

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

One unit suggested "immediate mediation and legal redress....."

One unit suggested ".....available to both sides."

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? YES

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? YES

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

YES!

- Describe 1. Need for administrative agency to administer Federal law.
2. Difficulty in respecting interests of several parties concurrently.
 3. There will be only token implementation until local and state laws are passed.
 4. Enforcement is difficult.
 5. Attitudes of our social structures.
 6. Lack of knowledge.
 7. Neurotic attitudes (need for hate).

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

No survey, but this question was asked at Unit meetings.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Unreceptive; general attitude apparently becoming malleable; resistant to change; fearful; fear of what will happen to property values; resentment of being forced; economic pressure effective. One unit summed it up with this statement: lack of communication - it is not talked about among neighbors and we don't really know how others feel. This same unit continued that there is definitely some absolute opposition to integration of any kind.

Special Note: This meeting was received with great enthusiasm and commanded the largest turnout for Unit meetings in the Dallas League. With 221 present (members and visitors) many Units reported record numbers present, and many stayed well into the afternoon.

Date Nov. 7, 1968
Reporting Unit Meetings of
Oct. 23, 24, 1968

Signed _____
Katherine Trewitt
Position Human Resources Chairman

NOV 26 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE DENTON
STATE TEXAS

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? Yes In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? Yes In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Some concern was expressed that the power to withhold funds could result in inequities and/or damage to the community. For example, if the schools were complying with Federal desegregation regulations, they should not be subject to the withholding of their funds. Also, the possible withholding of OEO funds could be considered short-sighted in that help would be denied to a part of the community most in need. This group of members wanted more specifics.

The substantial majority felt that the Federal government was not going

What changes or elaborations should be made?

to use such power indiscriminately; that it would be used only as a last resort after all other attempts at resolution by mediation, etc. were exhausted; and that this item should be answered with a "yes."

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Obvious and essential.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Our League expressed concern that staffing would be inadequate for this area of enforcement. Dissemination of information to plaintiffs about their rights, procedures and help available was considered to be an important aspect.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Our members felt that the likelihood of such adequate funding was miniscule.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Obvious and necessary.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

We currently have an item on rehabilitation of blighted neighborhoods, in which we hope to determine the effect of discriminatory housing practices on perpetuation of such neighborhoods. However, our study is just beginning and we are unprepared at this time to answer this question.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

YES

Describe:

Our League feels that no program of fair housing will be successful without massive changes in human attitudes. We believe that unless such changes occur the real goal of open occupancy legislation will not be realized.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

Not applicable at this time.

A. What are your major findings?

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Date November 23, 1968

Signed

Janette K. Schkade

Position Chairman, Human Resources

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

DEC 2 1968

LOCAL LEAGUE Harlingen

STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Full
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

In some instances there is a need for education to protect property values.

Responsibilities follow freedom of restrictions and certainly applies to owners of homes as well as any other commodity such as cars, guns, boats, etc.

The buyer should know his responsibilities of home ownership and the seller's responsibility should be clearly defined before he enters into a contract with any agent or personal agreement of earnest.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? part In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

The members feel that there must be harmony between local zoning laws and federal laws, ie, in industrial, residential, and multi-family dwellings.

Some felt there should be no state or local fair housing laws as a federal law is adequate and that there is likely to be conflicts.

The private sector has a most important role to play as discrimination is an attitude and attitudes cannot be legislated.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? part In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing for all people, there should be no favored ethnic group.

Federal funds should not be withheld from any community in which discrimination in access to housing occurs: most laws carry sufficient penalties for offenders as does the housing law; in most instances the discriminators would not be affected, only those who are discrim-

What changes or elaborations should be made?
inated against and who are the benefactors of most federal funded programs.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? full
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

To eliminate overlapping, duplication, and conflicts.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? full
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Mediation and legal redress should be readily available for both buyer and seller regardless of race, color, etc.

Again, there should be no favored ethnic group.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? full
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

For the protection of both parties.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? full
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

We feel that housing is a community problem and could best be handled on the local level if possible.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe: Yes - Some property owners feel that in many instances members of some minority groups do cause property values to deteriorate in resale value but not in taxable value.

Some feel that property owner's civil rights are being restricted if they cannot sell or rent to people of their own choosing.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

~~xxx~~
The A. What are your major findings?

The survey was brief but sufficient to determine that ~~a~~ fair housing laws are not needed in Harlingen. All citizens are able to buy or rent homes in any location that they are financially able and are doing so.

There are 355 families presently housed in low cost housing projects with 123 more units to be completed by mid 1969. This is considered adequate for this community by the Housing Authority of the City. The one remaining hotel is now being converted to apartments for the elderly to accomodate those in the low income bracket.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Better than average an improving. There has been no seperation of ethnic groups for the past fifteen years. Some are a little resentful, but for the most part the integration has been accepted, and as a result many blighted areas are being removed or improved.

Date 11-22-68

Signed Betty Williams

Position Pres -

DEC 2 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE HOUSTON
STATE TEXAS

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

1. Minority opposition due to economic fears and not quite ready to accept intergrated society.
2. Some felt need for local reinforcement of national law.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

There is some feeling that the seller or renter needs protection against false charges of discrimination.

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Some felt----1. Would like to see increase in private enterprise.

2. Emphasis should be placed on public education to show that neighborhoods can be successfully intergrated and property values maintained.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? YES In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

1. Minority felt that past performance of government programs in Texas , Laredo in particular had not been successful and wish to see drastic changes in public housing projects.
2. Majority did not want funds withheld as it would hurt the people who would benefit most. They would rather see more assistance given to private enterprise who are helping with low-income housing.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Enforcement of Fair Housing should be done through the courts.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Proceedures for legal redress should be simple and clearly set forth.

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Legal aid should be available to help complaintents to bring suits to court.

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Evaluations should be acted upon not just filed away.
Far away evaluators are not wanted. Some on Federal level but not full control of evaluation.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Evaluation should be done by an outside objective agent, even the League and it should be a local group or agent.

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

Texas has no legislation covering fair housing.

Houston has no legislation covering fair housing.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Minority felt local legislation was necessary to enforce federal law.

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

YES

Describe: 1. Individual attitudes most important. Some felt there could be mass panic if intergration forced in some areas.

2. Length of litigation and costs to individuals

3. Civic clubs and deed restrictions (no local zoning)

4. Lack of funding for enforcement.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. Survey made by Houston Council of Human Relations
What are your major findings?

1. 60,000 sub-standard housing units
2. no minimum standard Housing Code
3. several ghetto pockets in metropolitan Houston
4. only 2,563 Public Housing Units in city of over 1½ million people
5. no paved streets or sewage facilities in depressed areas
6. existing Fire, Sanitation and Health Codes rarely enforced due to lack of personnel and ordinances that are too cumbersome to work with.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Small segments are moving in right direction. However, general population is either uninterested, uneducated to laws or passive in activity.

Majority felt neighbors mainly opposed to desegregation for economic reasons.

Date November 21, 1968

Signed Jean Hards

Position Housing Chairman

Although the following are not guidelines for fact housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

- Additional questions:
1. How has discrimination produced ghettos, barrios, minority enclaves? Have factors other than discrimination produced ghettos, barrios, minority enclaves?
 2. What is the relationship of housing discrimination to jobs, transportation, education?
 3. What roles do churches, city officials business community, schools, civic organizations, and individuals play in maintaining or trying to change patterns of segregation?
 4. What, if any, has been the effect of existing legislation on housing patterns?

Position Housing Chairman
Stacy Jean Harris
November 21, 1988

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

NOV 25 1968
LOCAL LEAGUE _____
STATE IRVING
TEXAS

Fifty
GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? YES

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

All Units felt action was necessary and that ideally people should be educated to accept all races, but legal means are a necessary wedge with which to start.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

There was strong expression against laws applying to a private home; "will not these laws infringe on the individual's right to own and sell his own property?"

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Altho there was intense agreement there was also expressed a great need for education on the local level. This is more fully discussed in last question.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

There was a divergence of opinion here altho a small group did feel no funds should be withheld since those the law is meant to help would be hurt. Those programs including job training, health and education especially need to be continued. Some were in favor of discontinuing funds for housing if requirements for Open Housing were not met.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

One Unit thought no amount of funds would really be adequate for complete enforcement.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

However, this League is puzzled that HUD has no committee in either House. Would not such a committee speed the funding of the Housing programs?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Set up a committee in House and/or Senate.

- II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

We are just beginning.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

Except for private homes, all members participating supported the present Federal laws. One member stated she felt the Law a protection to everyone - "if people know they cannot move to an all white neighborhood they will be more likely to stay put and preserve property values."

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws? YES

Describe:

Interviews with realators who have lived in Irving for many years reveal great strides have been made from the time when a negro did not dare be seen in the city after dark!

A minister who moved here last year feels there is great anti-negro feeling.

Two realators are willing to try and fill housing needs of minority groups and several Latin Americans have homes. A negro family is in one or two apartment houses.

Without a State or local Fair Housing Law is not any implementation difficult?

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

Housing codes do not prevent sub-standard housing.
No interest in low-cost housing projects.
Apartments in 1967 were 98% occupied.
Thinking ahead to the Regional Airport, planning is geared to a very high cost housing development.
The Leipziger Plan is out of date but being used as a guide. It was introduced thru efforts of the League several years ago as was the hiring of a Planner.
Action is taken on empty delapidated housing. Present industries expressed a need for transportation and low cost homes

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Improved from many years ago but "uninformed, apprehensive scared and agin it" as one of our recorders phrased it.

Unanimous agreement expressed for a need to educate the community. The local paper would not print an editorial in favor of Open Housing but might include articles. Person-to-person education was also recommended.

Date Nov. 7, 1968

Signed (Mrs. W. G.) Cecile L. Meyer
Secretary and Chairman, Housing
Position _____

DEC 2 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE

Lubbock

STATE

Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

yes

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Individuals have rights to sell to whom they please. There are considerations other than those listed.

Objection to being unable to sell to whomever you want-- because of friends in block.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

FHA should be required to keep prices in line with other homes in neighborhood. Question on FHA appraisals.

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

yes

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Members seemed to feel that government on the local level should have responsibility or main role rather than federal government. This was not a consensus, rather opinions of individual members in two of the four units.

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

No agreement.

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Disagreed about whether all federal funds should be withdrawn from communities when there is discrimination. If there is a violation of housing then withhold federal funds which concern housing.

Some wanted to know what federal funds and programs would be involved? What are the criteria and how clear are they to

XX the local government and people? Some said the government doesn't even have a complete listing of programs. What changes or elaborations should be made? What are the criteria to cut off all federal funds, couldn't administer this.

Some agreement on withholding housing funds.

Withholding federal funds adversely affects poor section. If FHA and VA funds withheld, sellers and lenders suffer-- interest rates higher on private funds.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? ✓

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? ✓

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? ~~yes~~

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

In order to enforce this segment, a change should be made
in court procedure.
Funding for personnel to train people in integrated communities
to maintain homes and standards and to help neighbors work
together.

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should
be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? ~~yes~~

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

We have no fair housing item on state or local program.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

These are minority suggestions from individual unit members. Perhaps these need to be consensus questions for our group at the next unit meetings on this subject in the spring. Some said fair housing laws should apply to everyone including individual owners selling their own houses. Rent and purchase subsidies--for individual units.

~~What kinds of legislation do you oppose?~~

More enforcement clauses.
Correlation of local and state legislation to federal. Keep as much enforcement at local level as possible.
Need more low cost housing for rental property.
Facilitate condemnation procedures to get substandards off the market.
Break log jam of court cases on substandard housing.
Educate those who are renting to become owners in projects given by private groups. (The Unitarian Church in our community is

~~Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?~~

experimenting with such a project.)
Need a local housing law.

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe:

Coordinate Supreme Court decision and Federal laws.
Need educational program on responsibilities of home ownership.
Individual cooperation so that panic selling will not occur.
Need low cost single-family dwellings.
Need local housing laws.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

A preliminary survey found substandard housing still in use, public housing not filled to capacity, and a large group of FHA and VA repossessed homes in northeast section of town in \$8,000-\$13,000 or less range.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

There seems to be a negative climate of opinion in our community. Individuals are for fair-housing as long as it doesn't involve them. Fear of financial loss--not so much the social contact. Open occupancy frightens builders and apartment owners. Mortgage lenders feel there is a big risk involved because there is deterioration of property value when neighborhood is integrated. Realtors say they will abide by current law, but believe person has right to sell to a person he chooses. Builders say they will be hard to find if they don't want to build for a Negro.

Date 11-24-68

Signed Shirley Reese

Position Chairman, Human Resources

En State

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE

DEC 5 1968

Richardson

STATE

Illinois

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____

In full? _____

Does your League disagree in part? _____

In full? _____

Yes

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

*We have one nation, not two nations.
The white sector of our nation has never
been restricted; why the Negro?*

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

No one part can do it alone; there must be cooperation. It was felt that only the govt. has the funds to make the major effort but that private businesses (sectors) must take an increasing part.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Change the concept of public housing to make it more liveable. The public needs to be educated as to just what fair housing means.

