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"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document: US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Disavowed Tenants Brochure Translated into Creole 1998

Requested date: 2000

Release date: 2000

Posted date: 07-March-2022

See Note on following page

Source of document: Federal Depository Library
<https://www.fdlp.gov/>

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NOTE: This brochure was issued by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in October 1998, purportedly in an English language Creole dialect. The verbiage does not represent any actual dialect and, in any case, these types of dialects are primarily used for oral communications and not typically as written language.

HUD had hired contractors to translate its brochure into a number of languages and Braille, and one was so translated either as a prank or innocently but without careful consideration. HUD disavowed any knowledge of the publication, yet it was somehow approved for US government publication.

In 1998, the Government Printing Office (GPO) -- now called the Government Publishing Office -- officially recalled the HUD brochure and asked all the federal depository library members to return their copies to be destroyed.

The newspaper columnist The Straight Dope published a column on the subject

<https://www.straightdope.com/21342506/did-hud-publish-a-brochure-in-creole-containing-a-parody-of-black-speech>

which said in part:

“If the document was a prank, it was a clever one. “Whoever wrote the text used certain features to reproduce phonologically the peculiarities of Caribbean speech,” says Professor Salikoko Mufwene, chairman of the linguistics department at the University of Chicago and an expert in English-based creoles. Authentic touches include “owme” for home, “affice” for office, and “fambily” for family, as well as the word “fi” (to or for), which is heard in the English-based patois of Jamaica. But no one with half a clue would seriously attempt to write such a brochure. One obvious problem: trying to produce a written document in what is primarily a spoken language. While a few French-based creoles such as Haitian have standardized spelling and are taught in the schools, English-based creoles don’t and aren’t. If a speaker of Caribbean English can read, he reads standard English.”

SUDOC: HH 1.2:R 31/14/CREOLE
ITEM: 0582
LIST NO: 990349P LIST DATE: 990831

Rezedents Rights



& Risponsabilities

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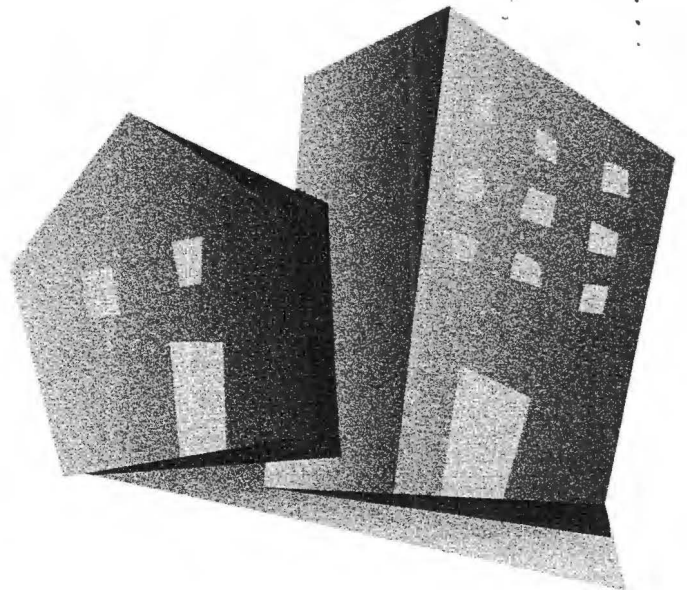
Yuh as a rezedent, ave di rights ahn di rispansabilities to elp mek yuh HUD-asisted owzing ah behta owme fi yuh ahn yuh fambily.

Dis is a brochure distributed to yuh cawze Hud ah provide some fawm ahf asistance aur subsidy fi di whole apawtment buildin. As ah pawt ahfits dedi-cation fi maintain di bes pawsible living enviornment fi all rezedents, yuh HUD field affice encourage ahn suppowts:

- * Communication between rezedents, manigement agents ahn prahpati ownas.
- * Prompt considarashan ahn resalushan ahf rezedent complaints by ownas ahn manigahs.
- * Rezedent auganizashan ahn pawticipashan in decishans regawding di apawtment building dat ahfek di well-being ahf yuh owme.

Along wid yuh owna/manigement agent yuh role is very impowtant in making yuh place ahf rezedence, di unit, di grouns ahn di ahdah cammon areas a behta place fi live ahn also elp create a community yuh caan be proud ahf.

