Source of Income Discrimination and the negative effects on Affordable Housing

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Preamble to 1949 Housing Act, Congress declared its goal of *"a decent home in a suitable living environment for every American Family."*

The Problem

SOURCE OF INCOME DISCRIMINATION

Source of Income Discrimination

In searching for a dwelling, many households face discrimination by landlords who are unwilling to rent to voucher holders. As a result, several states and municipalities have adopted laws prohibiting housing discrimination based on source of income.

Source of Income Discrimination

Discrimination based on one's "source of income" – which can include, but is not limited to, housing choice vouchers, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), unemployment insurance, or veteran's benefits – is against the law in Miami-Dade County.

Yet voucher holders face blatant discrimination when searching for housing.

Continuing discrimination in housing markets limits housing **CHOICES** for minorities and thereby reinforces segregation.

In many instances, a housing voucher is the only thing that stands between a family and homelessness.

As well, discrimination against housing voucher holder, far too often, is merely a guise for discrimination based on race, national origin or familial status.

SOLUTIONS TOTHE PROBLEM

Create an ordinance that prohibits Source of Income Discrimination

Enforce the ordinance that prohibits Source of Income Discrimination

Miami-Dade County Ordinance Chapter 11

Sec. 11A-1. - Declaration of policy and scope.

(1)

Policy. It is hereby declared to be the policy of Miami-Dade County, in the exercise of its police power for the public safety, health and general welfare, to eliminate and prevent discrimination in employment, family leave, public accommodations, credit and financing practices, and housing accommodations because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, marital status, familial status, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. It is further hereby declared to be the policy of Miami-Dade County to eliminate and prevent discrimination in housing based on source of income.

Enforce the ordinance that prohibits Source of Income Discrimination



ACTION PLAN

Increase Tenant Knowledge

Increase Landlord Knowledge

Increase Professional Knowledge

Increase County Official Knowledge

Enforce The Law of Source of Income Discrimination

INCREASE TENANT KNOWLEDGE



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PROHIBITS

SOURCE OF INCOME DISCRIMINATION

- SOCIAL SECURITY
- SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY
 INSURANCE
- VETERANS BENEFITS

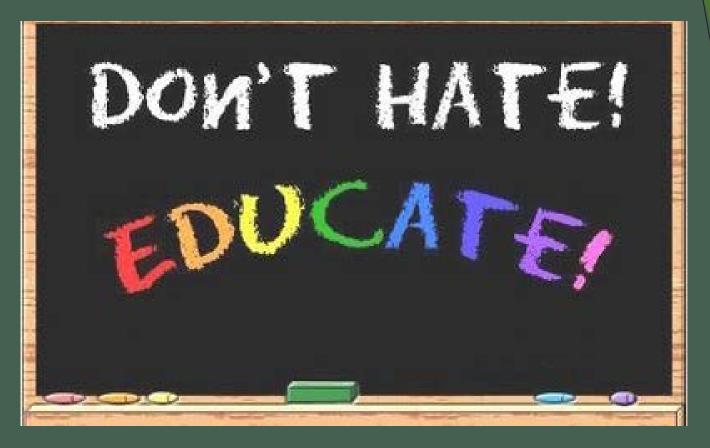
- SECTION 8 VOUCHER
- UNEMPLOYMENT INURANCE
- DISABILITY
- ANY LEGAL SOURCE OF INCOME

Public Service Announcements





INCREASE LANDLORD'S KNOWLEDGE



Landlords Should Receive
Mailers to in tax bill
Opportunities to attend workshops
Incentives to work with voucher recipients

INCREASE PROFESSIONAL'S KNOWLEDGE



Realtors & Property Managers Educate Advocate Appreciate

INCREASE PUBLIC OFFICIAL'S KNOWLEDGE



Leaders should:

- Stay Current on Progressive Housing Policy
 - Encourage Stricter Enforcement
 - Inform constituents of the ordinance
 - Assist in filing complaints

In Conclusion

Affordable Housing Units in the marketplace can be increased simply by increasing knowledge about a law already in place.

SOURCE OF INCOME DISCRIMINATION BY CRAIG EMMANUEL