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ [✓] In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? ✓ ^{7 against} In full? ✓

Explanation of disagreement or agreement? *Agreement on the 1st part,*

Disagreement on withholding of Federal funds. Some felt all funds should be withheld while others thought this would hurt some who needed help & in some affluent communities it might not make a difference. Some

What changes or elaborations should be made? *thought it might be done on a selective basis such as withholding funds for road-building. A few felt this was no way to enforce the law - by coercion.*

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓ yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓ yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

→ funding of HUD
encouraging law schools, ^{other} private endeavor
for legal redress

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

yes

Describe:

*transportation limitations
cooperation of realtors not forthcoming*

Discrimination will be hard to prove or disprove.

*Biggest job seems to be one of educating the public to
allay fears; so that hopefully it ^(Fair Housing) can eventually
occur without a lot of legal involvement.*

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

*Richardson is basically an
upper middle class white suburb with zoning & building codes
aimed at keeping it that way. Very little low income
housing available with no future for any more being built.
No public transportation so very difficult to fill jobs such as
school custodians, cafeteria helpers, maids etc.*

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with
respect to residential desegregation?

*A lot of indifference as many
feel it can't happen in Richardson - not on any large scale as
most couldn't afford to live here. Fear as to ~~property~~ ^{property} devaluation.
Many would like to keep it exclusive but a growing number
are involved actively or in sympathy with the idea of Fair
Housing.*

Date Nov. 30, 1968

Signed Anne B. Taylor

Position Chairman - Human Resources

Committee

State office

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
1017 North Main Ave
San Antonio, Texas 78212

LOCAL LEAGUE

STATE

NOV 22 1968

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? ✓ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

The standards and judging of equality in a community must be set and made with extreme care. Federal funds should only be withdrawn in extreme cases of discrimination as a final "lever" for gaining cooperation. Federal funds should be withdrawn only in the field of housing where the violations occurred.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

The "chain of command" of our local ordinance is hazy and may need strengthening as it is tried out in the future.

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Better education and dissemination of information in the general field of housing and the specific opportunities for gaining redress are needed.

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____ ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____ ✓
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level? The local fair housing ordinance has so recently been enacted that there has been insufficient time to judge its effectiveness. However, the local Community Relations Commission, which is an integral part of the system of redress of complaints, is weak and needs strengthening. It should have subpoena powers. Further study and evaluation of its effectiveness is needed. There is a need for interpretation of whether or not the State Constitution may be interpreted to cover redress in cases of discrimination.

Local 30-day limitation should be changed to coincide with 180-day limitation.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

There is a need for Fair Housing Legislation at the State level which should have the broadest possible coverage but which would contain the present exemptions (Mrs. Murphy's).

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

There is a gap on the State level in the entire anti-discrimination field-- FEPC, Human Rights, Fair Housing--both on the part of the State Government and the State LWV.

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?
Yes

Describe:

1. Possible weakness in the application of Local ordinance by the necessity of having complaints go through the weak Community Relations Commission to the City Council for decision on whether or not case should go to Corporation Court.
2. Some problems may arise by the lower penalty in local ordinance than in Federal.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

1. The socio-economic stratification is the greatest barrier at the present time in San Antonio.
2. Housing supply for low income families is insufficient.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Individual prejudice remains a factor in good over-all community climate and will become more measurable when progress in the two factors listed above make the upward movement of minority groups more evident.

Date November 18, 1968

Signed

Mrs. L. O. Burkland

Position

Chairman, Human Resources Committee
San Antonio, Texas

(OK)

DEC 3 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE San Marcos
STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

None

What changes or elaborations should be made?

None

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

None

What changes or elaborations should be made?

None

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? X In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? In full?

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

[illegible]

If a federal or local government project, yes-

Whole community would collapse for one person ignoring law.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Investigations of charges of discrimination should be promptly investigated.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes - clearly
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

None

What changes or elaborations should be made?

None

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes - promptly
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

~~XXX~~
None

What changes or elaborations should be made?

None

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Without prompt enforcement, so many things would not be properly handled.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

None

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes - in full
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

None

What changes or elaborations should be made?

None

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

Have None

What kinds of legislation do you support?

N/A

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

N/A

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

N/A

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe: Many - human nature - state laws - people will device ways to get around law.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

Need for both low and middle income housing, see attached information.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Mostly prejudiced, but improving.

Date

Nov. 27, 1968

Signed

Julio Vasquez

Position

Chairman, Human Resources

FACTS ABOUT HOUSING IN SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

These facts include only Wallace Addition and Victoria areas I & II.

I. Population:

(The city population is 17,500. Minority groups population is 43.6%). Population by income: 240 families with an income of less than three thousand dollars. These income figures were taken mostly from Mexican-American and Colored races.

Source of population increases are the Camp Gary employees residing in San Marcos, and SWTSC employees, staff and students, plus new marriages.

II. Substandard Dwellings:

How many dwellings are substandard? 506; have inadequate heat? 450. No, the structures do not comply with building codes. No, windows and doors are not screened. No, dwellings are not free of insects and rodents.

Some public services are available: garbage collection, Yes; utility maintenance, Yes; street lighting, No; paved roads, No; good sewage system, No.

III. Housing Supply:

We are out of FHA jurisdiction because we are over 5,000 in population, that is why there has not been made an FHA analysis of the community.

There are sixty public housing units, they were built in 1953. The qualifications for occupancy are based on income and family size. Preference is given to veterans and those being displaced by Urban Renewal. There is a waiting list of forty-two families trying to move into these low-income housing units. There are no units specially constructed for the elderly. There are no social services available and no recreational areas. Some of these dwellings are over crowded.

Most of the families living in substandard housing would be eligible for public housing because their income is less than the maximum allowed for public housing eligibility.

There is land available for further public housing construction in the vicinity of Loop 82 east of San Marcos. There will be 125 units built by next year. Fifty of these units will be specially for the elderly, also, there will be social services and recreational facilities available for young and old.

IV. Housing Programs:

1. Urban Renewal
2. Relocation Neighborhood Facilities
3. Homes for Low and Moderate Income Facilities, (221 d). By-Rev. Richard Trevino.
4. Community "Self-Help" Housing Program "Co-op Type" by-Charles Besinais.

V. Fair Housing Committee:

The city does have a code and zoning enforced. Mr. Jack Major and Mr. Larry Gordon are in charge of this department. There is a local housing ordinance but not a Fair Housing Committee.

VII. Housing -- Employment:

There are 426 head of households doing low-skilled jobs with an income of less than three thousand dollars per year. Most of these people work at the local college cafeterias, laundries, restaurants and motels. Some work at Gary Job Corps. All have to commute. There are local people working at the local public schools and at the hospital mostly as custodians.

DEC 2 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE Tarrant County
STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING

Introductory Paragraph

The following background information is included so that the conclusions drawn by this group may be better understood.

Besides the National Development of Human Resources item, the LWV of Tarrant County has a local item: "Civil Order-A study of local developments that support civil order and conditions that may produce civil disorder in the light of the report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders." One of the grievances listed in this report relates to housing, so the local committee and the national DHR committee met together to gather the information for the local housing survey which has been collected so far.

On September 14, 1968 the LWV of Tarrant County television program was on Civil Order, focusing on inadequate housing. The panelists were: Rev. Paul Sims, Director of Programs for the Community Action Agency; Mrs. Walter Williams, Board member of Neighborhood Action, Inc.; Mr. Lloyd Miller, Equal Opportunity Representative of HUD; Mary Harding of Tarrant County LWV moderated; and Chris Miller, Hostess.

On September 25, 1968 at the Membership Coffee a panel discussed local Civil Order. Panelists were: Miss Josephine Beckwith, Executive Director of the Bethlehem Community Center; Mrs. John Roberts, immediate past President of the Tarrant County LWV; Mrs. Barbara Martin from the Community Relations Department of the Fort Worth Library, moderator; Mr. Dale Hinson, recently resigned Chairman of the Fort Worth Community Relations Commission; Mr. Harold Odom, Equal Opportunity Specialist in the regional office of HUD; and Mrs. Walter Williams, Board member of Neighborhood Action, Inc. This program was taped by radio station WRAP for rebroadcast that evening.

On October 2, 1968 there was a Go-See Bus Tour of Fort Worth housing. Mrs. Mary Criss from Neighborhood Action, Inc. and Mr. W. W. Patterson who works in the Neighborhood Improvement Program for the City of Fort Worth were the guides, with the assistance of the bus driver, Mr. Tony Hughes.

Prior to the unit meetings each member was sent the "Facts and Issues: A Promise to Keep", a summary of the "Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders", and the local survey material "Civil Order-Fair Housing Criteria". Those members who had copies of "Are the 'Shackles Struck Away by New Housing Law?' The National Voter, July, 1968, and "Crisis: the Condition of the American City" were encouraged to read them.

There 150 members and guests at the Membership Coffee, 32 members and guests on the Go-See Housing Tour, and 68 members and guests who took part in the unit meetings on Housing.

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE Tarrant County
STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

There was general agreement that ability to pay is a factor.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

The public needs to be educated both to accept integration and to work for it.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

There were no answers and no consensus was reached. Discussion centered on whether the question meant withholding all federal funds or specific program funds. The explanation of this point in the National Board Report arrived after discussions.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

There is great concern that the present programs have not been funded adequately.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

Housing has been studied as a part of the local item on Civil Order. There have been no conclusions drawn on local legislation. The opinion was expressed that local legislation on fair housing could not be passed.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe:

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

See attached copy of "Civil Order-Fair Housing Criteria".

At present housing is in short supply in every price range in this area both for rental and purchase. There is no housing available for purchase for people of limited income.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

It appears that the community is not ready to accept residential desegregation to any extent.

Date November 19, 1968

Signed Mrs. Robert H. Stearn

Position Chairman

Development of Human Resources
Committee

1ST OCTOBER UNIT PROGRAM: CIVIL ORDER - FAIR HOUSING CRITERIA

This report of the Civil Order Committee on Local Low Income Housing is intended to give each member the information she needs for intelligent discussion at the early October unit meetings. The housing go-see tour should provide excellent supplementary information as did the program at the membership coffee. In addition, read the Facts & Issues "A Promise to Keep" mailed on local subscription.

In 1960, the population of Tarrant County was 538,495. Negroes were 11% of the total, and residents with Spanish surnames were 3.6%.

Since 1960, the Negro population of Fort Worth has been increasing more than three times as fast as the white population. From less than one-sixth of the total in 1960, it has risen to more than one-fifth of the total.

At the time of the 1960 census, half the Anglo-American families in Tarrant County had incomes of more than \$6,000. One-third of the Spanish surname families had this much income. Only one-ninth of the Negro families had incomes higher than \$6,000. Half the Negro families had incomes under \$3,000. This means that Negroes lived only half as well as Anglo-Americans, and Latins lived only two-thirds as well as Anglos.

In 1960, an adult Negro in Tarrant County was somewhat more likely to live alone than a white person. A Negro child was twice as likely to live in a household of six or more as a white child.

Although Negroes occupy about their numerical share of dwelling units, they are twice as likely as whites to be living in unsound housing, four times as likely as whites to be living in dilapidated housing. More than half the Negro families live in structures built before 1939; a third of the whites live in older structures. Almost half of the Negro families are renters; fewer than a third of the white families rent.

In Fort Worth in 1963, there are 135,000

houses, of which 35,000 are substandard. The Neighborhood Improvement Program is an effort of the City of Fort Worth to improve housing conditions by code enforcement. It has two divisions, the Concentrated Code Enforcement Division and the Housing Standards Division. The Housing Standards Division inspects vacant housing everywhere in the city. If violations of the Minimum Housing Standards Code are found, the dwelling is posted and may not be occupied unless the defects are remedied. It must be repaired or demolished. Penalties are severe, and enforcement is vigorous. Occupied dwellings are not inspected unless a complaint is received. Anyone may lodge a complaint.

In the three Concentrated Code Enforcement Areas, all structures are inspected, whether occupied or vacant. Owners are required to bring all repairable housing up to minimum standards. Owners occupying houses in these areas are eligible for grants of up to \$3,000 or low interest loans of up to \$10,000. The largest loan approved in Fort Worth has been for \$5,000. Housing brought up to minimum standards is expected to last another twenty-five years. The modest cost of the Concentrated Code Enforcement program is paid two-thirds by the federal government and one-third by the city.

When housing in these areas is found to be beyond repair, the federal government pays the cost of relocating occupants. They are directed to standard housing they can afford in neighborhoods they prefer. There is no city policy restricting housing by race.

Approximately 3,000 low cost housing units are lost annually by demolition. Private builders find it relatively unprofitable to replace these units and all but impossible to get the sale of low cost housing financed. There are very few attractive well-planned trailer parks to encourage adding to the supply of low cost housing with mobile homes.

Families with low incomes share public services with the rest of the community.
(continued next page)

CIVIL ORDER - FAIR HOUSING CRITERIA (continued)

Garbage collection is available on a fee basis. The resident may decline this city service and arrange for garbage pickup by a private company.

In the last year or two, more than five hundred street lights have been installed on the near South Side for crime prevention. Ordinarily, street lights are installed in an established neighborhood only if a petition is filed and the permission of the owner of the proposed site is obtained. Since 1964, developers pay for installing street lights in new neighborhoods.

