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As a tenant you have certain rights and it is important that you understand them in case you have to exercise one against your landlord. Some of the landlords are difficult to deal with while others are pleasant. All duties and responsibilities are outlined in your contract. If something of that sort happens then it is necessary that you notify the landlord in writing and keep a copy of it. You must keep on reminding him. If he still fails to carry out the repairs then you can seek external assistance. There are many agencies which provide this assistance. If the matter is of urgency then for health and safety reasons, local council has the power to carry out the work and bill the landlord.

Your neighbors

It is very important that you have good relations with your neighbors. This is mainly because you owe a certain duties towards your neighbors and if you are negligent in fulfilling them, it is likely that he/she will complain to the police, e.g. about your late night noisy party. Hence a good idea will be to go around and meet them once in a while. Do little favors for them, e.g. sending over cookies or chocolates. If you are on friendly terms with your neighbors, it is highly unlikely that they will call police on you.

Mostly, common causes of problem among neighbors are noise, late night parties, cars blocking their driveways, rubbish left in the garden, back alleys and pavement, friends ringing bells on wrong houses etc.

It is important that you understand the temperament of your neighbor and try your best not to give them a hard time.

Visits and harassments by the landlord

Landlords have a legal right to visit their property for inspection purposes and tenants have no right to refuse such an access to the landlord. However, they must give atleast one days notice to the tenant and also give a reasonable time of the visit. Emergency access can be made by the landlord without giving any notice in case there is a serious risk of damage to the property or tenant.

Student tenants are sometimes subject to harassment by their landlords. You must be aware of the fact that harassment is illegal and landlord can never use undue pressure on a tenant in order to make him leave before time. They can only evist a tenant and even that cannot be done without a court order.

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