1. Mohammed Bouali
2. Lives in student house in a room with four others. Shared kitchen and shared bathrooms. Room comes with bed and clothing rack and heater. Mohammed has been living there for a year and a month. The process of finding the housing took three months.
3. He’s happy with where he is now. Everything is close by, good roommates, housing agency is as good as it can get according to Mohammed. The only way he considers moving is if it is closer to Fontys and city center for the same price range.
4. His experience with finding housing is terrible. Doesn’t have so much to do with the websites, but more with the lack of housing. And often the people already living in a student house get to decide if someone new comes in, which in turn makes it worse. Hasn’t experienced it first-hand, but has heard of it (background, name, etc.). Not the case with agencies, first come first serve with them. There is a distinct difference in experience between agencies / landlords that decide and landlords that let tenants decide.
5. It was hard to find anything and Mohammed considers himself lucky. This is because Fontys gave him an email of a certain person, who put him on a list for housing. Mohammed was first on the list through a set of circumstances and was then offered the room.
6. Mohammed has used Pararius, Kamernet, and Huurwoningen. The last one, Huurwoningen, is a paid service that Mohammed signed up for, with no results. He also used a fourth service that was paid, but forgot the name. Moh would often search every 10 minutes on these services on a daily basis. Mohammed had very few viewings, often passed over by other companies. As such, Moh feels discriminated against.
7. The discrimination was very frustrating and annoying. Very few offerings would come by and they’d leave just as fast as they’d come in. Anecdotal: a friend of his found a place with a landlord that seemed to try to respect his background.
8. Moh liked the quality of the pictures shown (rooms, house, etc.) and the extensive details of what you get and what they expect. For paid sites it was nice that paying led to hastened queue’s.
9. It would be nice to be able to reply anonymously to offerings.
10. So far everything that was offered in the contract was here, no complaints. Room was clean and everything was as promised.
11. Moh has a portal of the agency where Moh can file complaints and such. Goes straight to the housing agency. Only annoyance is that Moh has to pay 15 Euros every month. Is relatively satisfied with the landlord, is also quick to repair broken things.
12. Price, size, location, number of room mates, furnished or not
13. Date of posting
14. Price and location
15. Preferably whenever a new listing goes up
16. Nothing to add, only problem is supply and demand which is simply an issue that can’t be fixed by a website. “It’s not your fault,” said Mohammed.