Streets in established neighborhoods are paved after petition of residents or decision of city officials. The cost of residential streets is pro-rated to property owners, for the first forty feet of width. In areas developed since 1964, the developer pays the cost of paving, for the first forty feet of width. The city pays the cost of extra width for thoroughfares.

A good sewage system is available city wide. Since 1964, developers of new areas pay eighty per cent of the cost of sewer and water lines.

A part of the need for low cost housing is met by the Housing Authority of the City of Fort Worth, which has built and managed public housing since 1938. There is a total of 1074 units in three projects: Ripley Arjld Place, H. H. Butler Place and J. A. Cavile Place.

Occupancy is open to families with low income living in local substandard housing. Monthly rentals range from \$28 to \$84, on the basis of income and size of family. In 1967, half the families occupying public housing units (excluding the single elderly) had only one adult family head; and half of all families received all or part of their income from a welfare source. Almost one-fourth of all units were occupied by elderly tenants, and about one-half of the applications on the waiting list are from elderly persons (over 62).

Some counselling is offered tenants, and

there is a limited number of health and recreation programs, most of them for infants and children. The projects are not conveniently located for access to community facilities, and public transportation service is very limited.

All three projects are open to all applicants, and an applicant is required to accept the first suitable vacancy, regardless of project location.

In addition to the more than two hundred elderly residents occupying public housing units, Tarrant County has two projects exclusively for the elderly: Arlington Villa and St. Francis Village.

Local building codes, which are a combination of specification and performance types, appear to provide sufficient flexibility for experimentation with materials and methods which does not sacrifice safety and durability to economy. Zoning codes may limit sites available to builders of apartment projects under recent programs.

Many new federal programs are intended to help meet the critical nationwide shortage of livable low cost housing. Fort Worth has a Workable Program for Community Improvement, which is a prerequisite for participation in most of the federal programs, and is participating in several HUD sponsored (Department of Housing and Urban Development), FHA-administered (Federal Housing Administration) programs.

The FHA Below Market Interest Rate Program for Rental Housing--under Section 221(d)(3) of the 1961 Federal Housing Act---serves, generally, people whose incomes are too high for public housing but too low for the private market, with priority to families displaced by any government action. Glen Garden Apartments, sponsored by Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, and Prince Hall Village, sponsored by Prince Hall affiliate of the Masonic Order, are nonprofit rental projects built with this interest subsidy. Projects operated for profit under Section 221(d)(3) include East View Apartments and Miller Manor. Under construction are Belknap Terrace and Sabine Apartments, also privately owned.

(continued next page)

CIVIL ORDER - FAIR HOUSING CRITERIA (continued)

The Rent Supplement Program, established by the Housing Act of 1965, provides housing for low income tenants who are elderly, handicapped, displaced, or living in sub-standard housing. The tenant pays 25% of his income, and the federal government pays the difference between that sum and the full market rent for his dwelling. One rent supplement project is under construction near Cobb Park. Another, sponsored by the Negro Masonic Order, has been approved for a site at East Berry and Mount Castle.

Section 221(h) of the 1961 Housing Act was intended to facilitate home ownership for low income families through mortgage insurance. The limits of the program have caused it to go unused in this area. A provision for interest subsidies in the 1968 law may make some housing available for purchase by local people with limited incomes.

Fort Worth does not participate in the Urban Renewal Program nor the Model Neighborhoods section of the Demonstration Cities Act. No local use has been made of the HUD program for relocation of neighborhood facilities, nor of the HUD programs for providing cooperative housing and leased public housing. Funds and specific procedures have not yet been provided for several new programs authorized in the 1960 Housing Act.

In summary, the low and moderate income tenant is served, in Fort Worth, by three older units of public housing and has hopes of being served by two rent supplement projects and several 221 (d) (3) projects. The locations of the projects so far built and approved for construction do further segregation patterns, but will upgrade the supply of housing for those most in need of it.

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE TEXAS CITY

STATE TEXAS

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

AFTER DISCUSSION, OPINION POLL TAKEN. AGREED IN FULL 17 to 1

What changes or elaborations should be made?

NO CHANGES, ELABORATIONS OR EQUIVOCATIONS.

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

OPINION POLL - 15 votes Yes, in full

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

"BY ALL MEANS"

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

WE HAVE NOT HAD THE FAIR HOUSING ITEM ON STATE OR LOCAL PROGRAM.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

9 said YES

Describe:

"Yes, traditional emotionalism vs. letter of the law."

"Yes, subtle but legal discrimination "

"Yes, we cannot legislate attitudes. People will get around the law if enough people disagree."

"Yes, lack of interest by people - sellers, especially."

"Lack of funds to prosecute, hire sufficient personnel if the Administration

IV. If your League ^{isn't concerned "} has ^{"Lack of interest."} already made a survey of housing;

A. What are your major findings?

We have not made a survey as yet.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Date 11/28/68

Signed

Mrs. C. R. Johnson

Position Chairman Human Resources Committee

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? X In full?
Does your League disagree in part? In full?

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

If we had strong enforced local housing codes and fair housing ordinances, federal laws would not be needed. However, as is so often true, those who scream for local control or often the most resistant when it comes to passing this type of local ordinance.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? In full?

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

There has been a great deal of discussion on this item. While most members who attended our meetings agreed that withholding of funds if often necessary to enforce compliance, there also seemed to be a feeling by many members that other means of enforcement should be found, yet they were not able to offer such an alternate means.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE WACO
TEXAS
STATE _____

DEC 12 1968

DEC 12 1968

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

X

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

In a truly free and democratic society, where a person lives should not be decided by anything other than whether he can afford the mortgage or the rent.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

This seems an obvious requirement if an enforcement agency is expected to handle the problems and questions which are certain to arise in the enforcement of the fair housing law.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

As in so many of our human rights laws, the legal means available for an individual to seek assistance in a grievance have been almost non-existent. Without such means of legal redress or mediation, the fair housing laws will never be enforced.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Without adequate funds and staff, this fair housing law will have little chance of survival.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

This would be true with any law or government agency at any level.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

We do not have a fair housing item either state or local.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe:

Lack of sufficient funds and personnel to insure prompt action in cases where discrimination is apparent.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

We have not made an extensive survey, but have scratched the surface. Patterns of discrimination in housing are historically part of this community. The Negro with sufficient income to afford new housing has been forced to build within the long established poverty-level areas. Public Housing is more and more meeting the needs of the elderly and Urban Renewal has generally shifted people from one poverty area to another. We are one of the Model Cities, but this program apparently is not geared to encourage desegregation but to improve the already existing segregated area.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

People who have lived in this community a long time feel that the climate of opinion has changed somewhat favorable toward desegregation in general. However, it is doubtful if the change has been enough so that there will be any drastic change in the present housing pattern; i.e., the Negro citizen lives where the white man says he can.

Date 12-8-68

Signed Janette Maberry
Position Chairman, Natl. Program - DHR

DEC 2 1968

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STDS.



WICHITA FALLS LWV

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

I. Criteria for equal access to housing:

- A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

WFLWV agrees in full.
No additional comments.

- B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Agree in part; disagree in part ?

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Our League felt that not any or every law should be automatically supported by LWV in the future, that we are not giving a blanket endorsement. There was considerable feeling that local Leagues need to be asked if proposals fall into the categories supported.
Considerable feeling for limitation of governmental role.
Question of meaning of private sector and role to play (a financial one?)
Members also felt that it was presumptuous to point out to groups of businesses (if that is what private sector is) their 'role'.

Changes or elaborations: As noted above, we were not quite sure of the meaning (by national office) of private sector and role to play.

- C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal right in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Agreement or disagreement: See below

Explanation: We agree fully with statement one on provisions, provided "federal programs" means housing programs. Federal programs are too complex to bring housing into every federal program. Same with part two - federal funds in housing should be withheld in cases of discrimination in housing. Other federal funds - no. Other federal funds than those connected with housing again would get frightfully involved if housing was brought into each one (such as education, highways, etc.).
All taxpayers contribute to federal funds and should be eligible to benefit equally - or equally eligible to benefit would be better I guess.

Changes: We again thought the wording was unclear. We need wording limitation to housing to agree with the statement.

There was some feeling that savings and loans, being local yet federally connected businesses should not get FHA or other federal business if they discriminate.

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STDS.

WICHITA FALLS LWV



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined.

Agree in full

Explanation: Administrative agencies should not be allowed to do what they wish in a quasi-legal or judicial way. Their work should be laid out specifically.

Changes: none.

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available.

Agree in full.

Explanation: For both sides of questioned transaction.

Changes or elaborations: for both sides of questioned transaction.

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement.

Agree in full.

Explanation: This area is an easy out for those who want to look as though they are for a particular measure (housing or any other, to look good to at least a part of their constituency. They they vote against adequate funding and it cannot possibly get off the ground which may be what some of the legislators originally voting for the measure intended anyway. We felt funding, and carefully adequate funding, is vital.

Changes: none.

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Agree in full.

Explanation: Our League's reaction to this one was "of course".

Changes: none.

II. State or local fair housing item: we have neither state or local item.

III.. Do you see any problems in implementation of fair housing laws? Yes.

Describe: Although we were being perfectly serious, the group burst out laughing at this question - because we saw not just a few problems but multitudinous ones. We live in a segregated community where housing patterns are just now gradually opening up. We have no fair housing law - we live in a community that feels zoning is even too restrictive to 'personal property rights' so we have no zoning (city of 110,000). Housing, that is fair housing, is an emotional issue and how one goes about changing people's emotions I do not know. Our Human

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STDS



WICHITA FALLS LWV

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

Relations Commission may or may not propose a local ordinance - there is considerable feeling that things may go better for open housing to keep it out of a local fracas and let the federal open housing law, the recent supreme court decision, the local air base influence, and quiet background work by citizens do possibly a better job of it in the long run. Our local realtors, though now reluctantly agreeable, call the open housing law forced housing and a couple years ago sent money to the Austin realtors to help fight the local fair housing ordinance.

LV. If your League has already made a survey of housing

A. What are your major findings?

Please find report to our members ~~IX~~ enclosed. We did not have the manpower to do any more complete a report. I asked a local realtor, a busy one a question when he was talking about the fact that owners should have the right ~~XXX~~ not to sell to someone if he does not want to. Has any white homeowner refused an offer of the amount he wanted for his house if the buyer was white (say for reasons of poor morals, messy people, too many children and relatives, etc. in 'consideration' of his neighbors)? His answer: Never. As long as the money was right, the deal was OK.

B. How do you interpret the ~~XXXX~~ climate of opinion in you community with respect to residential desegregation?

Our Mexican population is having no difficulty buying wherever they wish. With the Board of Realtors; reluctant acceptance of this (open housing law, Supreme court decision, etc) as being the law, and a feeling that open housing is a trend not to be stopped even if one tried. Non-discriminatory clauses are not included in local sales contracts. A feeling among some realtors that a few brokers not bound by realtors' code may take advantage and encourage sales. In the last few years, Negroes have been moving into several previously all-white neighborhoods, and as school desegregation continues, that trend will increase. From what we could determine at our meeting from the members there, the climate here is certainly not rigidly against desegregation - nothing like 5-10 years ago. There is a pretty strong undercurrent FOR desegregation of housing. Progress is slowly being made - opinion is more flexible than before. Barring trouble with school desegregation plans, and barring racial incidents of which we had one minor one last year, things should keep getting better.

12-1-68

Alisa Larson
Pres, WF LWV

DEC 2 1968

HOUSING REPORT - Wichita Falls
League of Women Voters

November 1968

The Wichita Falls LWV earlier this year prepared for its members a report on education and employment in Wichita Falls as a part of its study of the Development of Human Resources item. We have now looked at the housing picture as the League also supports equality of opportunity in housing as well as employment and education.

Wichita Falls, with a population of about 110,000, has a minority population of about 8% Negro and 2 to 3 % Mexican-American. The annual income breakdown in Wichita Falls (December, 1966) was: under \$3000, 24.1%; 3-5000, 18.1%; 5-8000, 28.1%; 8-10,000, 11.7%; and \$10,000 up, 18% (family income). In 1960 it was: under \$3000, 19.9%, over \$10,000 11.9%. In 1960 the city's median family income was \$5300; the median non-white family income was \$2118 with a total of 9 non-white families with over \$10,000 annual income. The 1960 family size comparison was 3.19 per Wichita Falls SMSA household, 3.36 per non-white household. The median years of school completed in Wichita Falls was 11.8, for the non-whites, 8.7. The size and population composition of Wichita Falls has changed only slightly in the last ten years.

Most of Wichita Falls' Negro population is concentrated in the East Side area on either side of Loop 165. In recent years, Negroes have moved into homes in East and West Lynwood, and a very few into other areas of the city. Mexican-Americans are concentrated in the near north side but now buy fairly freely throughout the city, particularly in the older areas. The presence of Sheppard affects housing patterns as no discrimination in rental or sales to base personnel has been allowed for quite some time. Often it has been base personnel taking the lead in newly integrated housing.

