

# Equal treatment on the housing market

Discrimination is forbidden!

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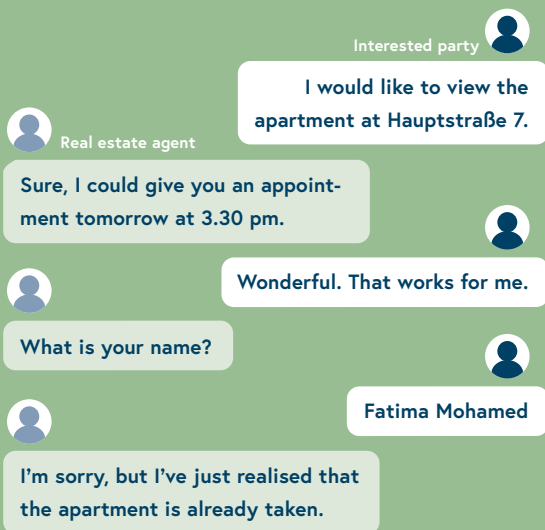
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# Discrimination on the housing market is forbidden

Apartment owners, estate agents and property managers must comply with the Equal Treatment Act when concluding a rental or purchase agreement.

The gender or ethnicity of tenants or buyers must never play a role when renting or selling living space. Advertisements must not be discriminatory, either.



“ ... we don't rent to single parents!”

**Apartment for rent:** 50 m<sup>2</sup>, bright, € 460/month (incl. operating costs), no asylum seekers

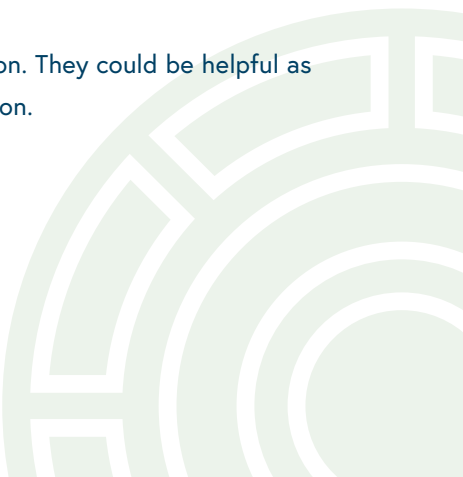
## There are steps you can take



- **Document the situation as soon as possible!**  
That way, you still remember clearly what happened. The sooner you react, the better!  
For example online, using our Reporting and Contact form.
- **Get advice!**  
The Ombud for Equal Treatment offers advice and support. Together, we will discuss how to proceed and which legal steps could be appropriate.
- You can have cases of discrimination reviewed by the Equal Treatment Commission.
- You can sue for appropriate compensation in court. However, the law does not give you the right to a specific apartment.

# Discrimination can be proven

The more evidence you have to show that you have been disadvantaged in access to housing due to your gender, family status, origin, language or skin colour, the better your chances of success:

- Do you suspect that you have been discriminated against because of a certain characteristic (e.g. name, skin colour, etc.)? Ask a friend, who doesn't have this characteristic, to also express their interest in the apartment: if this person is accepted, this can help prove the discrimination.
  - Ask a friend to come along to view the apartment. They can later testify as witness.
  - Photograph or save discriminatory housing advertisement. Make a note of where and when you saw the advertisement.
  - Ask why you were rejected. Every answer can be useful for the consultation.
  - Save information. They could be helpful as evidence later on.
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# Take action

Take action and report the incident or the advertisement to the Ombud for Equal Treatment.

You can reach us by phone, e-mail or via our website.

## We document, advise and support

The Ombud for Equal Treatment documents all reported cases of discrimination. We offer free and confidential advice. We will listen and discuss your legal options with you. We won't take any steps without your consent.



Call us free of charge **0800 206 119**



Find out about your rights at  
**[gleichbehandlungsanwaltschaft.gv.at/english](https://gleichbehandlungsanwaltschaft.gv.at/english)**



Please use our **Reporting and Contact form**



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