Dis brochure briefly liss some ahf yuh muos impowtant rights ahn rispans-abilities fi elp yuh fi get di muos owt ah yuh owme.



Yuh

Rights

Az ah rezedent in HUD's Mulitfambily owzing yuh mus become aware ahf yuh rights.

Rights

Invalving yuh apawtment

- * De right fi live in a destent, safe, ahn sanitary owzing.
- * De right fi ave repairs done in a timely mannah, uhpan reques, ahn fi ave a quality maintainance program run by manigement.
- * De right fi get reasonable notice, in writing fi ehni non-emergency inspeckshan aur ehni ahdah entry inna yuh apawtment.

Rights

Invalving Rezedent Auganizashans

- * Di rights fi auganize as rezedents widowt obstrukshan, ahrrassment aur retaliashan frawm prahpati ownas aur manigement.
- * Di right fi puoss materials in cammon areas fi infawm ahdah rezedents bout dem rights ahn also about apportunities ahf ow dem caan invalve demself in deir projek.
- * Di right, dat may be subjek to a reasonable, HUD fee, fi use appropriate cammon space aur meeting facilities fi auganize aur fi concidah ehni issue dat ahfek di condishan aur manigement ah di prahpati.
- * Di rights fi recognition by prahpaty ownas ahn manigahs as smady dat ave a seh in rezedenshal community affairs.

Rights

Invalving Non-diskriminashan

Di right fi egual ahn fair treatment ahn di use ahf yuh Building's services ahn facilities, widowt regard to colour, religion, gendah, disability, familial status (children undah 18), National origin (ethnicity aur language), aur age.

Yuh

Risponsabilities

As a rezedent ahfah HUD assisted projek, yuh also ave Cer'en risponsabilities fi ensure dat yuh buildings remain a suitable owme fi yuh ahn yuh neighbahs. By signin yuh lease, yuh ahn di owna/manigement compny ave entad into a legal, enforcible kontrak. Yuh ahn di owna/manigment compny risponsable fi comply wid yuh lease, owse rules ahn local laws govanin yuh prahpati. If yuh ave any question bout yuh lease aur duont ave a copy ahfit, kontak yuh manigement agent aur yuh local HUD field affice.

Risponsabilities

to yuh prahpaty owna aur manigment agent.

- * Complyin wid de rules ahn guidelines dat govan yuh lease.
- * Payin de carrek amount a rent pan a timely basis everi muhnt.
- * Providin accurate infahmation to de owna at de certification aur recertification intahview dat fi determin if yuh eligible fi get assistance, ahn also fi yuh agreement to de release ahf infahmation by a turd party dat wi allow fi verification.

Risponsabilites

to de projek ahn to yuh fellow rezedents

- * Complyin wid de rules ahn guidelines dat govan yuh lease.
- * Payin de carrek amount a rent pan a timely basis everi muhnt.
- * Providin accurate infahmation to de owna at de certification aur recertification intahview dat fi determin if yuh eligible fi get assistance, ahn also fi yuh agreement to de release ahf infahmation by a turd party dat wi allow fi verification.ezedents.
- * Condukting yuhself in a mannah dat wuhduhn disturb yuh neighbahs.
- * Nat engagin in criminal aktiviti inna di unit, common areas aur grounds.
- * Fi kyp yuh unit clean ahn nat littaryn di grounds aur common areas.
- * Fi dispose a yuh gawbiga ahn wase in a prapah mannah.
- * Fi comply wid local kwodes dat affek de ehlt aur safety ahf di rezedence.
- * Fi maintain yuh apawtment ahn common areas in di same general physical candition as wehn yuh moved in.
- * Fi report ehni defeks inna de building systems, fixtures, appliances ahn ahdah pawts a di unit, di grounds aur related facilities to de manigement.

Yuh Pawticipation is Impowtant

Rezedents in de HUD assisted familial owzin play an impowtant rowle in di decishan dat affek dem prokek. Diffrent HUD prowgrams provide fi specifik rezedents. Yuh ave di right fi know undah waht HUD prowgram yuh building is assisted. Fi fyneout if yuh apawtment buildin covad undah ehni a di fahlowing kategories kontak yuh manigement agent.