We do not have figures on the number of substandard dwellings but as we all know, they are quite numerous particularly in the poorer parts of town. Wichita Falls adheres to the Southern Standard Building Code but this applies only to new structures and remodeling to old ones requiring building permits. Old pre-existing occupied structures in the city and existing occupied structures in annexed areas have no minimum standards other than what might be turned in as health hazards to the city-county health department. However, when a building is unoccupied it can be condemned and repair or removal required. The NORTEX comprehensive plan now in preparation for the city includes a Minimum Housing Code. This would include a requirement that when a rental becomes vacant an inspection and occupancy permit are required before another moves in. There is considerable substandard housing as a result of rentals by absentee landlords who do not improve the property partly because the taxes would go up or they would need to qualify under the building code for a major repair.

We have garbage collection throughout the city. There is water and sewer service to most areas of the city (some peripheral areas do not have it). However, a household cannot be forced to hook up unless a health hazard is proven. Street lighting is minimal in some areas of the city using incandescent lights spaced far apart. Street paving is patchy in many older parts of the city but is improving. Paving is paid for by the property owners and was not required when streets were originally put in.

Some streets will be paved as a part of the streets and drainage bond issue.

There have been FHA Market Analyses of Wichita Falls. One is in process now. It seems to be base-related, checking particularly the number of personnel at the base, where they live, complaints about availability of housing, etc. There is some question about housing availability here - builders seem to feel there are not enough homes yet the number of new and old homes for sale is quite high. There does seem to be a shortage of adequate housing in the 13000 - 20000 range, as well as medium priced rentals. The FHA repossession inventory is going down. About two to three years ago they were running some 200 per month. They have been repossessed at a rate of less than 50/month this year. In October there were 158 repossessed homes in FHA hands. During October, 26 were acquired, 49 were sold. On November 1, 135 were left. Of these, some are rented.

It was the availability of FHA repossessions at such small costs in East Lynwood that made it possible for many of the Negro families to move there.

There is public housing in Wichita Falls - built in the early 1950's with federal funds and run by a city housing authority (board of five commissioners appointed by the mayor). The 640 units of housing are in 3 locations. Bon Donnell is north of the river, east of the Loop. It has some 70 vacancies, is mainly white and elderly (over 50%). The second project is on Mill Street between Spudder Park and the river, and the third is at Rosewood and Juarez. This project has the newest addition - 80 units completed in September, 1964 of which 10 were for the elderly. There are some 15-18 vacancies in the latter two projects combined. Most of the vacancies are two-story two-bedroom units, unsuitable for the elderly. One bedroom units are a bit short in supply. Most three-bedroom units are rented.

The federal government through its regional offices makes most of the occupancy rules. The local board exercises some authority in regulations, particularly the rental rates. The head of the household must be employed or have some other regular income such as welfare, social security, old age assistance, etc to qualify for public housing. He must come within the income limit which varies according to size of family. The rent is based on income and size of family. A family need not necessarily come from substandard housing to qualify for public housing. One of the big problems of public housing is the upper income limit. A family of four (mother, father, 2 children) could earn up to \$3900/year for admittance. They could raise their income up to \$4875/year with slight rent increases. With any further raises, they would have to leave public housing and there is virtually no comparable housing available for comparable cost.

There are some plans in the making to modernize the existing structures. This would include development of outside play areas (there are none as such now) and equipment for them. There is city-owned property adjacent to the Rosewood project that could be developed for recreation. The other two projects have little area available. Operating funds for the projects come from rents.

Wichita Falls LWV

We have no Workable Program for Community Improvement - a prerequisite for most federal housing programs. (Elements: codes and ordinances, comprehensive community plan, neighborhood analyses, administrative organization, financing, housing for displaced families, citizen participation). Our greatest handicap is the lack of zoning, a requirement in a Workable Plan. The 1964 housing addition was authorized because zoning was proposed. Because we have no Workable Program, we are not eligible for various housing programs (HUD) such as rental housing for low and moderate income families (221d3), homes for low and moderate income families (221d2), senior citizens housing, etc.

We have no local fair housing ordinance nor is there a state fair housing law. However, we come under the federal open housing law and more recently the Supreme Court decision saying that owners selling their own homes may not discriminate. We have no local fair housing committee. The Human Relations Commission of Wichita Falls does have a housing committee.

We found among realtors the feeling that open housing or integrated housing is the trend and simply will occur. There was some feeling that it should be neither actively encouraged or discouraged. There was also some feeling that the federal law as it was written was not fair to the broker but that the Supreme Court decision had pretty much changed the picture. Most sales contracts now being written have non-discriminatory clauses. The title companies have for several years removed discriminatory clauses.

It is difficult to get loans on homes in poverty areas. Lending organizations prefer large home loans to small ones. Credit ratings of non-whites are often lower. Together with job discrimination and similar problems, all these factors make it more difficult for non-whites to get loans. Older homes are financed over shorter periods, and monthly costs are higher in spite of the home's lower cost.

Highland Park is the first East Side housing development in many years. It is a 19-350000 development where minimum monthly payments are \$175. This project may slow integration in other parts of the city yet it does provide new and adequate homes for those Negroes who wish to stay on the East side.

We were told that it is now most difficult if not impossible to build an 1100 sq. ft. 3 bedroom house for less than \$19000 (adequately built). On these the monthly payment is about \$170.

There are three Negro real estate brokers who work at real estate sales part time. None of the local real estate agencies employ Negro salesmen yet. Due partly to financing problems, some local real estate companies will buy East side homes on the market, resell them at a profit, often carrying the loans themselves.

League members got the impression that the realtors we spoke to felt

it would be best for all the neighborhood to sit tight on their properties when Negroes moved in, accept them as neighbors, then at some later date if you wanted to sell, prices would be stable. (And chances are you would want to stay.) However, the local board of realtors have no specific plans that would encourage such stability. They are bound by a code of ethics. There are something over 200 licensed real estate brokers in the county - less than half belong to the board of realtors.

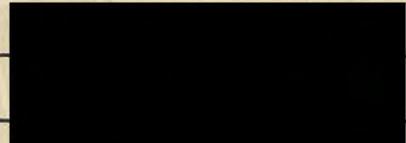
League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of of Abilene, Texas

(address) 

(Zip Code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS:

Currently available programs should be better publicized, and local communities and organizations should be encouraged to make use of them.

In communities without a "Workable Program" there should be more incentive provided for private groups to participate in the 221h program.

Congress should allow for the formation of broadly based private groups for the specific purpose of administering housing programs and dealing directly with the Federal gov't in communities where public officials refuse to act.

Provision should be made to allow local Community Action Programs to be the administering agency for housing programs, especially where local and state officials won't act.

Programs should be made as flexible as possible; ie where space is not the problem it is in large cities, more use should be made single family units.

Date April 1, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. Walter C. Hofheing
Human Resources Chairman (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

Frank

①

FEB 18 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Austin, Texas

(address)

(zip code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS: We feel the availability of low cost housing, both sales and rentals, is of prime importance. But we must fight against the past and present policy of planning and locating such housing in our already established ghetto areas, thus perpetuating the discrimination in our cities and towns, which is as much a problem of discrimination as the exclusion of minorities in our white middle ~~middle~~ class neighborhoods.

Date February 14, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Joanne E. Danner
Chairman Human Resources (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

APR 1 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of _____

(address) _____

P.O. Box 533

(Zip Code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES _____

NO _____

X but -----

COMMENTS:

We did not discuss this portion of the problem in specific terms at our units; it was mentioned but that is all. We therefore do not feel we can assume what our membership would feel on this matter.

I personally feel that adequate supply is second only to equal access; that one is of little value without the other but I am only one member. I also feel, just as strongly, that our membership and League membership throughout the country must study and evaluate this area (in traditional League fashion) before any further delineation is made.

March 28, 1969

Date _____

(return by April 1, 1969)

Signed _____

National Program Chairman

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

Encls

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

FEB 17 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of _____
(address) _____

_____ zip code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS:

Date February 13, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed _____
First Vice President (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

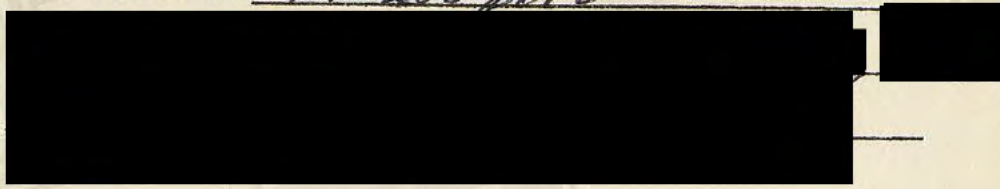
APR 21 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Braxos port

(address) 

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES ☐

NO ☐

COMMENTS:

Since our particular area is not greatly affected by this, we did not discuss this aspect in unit meetings except that it was felt that private industry should be encouraged in the building of such housing.

Date April 4, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mr. Ted Heat
Natl Program Chmn (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

APR 3 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Brazosport

(address) [REDACTED]

(Zip Code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES x

NO

COMMENTS: Incentives to be given so ~~xxx~~ action could come on local level. Tax incentives to business to underwrite low-cost loans.

Date (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed
 (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

MAR 17 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of El Paso, Texas

(address) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (zip code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS:

In our consensus statement of November 12, 1968, our members said the following:

- 1. Economic discrimination is present in our community.*
- 2. We have an acute housing shortage, especially for lowest income groups.*

Date March 14, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Joann H. Ammerman
1st Vice-President, Program (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

MAR 3 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Dalveston

(address) _____

(zip code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO _____

COMMENTS:

Date Feb 7, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Joan M. Benue
3rd V.P. (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

MAR 10 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Denton, Texas

(address) _____

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS:

This question was discussed at length in a meeting with regard to a local study item on the rehabilitation of blighted neighborhoods which followed the meeting at which we discussed the Guidelines for Fair Housing.

Our members feel that the supply of adequate low and moderate income housing is of critical importance.

Date March 8, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. L-L. Schade
Chairman, Human Resources (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

MAR 10 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of IRVING

(address) _____

(Zip Code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X
NO X

COMMENTS:

However, during the interviews preceding the Unit Meetings it was obvious there is a great need for low cost housing with no plans by the city to provide it. Land is at a premium and very costly; only the Federal government could finance such housing and the writer had the very distinct feeling no such effort is wanted - negroes might take advantage of the availability. Talking with a few negro residents of the now-annexed West Irving area revealed there were several who would prefer living closer to the Irving schools where their children now are taken by bus. "We just can't afford to buy in Irving" is their answer to our queries.

Date _____ (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed March 7, 1969

(office in local League)

Secretary and Chairman, Housing
(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

MAR 3 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

BEAUMONT, TEXAS

FROM: The League of Women Voters of

(address)

(zip code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES ☒

NO ☐

COMMENTS:

It seemed logical to us that the implementation of equality of access to housing depends upon availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

In our discussion the local situation was brought out. In Beaumont there is some moderate cost housing and very little low cost housing available at the present time. Right now a Minimum Housing Code is under consideration by the City Council. Our local League is actively supporting this housing code. Under its enforcement existing housing should gradually improve. Several groups in the community plan to build low cost housing, using Federal funds available to them when Beaumont has a housing code.

Date February 26, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mary Jean Fowler (Mrs. J.W.)
Member of Human Resources Committee (office in local League)

(One copy to local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

Fritz

FEB 7 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Corpus Christi, Texas

(address) _____

(zip code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS:

Date February 4, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed _____
National Program Chairman (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

MAR 3 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of _____

(address) _____

Code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO _____

COMMENTS:

Date Feb. 13, 1969

(return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Katherine Freeman

Human Resources Chairman

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

FEB 17 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: ~~The~~ ^{Provisional} League of Women Voters of Garland, Texas

(address) _____

(Zip Code)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES _____

NO _____

Our consensus covered only the fact that nondiscriminatory
COMMENTS: practices are necessary in housing.

The availability of a large amount of low income housing was mentioned in our discussions both as being desirable and as possibly creating more slums, the result depending upon the planning and type of housing. At this point in our discussion we cannot give an unqualified yes or no to the whole question.

Date February 14, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Wilma Holcomb (Mrs. F. H.)

Program Director, Human Resources (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

Entry

① FEB 18 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Harlingen
(address) [redacted]

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

(Zip Code)

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES _____

NO _____

COMMENTS: from the Board

Low cost Public Housing appears to be adequate here as efforts are concentrated on temporary occupancy.

There is a shortage of private homes in all income levels. The largest shortage here is for the moderate income family. Apartments are becoming plentiful as seems to be the trend all over the state. Many private homes are in need of repair or remodeling. There are indications that both conditions are a result of high cost of materials and the increased interest rates.

Date February 12, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed _____
President (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

Fruty

FEB 5 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of HOUSTON

(address)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO

COMMENTS:

Our Houston League has supported Rent Supplement projects for the city because of the dire need for additional low-cost housing. With a population of over 1½ million Houston has only 2,523 Public Housing units and 184 Senior Citizen units.

Since Houston does not have a Housing Code she is unable to obtain Federal funds to build Public Housing. The last Public Housing units built in this city were completed in 1951. We have over 60,000 sub-standard homes in Houston.

