offering different rent rates based on ethnicity;
- steering prospective buyers or renters to or away from certain neighborhoods because of their ancestry; and
- failing to provide the same level of service or housing amenities because a tenant was born in another country.

Immigration Status does not affect whether a person is covered by the Fair Housing Act.

Every person in the U.S is protected by the Fair Housing Act. A person's immigration status does not affect his or her federal fair housing rights or responsibilities. The Act prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability. Such discrimination is illegal regardless of the victim's immigration status. The Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity does not ask about a person's immigration status of someone who is filing a complaint.



The mission of High Plains Fair Housing Center is to strengthen communities and ensure equal access to fair housing in the region through training, education, enforcement, and advocacy.

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**You can file a complaint or find out more on
our website:**

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