If yuh buildin ave a mawgage lown undah **sekshan 202** aur is assisted undah **sekshan 230,221(d) (3)/BMIR, Rent Suppliment prowgram aur de sekshan 8 lown Manigement Set Aside Prowgram** fahlowin convershan ahf de prowjek from rent suppliment, program assistant yuh ave di right fi pawticipate in aur be notified ahf, ahn comment on di following:

- * An inkrease ahf di maximuhm permissible rent.
- * Convershan ahf a prowjek fram prowjek-paid utilities to tenant-paid utilities aur a redukshan in tenant utility ahlowance.
- * Convershan ahf rezedential units inna multifambily owzing prowjek inna non- rezedential use aur canduhminiums, aur di transfer ahf di prowjek inna cooperative owzing mawgagah caparaishan aur associashan.
- * Pawshal release ahf mawgage sikurity.
- * Capital improvments dat represent substatial addition to de prowjek.
- * Non renewal ahf a prowjek-based sekshan 8 kontrak.



Yuh

Participation

continued...

If yuh buildin is subsidized undah di sekshan 202 aur 811 prowgram ahf di Nashinal Owzing Ahk, yuh ave the right fi notifikashan ahf, ahn to comment pan a reques to HUD fi consent to di prepayment ahf a lown

If yuh buildin ave a prowjek-based sekshan 8 kontrak dat soon expyah aur bein terminated ahn will naht be renewed, yuh ave a right to a wan year "powtable" Sekshan 8 certificate dat yuh caan use inna ehni buildin wid rents in di allowable range. Yuh also ave de right to Appawtunity Kownseling, weh yuh caan learn bout owzing aupshans dat is available to you. If yuh live inna wan buildin dat is ownwed by HUD dat a sell, yuh ave di right to be notified, ahn comment pan, HUD's plan fi dispowse ahf di buildin. If yuh fawm aur awreddi fawm a rezedent di auganizashan, yuh ahn yuhfella tenants caan nigoshiate wid HUD to buy di buildin fi establish karpowrative owzin aur rezedent owned rental units.

"We ave a pawtnaship wid everi rezedent of HUD-assisted owzing developments: HUD prowtekss di rights ahf di tenants, ahn tenants gauwd dem own right tru rispansible be'aviah. Owah goal is fi guh beyan dat pawtnaship ahn create a sense ahf community by encouraging di rezedents fi bekum more aktive ahn invalve demselves inna di decishans dat ahfek di development ahf deir own owzing developments."

Sekretary Andrew M. Cuomo fella

Addishinal Asistance



If yuh need ahni elp aur more infahmashan yuh mus kontak:

- * Yuh prahpaty manigah.
- * Di prowjek manigah inna di Mulifambily HUB aur yuh local prowgram centah.
- * Di owzin counssellin agency inna yuh kummunty (fi ahsistantce, call di HUD Owzing Counsellin Service lowcatah at 1-800-569-4287).
- * HUD's Nahshinal Multifambily clearin at 1-800-685-8470 fi repowt maintenance aur manigement conserns.
- * De affice ahf de Inspectah General aht line at 1-800-347-3735 aur 202-708-4200 fi repowt fraud,waste aur mismanigement..

World Wide Web-<http://www.hud.gov>

- HUD Storefront Office-<http://www.hud.gov/storefront/>
- Community Builders-<http://www.hud.gov/combuild.html>
- Fair Housing- <http://www.hud.gov/fhe/fheo.html>
- Resident Rights and Responsibilities Brochure
<http://www.hud.gov/fha/fharent.html>

If yuh belive dat yuh ave suffahd from discriminashan aur whud like more infahmashan call 1-800-669-9777 aur cawl yuh lowkal HUD affice ahf Fair Owzing ahn Equal Appatunity.

Yuh lowkal govahment tenant/lanlawd ahfair ahfice,legal services ahfice, ahn tenant auganizashan may also provide yuh wid more infahmashanpan ahdishanal rites yuh ave ahanda lowkal aur state law.

Dis broshure bout yuh rite ahn risppansibilities as a rezedent ahf HUD ahsisted multifambily owzin is also avalable in Braille ahn de fahlowing languages, English, Spanish, Mandarine, Chinese, French, Russian, Vietamese, Korean,.Creole,Portugues ahn Ethiopian,Contak yuh lowkal HUD Prowgram Centah aur HUD's Nahshinal Multifambily Owzing Clearinowse at 1-800-685-8470



**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**

Office of Multifamily Housing Programs

Washington, DC 20410-0000

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