

HOUSING BIAS CHARGED TO 19 BY RIGHTS UNIT

How Negroes Obtained Their Evidence

The Chicago Freedom Movement, a coalition of the city's civil rights groups, has filed 74 complaints against 19 real estate brokers, charging Negroes were denied housing in all-white neighborhoods, it was disclosed yesterday.

Citing the Chicago Fair Housing ordinance of 1963, the Freedom group asked the Chicago Commission on Human Relations to recommend suspension or revocation of the brokers' licenses.

Mayor Daley was also asked to direct the corporation counsel to file a complaint with the state department of registration and education seeking revocation or suspension of the accused brokers' licenses as well.

Explain Procedure

Most of the complaints are against real estate dealers in the Gage Park area.

A spokesman for the Chicago Freedom Movement said that the same procedure was followed in all "cases of discrimination."

First a Negro or a Negro couple would walk into a specific real estate office and ask about the availability of apartments or houses. The spokesman said the Negroes were told by the 19 real estate brokers that nothing was available, or else directed to an all-Negro area.

After the Negroes were turned down, the spokesman said, a white couple would inquire about housing and be shown "numerous listings."

In one incident, the spokesman said, a young Negro woman was told outright that no homes or apartments were available. A white woman shortly afterwards was shown three apartments which were available immediately and four others which were available after Aug. 1.

Get Outright 'No'

Two other Negro women were told outright that landlords would not sell or rent to Negroes, the spokesman said.

"Other real estate brokers simply refused to give out listings or said there was nothing available," he added.

In the complaints to the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the civil rights group asked the city agency to investigate the policies of the Chicago Board of Realtors "to determine if the policies are racially and religiously discriminatory."

The complaints noted that the real estates which "were discriminatory" are members of the Chicago Board of Realtors.

The Chicago Freedom Movement also asked the human relations commission to make public the findings of an investigation of real estate firms which have been picketed in the Gage Park and Chicago Lawn communities recently.

Signing the complaints were Albert Raby, convener, Coordinating Council of Community organizations, and Martin Luther King Jr., president, Southern Christian Leadership conference.