Date February 3, 1969. (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Jean Hards

Off Bd. Chm. of Housing

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

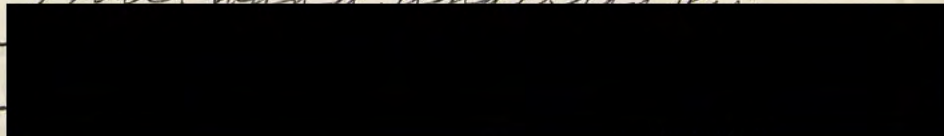
MAR 3 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Lubbock, Texas

(address) 

RE: Fair Housing Consensus (zip code)

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES ☒

NO ☐

COMMENTS:

Date February 18, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. James V. Reese
Chairman, Human Resources (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

MAR 31 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of San Antonio, Texas

(address) _____

(zip code) _____

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO _____

COMMENTS: Besides the various stipulations concerning discrimination and the survey of housing in San Antonio which was presented in November, 1968, at a day-long workshop, there were two major findings which are relevant to the question above.

- The socio-economic stratification is the greatest barrier at the present time in San Antonio.

- Housing supply for low income families is insufficient.

(enclosed are copies of the local Housing and Urban Development Item consensus statement and support positions, and the guidelines for fair housing standards in which the statements listed above appear.)

Date March 24, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. Lionel O. Birkeland

Human Resources Chairman (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

MAR 31 1969

- II. Housing and Urban Development: Continued evaluation and support of governmental and private programs to meet the housing needs of low income people in the San Antonio area.

This item was adopted in 1967; the consensus statement was issued April, 1968.

CONSENSUS STATEMENT:

The League of Women Voters of San Antonio believes there is a significant need for improved housing for low income people in the San Antonio area which is not being met.

The League feels that governments at all levels, as well as the private sector of the American economy, share responsibility to work toward meeting this housing need through programs and financing.

The League is willing to support public and private housing programs (for low income people) which meet League criteria.

Support Positions:

1. Program efforts should be coordinated. The League favors a central coordinating body with the following functions:
 - (a) Keep up to date on all federal, state, and local legislation pertaining to low income housing.
 - (b) Evaluate such legislation as to its applicability for meeting housing needs of San Antonio.
 - (c) Plan and coordinate an overall housing program for San Antonio including both public and private programs.
 - (d) Make information available on federal programs and current local plans and actions on low income housing.
2. Programs should be part of comprehensive, long-range planning for the San Antonio area. Low income housing should be part of the Master plan for San Antonio.
3. Programs should provide standard housing for all segments of the population at prices within their ability to pay.
 - (a) The League approves the eligibility requirements of the San Antonio Housing Authority.
 - (b) The League sees a special need to support programs which will meet the housing requirements of the very lowest income group in San Antonio, (those paying less than \$30 per month rent).
4. Housing for low income people should be an integral part of the community's effort to improve living standards for all families. There should be access to community services which serve such social needs as health, transportation, education, citizenship, and creative leisure activities.

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

MAR 31 1969

The San Antonio League agrees in full that:

1. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.
2. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.
3. In the enforcement of fair housing laws, administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined and mediation and legal redress should be readily available; funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement, and continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

We agree in part that "Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs." We believe the standards and judging of equality in a community must be set and made with extreme care. Federal funds should be withdrawn in extreme cases of discrimination as a final "lever" for gaining cooperation. Federal funds should be withdrawn only in the field of housing where the violations occurred.

Additional comments are that the "chain of command" of our local ordinance is hazy and may need strengthening as it is tried out in the future. We also believe that better education and dissemination of information in the general field of housing and the specific opportunities for gaining redress are needed.

We feel that there is a need for Fair Housing Legislation at the State level which should have the broadest possible coverage but which would contain the present exemptions (Mrs. Murphy's). There is a gap on the State level in the entire anti-discrimination field--FEPC, Human Rights, Fair Housing--both on the part of the State Government and the State LHV.

Commenting further on the local housing ordinance, we feel that it has been so recently enacted that there has been insufficient time to judge its effectiveness. However, the local Community Relations Commission, which is an integral part of the system of redress of complaints, is weak and needs strengthening. It should have subpoena powers. Further study and evaluation of its effectiveness is needed. There is a need for interpretation of whether or not the State Constitution may be interpreted to cover redress in cases of discrimination. We suggest that the local 30-day limitation should be changed to coincide with 180 day limitation.

Although not included as part of the consensus on fair housing guidelines:

1. Problems seen in the implementation of fair housing laws are
 - (a) Possible weakness in the application of Local ordinance by the necessity of having complaints go through the weak Community Relations Commission to the City Council for decision on whether or not case should go to Corporation Court.
 - (b) Some problems may arise from the lower penalty in local ordinance than in Federal.
2. Major findings of our Local League survey of housing are
 - (a) The socio-economic stratification is the greatest barrier at the present time in San Antonio.
 - (b) Housing supply for low income families is insufficient.

Interpreting the climate of opinion in our community with respect to residential desegregation we feel that individual prejudice remains a factor in good over-all community climate and will become more measurable when progress in the two factors listed above make the upward movement of minority groups more evident.

MAR 31 1969

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of

South Jefferson County

(address)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

(zip code)

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO —

COMMENTS:

None needed!

Date 3/23/69

(return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Rosmarie Krenner

National Program

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

FEB 25 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

(address) _____

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES x

NO _____

COMMENTS:

One member commented that she positively knew of one case where the person had the money to rent or buy a certain place, but was unable to do so because of discriminatory practices.

There is a great shortage of rent houses in all economic levels, but particularly in the low-income category.

This consensus was taken at meeting on February 20, 1969, when state and local consensus was being taken on other items. Attendance was very poor because of bad weather. Members present: 8

Date February 24, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. Thomas Drasher
President (office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

APR 18 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Tarrant County

(address) _____

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES X

NO _____

COMMENTS: If housing is not available, this is effective segregation.

Date April 1, 1969

(return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. Hubert Strom

Chairman, DHR Committee

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

Fairly

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

FEB 24 1969

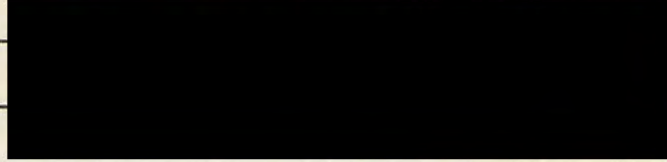
January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Victoria, Texas

(address) _____



RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

XX

YES _____

NO _____

COMMENTS:

This is especially true of low income housing.

February 21, 1969

Date *Mrs F L Duckworth* (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed Mrs. F. L. Duckworth
Human Resources, Chairman

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

APR 2 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of Waco

(address) [REDACTED]

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES x

NO

COMMENTS:

This is a qualitative "yes" because it would appear from our discussions and brief survey that lack of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families applies to all races; but the Negro in the middle and upper-middle income bracket is the individual who has been faced with inequality of opportunity in housing. He has had to build and live in the segregated, generally low-income area, rather than being able to buy a house strictly on his ability to pay the price.

Date March 25, 1969 (return by April 1, 1969)

Signed

Mrs. Dean Maberry

Program Vice President

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

APR 11 1969

January 1969

REPORT FORM

TO: The National League Board

FROM: The League of Women Voters of

Wichita Falls, Texas

(address)

RE: Fair Housing Consensus

From our knowledge of the discussions on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families.

YES ☒

but we are not endorsing any specific programs.

NO ☐

COMMENTS:

We did discuss this area of availability and felt with costs today, such programs must be federal or business-supported, not just private local efforts. We are ineligible for federal programs as we have no zoning and therefore, no acceptable Workable Plan. (Some of us look with envy at programs underway in other cities). We do have older homes available, but the previously large number of FHA repossessions has rapidly dwindled.

Date

March 19, 1969

(return by April 1, 1969)

Sent in time to not office

Signed

Alisa Larson (Mrs. G. Donald Larson)

President

(office in local League)

(One copy for local League files, one copy for national office and one copy for your state League.)

MAR 31 1969

REPORT OF GENERAL MEETING MARCH 13, 1969

This meeting was concerned with housing supply both nationally and locally and the relative support positions under the National LNW Human Resources item.

At the November meeting on Fair Housing our San Antonio League reached a position supporting the question asked by National in the January 1969 Board Report--"From our knowledge of the discussion on fair housing in our League, our League thinks that implementation of equality of opportunity for access to housing depends not only on nondiscriminatory practices but also on the availability of an adequate supply of housing for low and moderate income families." We stated that, "The socio-economic stratification is the greatest barrier at the present time in San Antonio--housing supply for low income families is insufficient."

Concerning the outlook for work and further consensus there was great interest expressed in all of the various questions suggested by the National Board. It was also found that some of the items have already been covered in our local studies. However, the following areas proved to be of paramount importance:

- What kinds of homes should be built, with what amenities, according to what standards, and where?

- If housing should be subsidized, who should get the subsidies--builders, lenders, the people--and if directly to people how? (Special interest in income maintenance?)

- What policies should there be with respect to urban renewal? Rehabilitation? Economic integration of neighborhoods? (Action on any urban renewal questions as far as local and Texas are concerned must await the realignment and apportionment of state representatives. It is feared that any push for change might weaken the entire program of urban renewal--especially as pertains to Section III of the State Urban Renewal legislation.)

- What local obstacles--political, economic, codes and zoning, attitudes, etc.--stand in the way of providing an adequate housing supply? How can they be overcome? (With this item the San Antonio League would like to stress the importance of building codes and would ask for information on what other cities have done to ease building codes to make possible cost reductions in low-cost house construction, and how the problem of absentee landlords has been overcome.)

There was also general interest expressed in any exchange of program ideas with other Leagues which have developed effective ways of promoting more interest in low-cost housing by private and charitable institutions and influential individuals.

Peggy Birkeland

ATTENTION: NIGHT PEOPLE

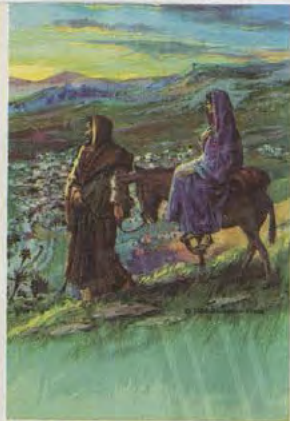
Unit #5 will meet at 7:30 p.m., Monday April 21 at Mt. Zion First Baptist Church, 333 Nebraska Street. The program will be on EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION. Mrs. Calvin Dudley is chairman of this committee. Unit #5 has been organized for the convenience of employed women from all sections of the city and those who find it more convenient to attend an evening unit. Monthly meetings will be held in different parts of town.

If you would like transportation, please call Mrs. Karl Fromuth OV 4-1585

Consensus of Texas Leagues on Fair Housing Guidelines

League	"	Housing Market Should Generate Fair Affordability		Govt & all stakeholders + Private Sector Have Role to Play		In Effort to administrative guidelines should be clearly defined		Mediators should address guidelines	
		Agree In Full	In Part	Agree In Full	In Part	Agree In Full	In Part	In Full	In Part
Amarillo	69	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Austin	248	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Bartlett	67	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Brownsville	105	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Brownsville	72	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Cape Charles	168	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Dallas	574	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Denton	99	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Harlingen	26	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Houston	475		✓	✓		✓		✓	
Irving	60	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Lubbock	119		✓	✓		✓		✓	
Richardson	84	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Antonio	167	✓		✓		✓		✓	
San Marcos	57	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Tarrant County	150	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Texas City	52	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Victoria	86	✓			✓	✓		✓	
Waco	89	✓			✓	✓		✓	
Wichita Falls	39	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	2836								

Brownsville, Corsicana
 Abilene, Brazos County, Dickinson, Edinburg, Midland, Odessa, Tyler, Longview, So. Jefferson County,
 Garland, Kent County, El Paso, Deltona, La Marque, Pasadena, Bay Area



Joseph also went ...
unto the city of David ...
called Bethlehem ...
with Mary ... LUKE 2:45

COCHRAN CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST

December 16, 1968

Dear Cochran Chapel Members and Friends,

As always, Cochran Chapel is having a CHRISTMAS OFFERING for "Others" at this special season. We are hopeful that our members will remember the Church and its work in their Christmas "benevolence giving" this year.

Last year, our Christmas offering netted over \$3,000 and was applied to some 7 different benevolent causes. This year, primarily because our North Texas Conference financial year's conclusion has been changed to December, rather than May, it is necessary for us to have our CONFERENCE APPORTIONED MISSION items paid in full by the end of this month. We have a deficit of close to \$4,750 at this time, which can only partially be "made up" by our regular offerings in December.

Therefore, our Stewardship and Finance Commission has decided to suggest that our Christmas offering this year go to assist the paying of our benevolence budget items in an attempt to complete the financial year (ending December 31) with a CLEAN SLATE. (There is one benevolence exception. . .The Commission on S & F does want to be sure that a sizeable part of the Christmas Offering go to the METHODIST HOME at Waco, Texas. The Commission would like to be able to designate for the HOME an amount comparable to the \$1,000 gift which the church made last year.

The Commission has set as a goal for this offering \$5,000. . .so we will all need to be generous.

The envelope that is included with this bulletin can be used on either Sunday, December 22nd or December 29th. . .OR, it can be mailed to the church office. Remember, we need your MOST GENEROUS GIFT before the 29th of this month, if possible.

