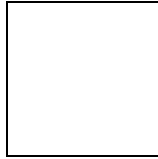


**Unless you report
discrimination, it
won't stop.**



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

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www.communitylegal.org

Stop by!

405 Main Street, 4th Floor

Worcester, MA 01608

**Or Contact the City of Worcester's Human
Rights and Accessibility Office at**

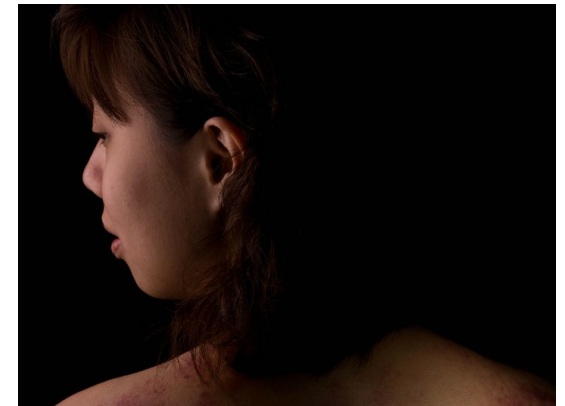
508-799-8486

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.

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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.