



European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination

NEWS REPORT

Country:	France
Title:	Experimental testing on discrimination in access to private housing towards young people
Date:	13 December 2017
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Assessing the risk of discrimination in access to housing of young people throughout the national territory in combination with multiple factors
Ground of discrimination:	Race/ethnic origin, religion/belief, age, multiple discrimination, other grounds
Source:	Miscellaneous
Field:	Housing

Content

The study was financed by the Youth Experimental Fund (*Fonds d'Expérimentation pour la Jeunesse*) constituted to support social integration of youths under 25 years of age occupying their first employment.

The methodology consisted of identifying rental adds for small apartments throughout the territory, situated downtown and in the suburbs, and presenting through the methods indicated in the mail, by web forms or email contact comparable candidates with four types of specific characteristics four types of candidates, and when a positive result followed, going through the proposed telephone interview - all information being documented:

- 40 years old of neutral characteristics
- 20 years old with neutral characteristics
- 20 years old with North African name and surname
- 20 years old from underprivileged suburbs

It aimed at testing 455 rental offers of small flats in private housing throughout the French Metropolitan territory, in order to assess whether the risk of discrimination in access to private housing was related to specific profiles related to age only, or age in combination with North African origin or the place of residence. The candidate's North African origin was indicated through his or her name and surname.

The results did not account for risks exclusively related to young age, whether the tests presented female or male candidates. However, results related to candidates of North-African origin clearly indicate a risk of discrimination, whether they are young or middle aged, or coming from an underprivileged suburb or not. In addition, the results indicate a risk of discrimination towards persons from underprivileged suburbs. However, this risk is less important, considering that persons from underprivileged suburbs will be preferred to persons of North African origin.

Key points of analysis: This study leads to the conclusion that there is no significant risk of discrimination on the ground of young age. Meanwhile it confirms that territorial discrimination in access to private housing exists but clearly reveals that it is less important than ethno-racial discrimination against persons of North African origin.

Internet link source:

http://www.experimentation.jeunes.gouv.fr/spip.php?page=article&id_article=1271.