Porter Cochran, Chr. Stwd. & Finance
Gould Whaley Jr., Chr., Admin. Bd.
Jim Silk, Church Treasurer

Very sincerely,
John Dvorak
John Dvorak, Pastor

League	2. Enforcement Funding Should Be Adequate For Enforcement		Continued Evaluation of Records of Proceedings of necessary agrees in full in part		Federal Funds Should Be Available			
	Agree in full	In part	Agree in full	In part	Agree in full	In part	Agree in full	In part
Amesville	✓		✓					✓
Austin	✓		✓		(Satisfactory)	✓		✓
Bastrop	✓		✓		(Satisfactory)	✓		✓
Beaumont	✓		✓				(Satisfactory)	✓
Brazzport	✓		✓		(Satisfactory)	✓		✓
Croquis Christi	✓		✓					
Dallas	✓		✓					✓
Denton	✓		✓					✓
Hearings	✓		✓					✓
Houston	✓		✓					✓
Loring	✓		✓					✓
Lubbock	✓		✓					✓
Richardson	✓		✓					✓
San Antonio	✓		✓					✓
San Marcos	✓		✓					✓
Tarrant City	✓		✓					✓
Texas City	✓		✓					✓
Victoria	✓		✓					✓
Waco	✓		✓					✓
Wichita Falls	✓		✓					✓

League of Women Voters
of the United States

Memorandum

1200 17th Street, N. W. - Washington, D. C. 20036

This Memo is going on
Duplicate Presidents Mailing

December 13, 1968

TO: State and Local League Presidents

FROM: Publications Department

This is to let you know that "Facts About the League of Women Voters 1920-1968" is now in production. The new edition will be printed and on the way to you by the end of this month. It is scheduled to go on the Free Presidents Mailing and Duplicate Presidents Mailing December 27, 1968 and we will start filling direct orders on December 30, 1968.

The publications office is now taking advance orders and those of you who wish to place your order now may do so. The new edition will be priced at 20 copies for \$1.10 or 100 copies for \$5.30.

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

FEB 24 1969
LOCAL LEAGUE South Jefferson County

STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

This seems to our members to be the only up to date way to handle the situation.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

NOV 27 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE Victoria
STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Even though we agree to the above statement, there was a feeling that a person who rents a part of the home in which he is living should have freedom to say who lives there.

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? X In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Although we realize that Title VIII is a national law, we feel that it will need to be implemented locally. We did not resolve how this could be done when there is no local or state fair housing laws. At the same time there was a feeling that local and state fair housing laws should not be necessary and that there should be some sort of provision to enforce the national law.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Our groups both felt that the private sector (the real estate and building interests) will have the major part to play in making the provisions of the national fair housing law a reality. In our community we feel that most of the individuals and firms will abide by the law even though they may not ^{all} agree with it.

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? X In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? X In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

We agree with the first statement.
We could not agree with the statement that all federal funds should be withheld from a community where discrimination occurs as that seems to penalize the very persons who need federal programs the most. Some other means of enforcement should be devised, but we could not come up with what it should be.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

The idea of withholding federal funds would have received more favorable consideration, if they were withheld only in the area of housing.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Unanimous agreement.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

We did not have time to discuss the mechanics of legal redress or who should bear the cost. There was some feeling that mediation should not be prolonged.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

We feel that the word prompt should be emphasized. If
a law is on the books it should be funded and enforced
uniformly.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should
be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

We wish to place definite emphasis on this point.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

we have no local or state law

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Yes

Describe:

1. Racism. There will be those who are prejudiced for probably quite a long period of time to come. This holds true with both black and white.
2. Minority racial or ethnic groups will not have the money or income required to finance houses in the suburbs, or areas presently now all white, because of lack of job opportunities and education.
3. The supply of low cost housing is not adequate for the demand in all segments of low income groups requiring housing.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

We have not completed the survey.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

We were not in complete agreement on this questions We felt that in general Victoria is unique in having accomplished a measure of success in race and ethnic group relations. We have three ethnic groups - negro (about 10%), Spanish speaking (about 30%) and anglo. The positive element in black-white relationships was attributed in great part to the quality of negroes and negro leadership both before and after Civil Rights became a national issue. Our Spaneish- speaking community has probably made more progress in equality in job opportunities, and progress in lesser degree in education and housing equality. There was some feeling from a minority of those present that perhaps our "accomplishment" has been avoiding overt confrontation

Date November 25, 1968 ^{Signed} Mr. F. L. Luckworth

Position Human Resources Officer

We hope to continue to avoid a radical approach to the problem of residential desegregation, as we have with solutions to educational integration and opening of job opportunities. Quiet progress seems to have worked in both of these areas.

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Government projects should be located so as NOT to perpetuate ghetto situations as much as possible.

Strict enforcement of building ordinances would tend to control the private sector.

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? x
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

At this point in our discussion we realized we had been talking purely on the racial issue and as we began to clarify this a bit we concluded discrimination in any form is what we find bad.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

This should be mandatory with this as with any law.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

State and local laws should reflect Federal regulations.

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe:

Unless they are brought to the local level we foresee nothing but an endless series of problems.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

All three projects in Port Arthur are in one small "black" area; this seems to be perpetuating the black ghetto area.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

There is an urgent need to educate this area to the need for open housing. The climate of opinion is essentially hostile at this time.

Date

Nov. 24, 1968

Signed

Rosemarie Kruttschnitt

Position

National Program Chairman

DEC 2 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE ANARILLO

STATE TEXAS

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

It is the law and must be accepted.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

More educational programs to encourage people to abide so that equal access to housing can be had. However block busting should not be allowed.

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

To be a true success--all individuals must cooperate.
Builders should be interested and encouraged in building low cost housing as well as expensive homes.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Human thinking and attitudes need to be changed and this can be done by education.

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? xx In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

This needs more clarification for our League. There should be some kind of penalty against discrimination or the law can not be enforced.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Taking away house funds would hurt those who need it most.
Some measure is necessary before enforcement can be instituted.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? XX
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Specifications and classifications should be itemized.

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? XX
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

This should be possible within a reasonable limit of time. Indefiniteness should not be allowed or "passing the buck" or stalling.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

There should be no loopholes

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? xx
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Hopefully minor enforcement should be used but if needed, enforcement should be exact and available. Buyers, sellers and renters should all be protected equally.

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? xx
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Procedures should be very simple and with the least use of reinforcement. Also a local representative group to evaluate would help.

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

We have none at this time.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

As there is no legislation at this time we cannot support anything.

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe: **YES The attitude of the public**

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

See attached fact sheets

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

1. **Should be open to those who can afford and manage it.**
2. **Yes but not in our block.**

Date **November 26**

Signed _____

Position **Program Vice-President**

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE _____
STATE Austin
Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

DEC 2 1968

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? ✓

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? Agreed

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Agreed that the policy role and much of the funding should come from the national government; that initiative in application should be encouraged from both the government and private sectors at the local level; and that the city should take more initiative in dispensing information to the community on Austin's housing needs and the different programs available. The total lack of state involvement was noted.

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? Yes In full? _____
Yes

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Our League would not agree to federal funds being held from communities. However, a majority felt a selective withdrawal of federal funds might be necessary to stimulate action for equal rights. They registered a concern about this method hurting the people most needing help.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Agreed
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

We felt funding with the most single important part

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Agreed
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? Agreed

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? Agreed

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

There will be no enforcement of the fair housing law without
adequate funding to insure prompt enforcement.

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

On October 9, 1968, the voters of the city of Austin rejected a local Fair Housing Ordinance by a vote of 10,391 FOR and 13,913 AGAINST with a total of 24,305. This represented less than 25% of the city's 89,358 registered voters.

"The Austin Board of Realtors has opened a campaign opposing the 'open housing' section of the civil rights bill in Congress."-- - The Austin American, March 31, 1968

What kinds of legislation do you support?

The Austin League supported and worked for a local fair housing ordinance.

Reasons for failure of local fair housing ordinance in Austin:

1. Emotional appeal to prejudice by opposition (realtors).
2. Minority groups trust in federal laws rather than local.
3. Low voter turnout
4. Misunderstanding of issue which points out need for better voter education.

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Any restriction on the free movement of people in housing.

For example, the Texas state law prohibiting the sale of urban renewal land to the Public Housing Authority.

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Our League felt the state could lead the local communities by initiating legislation for fair housing. State help is needed in setting up available funds for low cost financing of housing.

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe:

Locally we see many problems in the implementation of fair housing laws. There is a discernable, subtle prejudice at work. This is an attack on substandard dwellings, but the geographical boundaries for Negroes and Latin Americans remain. There are few available loans for these people at low interest rates to purchase homes. The number of rent subsidy programs are slowly growing.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

See attached sheets from our November Voter in Austin.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?
See No. III above.

Our League agreed that the formation of a central clearing house listing rentals and sales of homes throughout the city for minority groups is needed.

Date November 27, 1968

Signed James E. Danner
Chairman, Human Resources
Position Chairman, Austin's Environment

Some Aspects of the Austin Housing Picture

"Equality of opportunity for housing in its broader sense means much more than 'fair housing' or 'open housing.' It also means having the money to purchase or rent a dwelling, as well as having a supply of homes available for rent or purchase, priced within one's purchasing power."--National League of Women Voters.

People. The Austin citizen living in a deteriorating or blighted area of the city is likely to be a Negro or a Mexican American, a semi-skilled or unskilled laborer, living at or near the poverty level. Total family income for nearly one-third of the occupants of blighted areas is between \$2,000 and \$4,000, with one out of five families earning less than \$2,000 a year. Half the residents of the city's blighted areas live in poverty in spite of extensive multiple employment within Negro families. More than one-third of the families in these areas include three or more children under 18 years of age; one-third of the non-white children here live in one-parent homes. The greatest concentration of the elderly receiving old age assistance is also found here.--William R. Hazard, A Sociological Study for the Community Development Program, March 1966.

Places. Blighted areas are typified, among many things, by minimal construction standards, aging structures, unpaved streets with poor drainage, overcrowding of structures on land with overcrowding of families (more than one person per room) in the structure, and inadequate schools, parks, and public facilities and services. In 1960, Austin had 52,484 occupied housing units, of which 10,238 were deficient in some facilities and 6,184 were substandard.

Programs. The attack on housing problems in Austin is many-faceted:

1. In 1962 the Minimum Standard Code was completed and a Building Standards Commission was set up to enforce the Code and to serve as an appeal board. (Mrs. Rose Lancaster, a League member, serves on this Commission.) Although inspections have been concentrated on vacated units, it is possible that standards for occupied housing will be enforced in the future. Under Mr. Cliff Rader, Building Standards Co-ordinator, a survey of all housing in the city, both occupied and unoccupied, was completed in September 1968; this data, when processed, should be of great assistance in Code Enforcement.

The Concentrated Code Enforcement Program, also called the Neighborhood Improvement Program, was begun in January 1968. The project now underway is a concentrated effort of rehabilitation in a circumscribed area, known as Meadowbrook, on the south side of the city.

2. Austin has been awarded a Model Cities Program which is now in the planning stage. This will involve the rebuilding and revitalizing of a larger area than that contemplated under the Neighborhood Improvement Program.

3. The Austin Housing Authority, under the supervision of the city, provides 1,050 low cost rental units in six housing projects, two of which are specifically for the aged. This Authority is financed by the federal government guaranteeing tax-free bonds from local banks. Approximately 300 elderly are on the waiting lists for the Rosewood Addition and Lakeside. Priority for occupancy is given to persons displaced by community renewal and improvement programs. Future projects are being held up by problems in the acquisition of suitable sites.

4. Austin's Urban Renewal Agency was created in 1962 as part of the Community Renewal Program. Urban Renewal programs, instituted by the City Planning Department, are subject to the approval of the City Council. The Kealing Project, the pilot project, is now virtually complete. It has been followed by Glen Oaks I. Planning is proceeding on the Black-shear project. Applications for Brackenridge II, University East II, and Glen Oaks II are being processed at the regional HUD office in Ft. Worth, with approval expected soon since Austin's Workable Program has been recertified by HUD.

5. In Austin the Federal Housing Authority maintains an information and assessment office for the regional office in San Antonio. According to the Hoffman report, FHA-insured 683 home mortgages in Travis County in 1965, of which 158 were for new homes and 525 were for existing homes. The median value of FHA-insured houses in that year was \$13,833, which represented a decrease of 2.3% of the \$14,164 median value of an FHA-insured new home in the Austin area in 1960. Listings of FHA repossessions go to local realtors almost simultaneously with the listings in the local newspapers.

6. Austin has a Workable Program for the Community which has just been recertified by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. This continues our eligibility for federal grants and loans in housing programs. Co-ordinator of all such programs is the City Manager.

7. There are approximately seven private ventures which individuals or organizations have originated locally in rent subsidy programs and rehabilitation of low cost housing.

For your consideration and discussion:

1. Is Austin participating as fully as we might in available federal housing programs?
2. Are we perpetuating segregated housing and slum environments for low income families through public housing projects?
3. Is the picture today of the displaced person one of removal or renewal?
4. Can FHA enlarge the scope of its service to the community? Can their repossessions be made available to the public for direct sale?
5. Do we need to induce more private developers to engage in the development of low cost housing in quantity?

