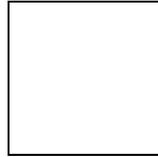


Unless you report discrimination, it won't stop.



Talk to a lawyer to learn about your
rights! It's free.

Call!

508-752-3718

855-CLA-LEGAL

TTY: 508-755-3260

Visit our website!

www.communitylegal.org

Stop by!

405 Main Street, 4th Floor

Worcester, MA 01608

**Or Contact Us Through the City of
Worcester's Office of Human Rights
& Disabilities!**

Housing Discrimination Intake Worker:
508-799-8486

City Hall, 455 Main Street, Room 101



Worcester Fair Housing Project
405 Main Street, 4th Floor
Worcester, MA 01608

When Domestic Violence Threatens Your Housing... Know Your Rights!



Victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and harassment, and other forms of gender-based violence all too often face instability in their housing.

This could be because of eviction, a denial of housing or a denial of a subsidy, like Section 8.

When that eviction or denial is because of the violence that person experienced, it could be discrimination.

The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under a grant with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and finding of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Government.



A victim of abuse should never be a victim of housing discrimination.

Under state and federal law, it could be discrimination if a landlord **tries to do any** of the following things **because** you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking:

- Evict you
- Refuse to renew your lease
- Refuse to rent to you
- Refuse to change your locks
- Deny you admission to public or subsidized housing

Under state law, you have the right to:

- End your lease early if you need to, or
 - Have your locks changed

The fact that you exercised these rights with a current or past landlord cannot be held against you by a future landlord.

What about public and subsidized housing?

- You should not be evicted from public or subsidized housing OR terminated from a subsidy program, like Section 8, because you have experienced domestic violence.
- You should not be denied public or subsidized housing OR admission to a subsidy program, like Section 8, because you have experienced domestic violence.
- You have a right to request a transfer to a different unit or property within public or subsidized housing to escape domestic violence.