"If (one) has to identify with a rat-infested tenement, his sense of personal inadequacy and inferiority, already aggravated... is reinforced by the physical reality around him. If his home is clean and decent and even in some way beautiful, his sense of self is stronger."--Kenneth B. Clark, The Dark Ghetto.

Recommended reading: Crisis: The Condition of the American City, a pamphlet prepared for the League of Women Voters of the United States by Urban America Inc.

The following material has been compiled from Housing Market Analysis, Austin, Texas, 1965-1985 which was submitted by Morton Hoffman and Company, Urban and Economic Consultants, to Mr. Hoyle M. Osborne, Director of Planning, in March 1967. The Analysis was prepared under contract with the City of Austin for the Community Renewal Program.

	Anglo	Latin	Nonwhite	Total
Austin population and projections				
by ethnic group: 1965	160,800	30,200	27,000	218,000
1970	186,000	38,800	29,600	254,400
1985	285,400	81,100	39,000	405,500
Total increase, 1965-85	124,600	50,900	12,000	187,500
Percentage increase, 1965-85	77.5%	168.6%	44.4%	86.0%
Average household size in 1965	2.94	4.72	3.50	3.18
as projected in 1985	2.92	4.33	3.46	3.18
Number of households in 1965	48,600	6,100	6,900	61,600
as projected in 1985	88,400	17,800	10,100	116,300
Percentage increase, 1965-85	81.9%	191.8%	46.4%	88.8%

	Anglo	Latin	Nonwhite	Total
City of Austin, Estimated Household				
Income in 1965: Less than \$3,000	10,214	2,115	3,379	15,708
\$3,000-\$3,999	3,891	1,029	1,178	6,098
\$4,000-\$4,999	4,367	786	822	5,975
\$5,000-\$5,999	4,380	730	557	5,667
\$6,000-\$6,999	4,387	437	350	5,174
\$7,000-\$7,999	4,369	300	136	4,805
\$8,000-\$9,999	6,306	384	210	6,900
\$10,000-\$14,999	6,809	259	139	7,207
\$15,000 and over	3,877	60	129	4,066
Total households	48,600	6,100	6,900	61,600
Median household income	\$6,350	\$3,900	\$3,050	\$5,550

Condition of occupied housing units,				
1960 census: Sound	37,038	2,868	2,340	42,246
Deficient	4,371	3,584	2,283	10,238

Overcrowded households, 1960. 6.7% 47.9% 25.5%

It is estimated that 12,500 units will be withdrawn from the Austin housing supply, 1965-85: from existing urban renewal projects, 2,048; anticipated urban renewal projects, 6,330; capital improvement, 155; highway construction and improvements, 2,105; other causes, 1,862.

The Hoffman report recommends the addition of 3,300 new public housing units and 5,900 rent supplement units (new and rehabilitated construction) by 1985 to meet the needs of 9,200 high-priority low income households.

--League Human Resources Committee, Jo Donner, Chairman; Marjorie Loehlin, Typist.

LEAGUE SUPPORTS AMENDMENT 5

The League of Women Voters of Texas has agreed that adequate compensation for state legislators is a necessary step in improving state government. This decision was reached after a two year study of the Texas Legislature. Serving in the Texas Legislature is a full-time job. Each senator represents about 300,000 voters. Each member of the house represents about 60,000 persons. Serving on study committees, speech-making, correspondence and contacts with constituents can take hours of a legislator's day between sessions. VOTE FOR Amendment 5 on Nov. 5.

FROM THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE

This committee meets every third Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Currently we are discussing present methods of apportionment, unicameral vs. bicameral legislatures, while touching upon who should prepare the state budget and length of terms of representatives and senators. Plans are in the making for tours of the State Capitol.

Watch all state newspapers for information pertinent to the Legislature and bring these clippings to the next committee meetings.

We have lots to do, so won't you join us now? Call Christine Stanford, 472-4309.

LOBBY SCHOOL TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 7

This will be a one day "school" with lobbyist, legislators and members of the Capitol Press being asked to act as "instructors." The state government expert on Texas election laws, Mrs. Mary Kate Wall, attorney in the Secretary of State's Office, will speak on the influence of state agencies on legislation as well as expert information on Texas election laws and what the League can do about them. "Course topics" include "Effective League Lobbying Techniques", "Effective Lobby Laws", and Roadblocks along the Legislative Highway". Watch for more details in the December Voter.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE--FIRST ROUND

We hope the units turned you on and tuned you in. By the time you read this we will possibly know how much more of the electoral college system we will be watching in actual operation this election year. To refresh your memories and clarify some points we offer the following.

The Constitution leaves the manner of choosing the electors to the states. In Texas the electors are chosen, according to the Texas Election Code, at the State Party Conventions in September. Texas has 25 electors, one for each representative and each senator. They may not hold elected federal office, and must meet the same qualifications as members to the Texas House of Representatives. The Constitution leaves to Congress the time for choosing the electors and the day on which the electors vote. The Constitution specifies only that it be the same day throughout the country. The U. S. Election Code sets the Tuesday after the first Monday in November as election day, and the "first Monday following the 2nd Wednesday in December" as the date for the electoral votes to be cast. That's December 16 this year. The Constitution does not specify the date for the electoral votes to be counted, just that the votes are to be sent, sealed, to the President of the Senate and counted in the presence of both Houses of Congress. The U. S. Election Code sets the date of January 6 at 1 p.m. as the official counting time. Since Congress set this date it could change it if it wished. The 20th Amendment to the Constitution states that the terms of the President and Vice President end at noon on January 20th and the term of Congress ends and the new Congress starts at noon of January 3rd. It provides that they may appoint another day by law. If there is no change in the Election Code this means that the NEW House chooses the President. The 12th Amendment states that if no one gets a majority (270) of the electoral vote, the House then immediately sets about the business of choosing the President from the top three candidates.

The Senate adjourns to its own quarters to choose a Vice President from the top two candidates. Two thirds of the House must be present for a quorum, but a majority of the total vote is necessary to win. The same is true for the Senate. In the House each State delegation has only one vote, so they must first ballot among themselves to agree on a candidate. If no candidate is agreed upon the State loses its vote. In the Senate each Senator has a vote. If the House fails to choose a President by January 20th the Vice President chosen by the Senate acts as President until someone does qualify. If neither House has chosen a person for office the Congress may select someone to act until a President can qualify for office. TO BE CONTINUED...Keep your clippings.

UNICEF CARDS TO GO ON SALE - HELP NEEDED

The League will help sell UNICEF Christmas and greeting cards again this year. A kick-off coffee will be held at Laguna Gloria on Tuesday November 12 for all helping in the campaign. Cards will be on sale November 18 through December 6. The League's station will be at the Capitol National Bank from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. League members asked to help in two shifts from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 11:30 to 2 p.m. If you can help, please call Mary Pankewich, GR7-1375, who is League co-ordinator for this project.

U. N. TEA - A GREAT SUCCESS

A large, enthusiastic crowd attended the U. N. Tea for foreign students sponsored by the League and the Spooks, the UT women's service organization. Many thanks to all of you who baked cookies and helped as hostesses. The Guatemalan students were honored since the President of the United Nations is from their country. At the tea a telegram was sent to him because he was in the hospital.

Copies of the brochure "The U N Today" are being sent with this issue of the voter. These arrived too late to be enclosed with last month's voter. This is the latest information available on the UN. READ IT, then pass it on to a friend.

The Austin League of Women Voters present

Ed Hill
Connie Moreno
Hoyle Osborne

Joe Perrone
Julian Zimmerman
Bert Kruger Smith, moderator

who will discuss

AUSTIN'S HOUSING NEEDS

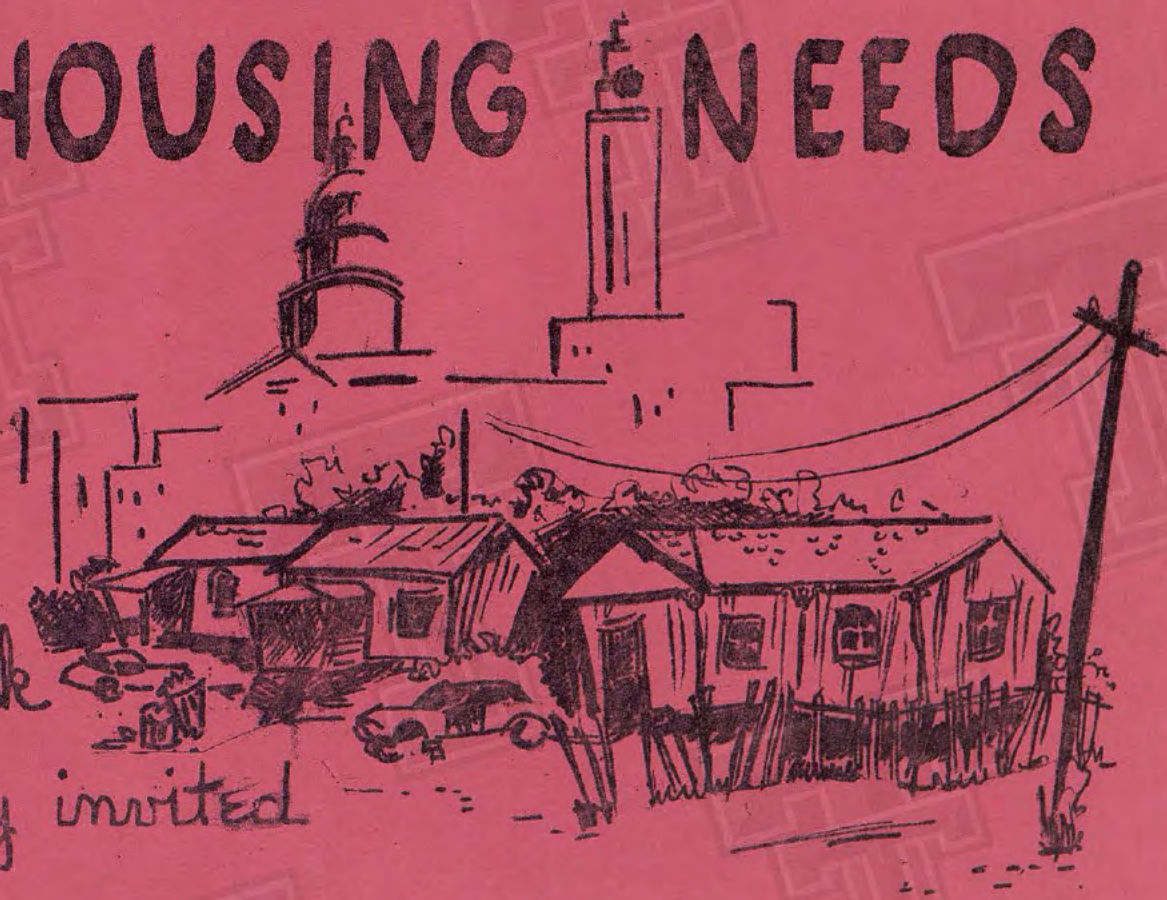
Tuesday

November 12

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Austin National Bank

The public is cordially invited



NOV 25 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE Baytown
STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Everyone has a responsibility. An especially important is played by realtors, banks, savings and loan associations, and the Public Housing Authority.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? X In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? X In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

We agree with the first statement but not the last; the last statement is too broad. Both units felt only federal housing funds (not all federal funds) should be withheld. In addition, one unit felt a whole community should not be penalized by withholding funds from a whole community for discrimination by a small sector.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

One unit suggests changing last sentence to read, "Federal housing funds should be withheld from specific projects which discriminate."

The other unit suggests changing last sentence to read, "Federal housing funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs."

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should
be revised when indicated. X

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

One unit would like to see the word "encouraged" changed to "required." The criteria then would read "continued evaluation should be required and procedures should be revised when indicated."

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

Yes

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe:

Basic attitudes and people's emotions need to be changed before there will be whole-hearted support of the law. There is a need for community education.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

Copy of Housing survey report attached.

A. ^{of discrimination; social} ~~What are your findings?~~ There is racial segregation because and economic factors are involved in this segregation. Discrimination is evidenced by the fact that minority groups sometimes have difficulty in getting loans, prices are sometimes raised; further evidence is the fact that some Negro professionals work in Baytown but live in Houston. Transportation -- public or private -- at reasonable rates does not exist. Racial patterns exist within our public housing units. More public housing is needed.

B. ^{Poor. The majority of the people} How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to ~~residential segregation~~ ^{the majority of the people} are aware of the ~~pub~~ problem but do not want to face up to it. There are some signs of change. It was pointed out that some responsible Negro residents do not particularly favor residential integration.

Date Nov. 22, 1968

Signed Maria Walker (on H)
DHR Chairman

Position _____

NOV 25 1968

League of Women Voters of Baytown
HOUSING REPORT
November, 1968

Population

Baytown is a city of 45,841. Its population has more than doubled since 1950. Projections indicate a further growth of over 27,000 people or another 50% increase by 1980.

Minority group population figures are extremely difficult to obtain. The 1960 Census shows that about 6.5% of Baytown's population was Negro. It would seem from figures available today that Negroes comprise slightly more than 5% of our population. No Mexican-American figures are available. However, based on the number of Mexican-American children in the school district, it can be estimated that Baytown's Mexican-American population is about the same as its Negro population.

Income

A comparison of income levels for 1960 and 1968 indicates there has been an increase in the number of low-income residents.

INCOME GROUP	1960	1968
\$ 0 - 3,999	23%	31.9%
4,000 - 6,999	28%	25.8%
7,000 - 9,999	29%	17.1%
10,000 & over	20%	25.2%

The unemployment rate in Baytown has remained stable.

City Services

City services are generally available, including garbage collection. Between 80 and 90% of the street intersections are lighted. Nearly all the population is served by city water. Most areas of the city are serviced by adequate sewerage facilities. According to the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Baytown, there are 186 miles of paved streets with approximately 50% needing some repair; recent improvements should have lowered this figure. Baytown has no public transportation.

Codes

Baytown has a health and safety code; the Comprehensive Plan suggests this code needs improvement. Local building codes are a combination of specification and performance types. City officials feel they do not increase building costs unnecessarily.

School Desegregation

The trends in Baytown's school desegregation have been affirmative. There are 1273 Negro and 741 Mexican-American children in integrated schools. The Junior and Senior High Schools are completely integrated. Housing patterns are largely responsible for the segregated (271 Negro children) Harlem School in McNair and DeZavala (131 Mexican-American,

one Negro) School in Baytown. Bus routes determine where children attend school for the most part.

Housing

According to the 1960 U.S. Census, about 72% of Baytown's housing was owner occupied. The median housing value was \$9,600. Rental units, comprising the balance, had a median monthly rental of \$58. These medians have probably changed drastically in the last 8 years. New housing built to take care of Baytown's expanding population has generally been in the price range of \$15,000 and above. Many apartment buildings have been constructed in this same period, primarily designed for middle-income families.

According to the Comprehensive Plan, one of the most serious problems facing our city is the number of its substandard and dilapidated dwellings. Seven areas are considered in the Plan to be major problems. Other areas, beginning to show blight, need watching. The Comprehensive Plan identifies these as: areas to be cleared, areas to be rehabilitated, and areas to be conserved. The majority of this housing is in the low-income, central city and consists of much of our minority group housing.

Areas recommended for clearance are:

1. Baytown Woods - a small enclave of houses off Market Street with unpaved roads, no street lighting, no city water, and inadequate sewerage. This land is owned privately and leased to the people living there.
2. Pine, Cherry, Magnolia Street area - located behind DeZavala School. Part of this area is not hooked up with city water nor to sewerage lines. Lots are over-crowded. Some houses in this area have already been razed by Houston Lighting and Power Company.
3. Oak Addition - located behind Carver School. An area of 254 homes -- 137 rental, 117 resident-owned. Overcrowded housing and lots. Harris County Community Action Association is working in this area. Recently the residents obtained increased services for street cleaning and police protection. The streets in this area were improved recently.

An area including Bush Terrace, Baytown Heights, and DeZavala Public Housing is listed as needing to be rehabilitated. Part of this area is multi-racial.

Baytown has 6 projects of public housing with 210 units for low-income families. These projects are administered by a Director and staff under the direction of a five-man board.

Occupancy is open to low-income families earning \$3,300 or less (this may soon be raised to \$4,500). Monthly rentals range from \$21 to \$60 for entering tenants. A tenant with improved earnings may pay up to \$80 before being asked to vacate. To qualify for low-income housing for the elderly you must be at least 62, of low income, and living alone or with a spouse.

There is a present waiting list of 400 family units for low-income housing. No new units have been constructed since 1964. The Housing Authority Board has been tentatively discussing the possibility of adding 100 to 150 units to those

now available. No land is now owned by the Authority for future building.

No social services are offered to tenants by the Authority. No recreational facilities are available and there is only limited green space around the units. The projects are not conveniently located to community facilities and shopping areas. Tentative plans are being made to build a recreation hall at the Edison Courts housing project for the elderly.

While these Public Housing Authority projects are open to all qualified applicants regardless of race, an applicant is asked to file a preference and is not required to accept the first suitable vacancy in units other than the one of his choice. Refusal does not affect his eligibility. This probably accounts for the racial characteristics of Baytown's Public Housing.

The six public housing projects are:

1. Archer - off Airhart Road; 50 family units and 8 one-bedroom units for the elderly. All Negro. One vacancy now available for elderly.
2. DeZavala - off West Texas; 30 units: Anglo, Mexican-American, and Negro.
3. Sam Houston - on Nazro Street; 30 units: white.
4. Lincoln - in Oak Addition; 30 units: Negro.
5. Olive - on Miriam; 20 units: white.
6. Edison - on N. 10th; newest units built to house elderly. One-bedroom patio apartments: air-conditioned.

The largest apartments available are four-bedroom units. However, no one is disallowed because of family size.

Federal programs intended to help communities meet their needs of low-income or low-cost housing are available. The prerequisite for many of these programs is a WORKABLE PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT.

The seven elements of the WORKABLE PROGRAM represent accepted principles of good municipal management -- 1. Codes and ordinances, 2. Comprehensive Community Plan, 3. Neighborhood Analysis, 4. Administrative organization, 5. Financing, 6. Housing for displaced families, and 7. Citizen participation.

Baytown received WORKABLE PROGRAM approval in 1964 when the master plan was completed (satisfying no. 2 prerequisite); however, the approval expired one year later because the city had not moved forward with adoption of a Housing Code and Zoning Ordinance.

In August of 1968 the Baytown City Council approved a Housing Code; and a Zoning Ordinance has been prepared and is being studied by the Council.

City officials hope that these two actions will qualify Baytown for re-certification under the Workable Program in February of 1969.

In October of this year the City Council voted to apply for federal planning assistance program funds to help pay the cost of updating the city's Comprehensive Plan. The Council agreed to retain firms to do the updating which will probably include a thoroughfare study, a neighborhood analysis, and a parks and recreation study.

At the present time, Baytown has one private group working in the area of low-income housing.

* * * * *

The League of Women Voters study committee gathered material for this report from the following sources:

U.S. Census 1960

City of Baytown Comprehensive Plan

Baytown Chamber of Commerce

Inter-Faith Housing Committee

Articles in the Baytown Sun and the Houston Post

A 'Go-See' tour of Baytown housing

Interviews with:

City officials

School officials

H.C.C.A.A. officials

Baytown Public Housing Authority Director

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE _____
STATE BEAUMONT
TEXAS

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

NOV 26 1968

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? no

(Carbon copy slipped)

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

We feel that equal opportunity should be extended to each sex and to any marital status.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

See above

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

A minority opinion was that withholding funds from all Federal programs was too drastic. We would hurt the very people we want to help by removing funds for the Federal Lunch Program, for example. The majority thought that such drastic measures would bring about compliance fairly quickly.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

A personal opinion of the chairman- a doubt that such a measure will be passed. We should expect to work in the framework of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which really moves faster than even the Supreme Court decision can, considering the slowness of its deliberations.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

From our brief study of the enforcement of Title VIII, the general provisions seem to provide, in general, reasonable procedures for enforcement- except, of course, for the withholding of funds from other programs.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

We do not have a fair- housing law in Texas- prob~~x~~ably will not have one for some time.

Beaumont will have to work without a local ordinance, too, unless the citizens are farther along in their thinking than the League is aware. We are trying now to get a minimum housing code.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

WE have not studied this area at all until now.

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?

Describe economic coercion by employers of Negroes who try to buy houses outside the traditional areas. This may be difficult for the Attorney General to prove-

People of good will just must try to get together on this problem. An educational job needs to be done.

(We really have not had time to consider this question.)

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings? Have not made one. We may soon. Members are participating in a group of City appointees to study housing.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

The Chamber of Commerce has a committee working quietly we understand. The few instances we know where Negroes have moved into a formerly all white street have not created panic. The opinion on one street seems to be that since it's the law, why panic? If one moved, the same thing might happen. However, few people discuss this topic at all. Beaumont has layers of ~~xxx~~ color and white almost like a layer cake-except in one direction. So most of us have never been very far removed from a black neighborhood.

Date November 25, 1968

Signed Louise Loomis
Position National Program

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE BRAZOSPORT
STATE TEXAS

DEC 2 1968

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Our League agrees that the market should be open to all. Blanket restrictions on neighborhoods, sub-divisions, multi-dwelling units, etc.; or restrictions written into deeds, should not be lawful.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

We do, however, feel that the rights of the property owner should be protected--property owners should have some choice in the matter. *We do not mean this to be a discrimination against color, race or creed-- but rather regarding the type of person.*

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Initiation of effort should be local. Perhaps an Advisory Board could be set up at each level of government to advise people of their rights and the measures available for a course of action.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Some method should be designed to force lending institutions to be equitable in loans and interest to all people. Perhaps re-evaluation of FHA and VA lending standards would provide a more unbiased lending of money, therefore becoming more effectively competitive with private loan agencies.

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? X In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

Our League disagrees with withholding all federal funds from communities which discriminate.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

We feel that federal funds applying to housing purposes only be withheld. It was also suggested that there might be two levels of enforcement; i.e., if discrimination exists after the initial step of housing funds being withheld, then perhaps there could be withdrawal of all federal funds.

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Local administration was favored by our League.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

We understand "readily" available to mean LOCALLY available.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Our League feels that the local levels should have a board composed of local people and open to the public. The suggestion was made that a federally trained mediator be available if needed.

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? XX
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Our League felt this to be a very vague question. Where are the funds coming from?--what level of government? Naturally funding should be adequate and preferably available at local levels. *This question is phrased so that only a "yes" answer could be given and does not encourage discussion or constructive thinking.*

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? X
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

Our League feels that a commission or agency of some sort be planned into the program for the purpose of evaluating periodically. A suggestion: annual review for the first five years; once every five years thereafter.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

What kinds of legislation do you support?

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?
YES

Describe:

Inadequate funds
Prompt enforcement
Divergent community attitudes which cannot be legislated,
but must be educated.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings?

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

Date 11/27/68

Signed Virginia Stolest (Mrs. Ted Stolest)
Position National Program Chairman

DEC 2 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE Corpus Christi
STATE Texas

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

D. In the enforcement of fair housing laws,

1. administrative procedures and responsibilities should be clearly defined

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

2. mediation and legal redress should be readily available

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

What changes or elaborations should be made?

3. funding should be adequate to help insure prompt enforcement

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

4. continued evaluation should be encouraged and procedures should be revised when indicated.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? Yes
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

II. If your League has a fair housing item on its state or local program, what conclusions has it reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present fair housing legislation at the national, state and/or local level?

No state or local program . A local fair housing ordinance was passed in Oct. No cases have been filed to this date- have not yet studied this ordinance to determine its effectiveness.

What kinds of legislation do you support?

no answer at this time

What kinds of legislation do you oppose?

no answer at this time

Do you think additional and/or different legislation is needed?

no answer at this time

Although the following are not guidelines for fair housing, it will be useful for you to have answers to the following questions:

III. Do you see any problems in the implementation of fair housing laws?
Yes

Describe:

Lack of understanding of the rights of each party, overcoming the attitudes and prejudices of a large majority of the people.

IV. If your League has already made a survey of housing,

A. What are your major findings? Our survey found a lack of moderate priced housing, that housing has prevented full intergration of the schools, that the new housing now being built under the rent -supplement program will continue this pattern. The Negro and Mexican will still be confined to these areas. Also, there is opposition from some Mexicans to these housing units being built in their area, these are Mexicans whose income is above the poverty level and they feel their neighborhoods and schools will be come over- crowded.

B. How do you interpret the climate of opinion in your community with respect to residential desegregation?

More opposed then for. When A neighborhood gets a Negro or Mexican family most of the whites move or try to. We have a few that are intergrated.

Date Nov. 29.1968

Signed Mrs. Robert E. Clarke
Position NCA Chairman

HR

State

Frost

NOV 13 1968

League of Women Voters of the U.S.
1200 - 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

LOCAL LEAGUE

DALLAS

STATE

TEXAS

GUIDELINES FOR FAIR HOUSING STANDARDS

I. The following criteria should be applied to programs and policies to provide equal opportunity in access to housing:

A. The housing market should operate free of restrictions based on race, color, religion, national origin.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

To be returned to the National office not later than December 1, 1968.
(One copy to State League.)

B. Government at all levels and the private sector as well have a role to play in the nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in access to housing.

Does your League agree in part? _____ In full? YES
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement:

What changes or elaborations should be made?

One unit added "especially government."

C. Federal programs should include provisions to guarantee equal rights in access to housing. Federal funds should be withheld from communities in which discrimination in access to housing occurs.

Does your League agree in part? YES In full? _____
Does your League disagree in part? _____ In full? _____

Explanation of disagreement or agreement?

There was complete agreement on the first statement, but complete disagreement on the second. Of 13 Units, 3 agreed with the entire statement, 3 disagreed, 1 agreed, but with the qualification of withholding housing funds only. The remaining 6 Units reported ~~mixed attitudes~~ various attitudes, but the predominate reason for not withholding funds was because withholding funds would be most punitive on those whom the programs are designed to help. One suggestion was that there could be a withholding of funds from developers and owners.

What changes or elaborations should be made?

Suggestions: 1. Federal motivation for passage of state and local laws which would be more effective.
2. Incentives to communities could be offered.