

The Housing Committee of the NLG requests that you stand in solidarity with our local and international struggles against displacement, by choosing a non-AirBnB (or similar online short-term rental platform) lodging option.

Check out www.nlg.org for more ideas on alternative lodging options.

Feel free to [contact the Housing Committee](#) if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the convention!

Special Thanks to: Julie Pittman, Christopher Bangs, Hannah Adams, Jean Stevens, Amy Mei Willis

NLG Housing Guide

Law for the People Convention
UDC Davis School of Law
Washington, DC
www.nlg.org

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prepared by:
the Housing Committee

D.C. Renter Crisis

D.C. is a majority-renter city, but a renter in D.C. would have to work almost 3 minimum wage jobs to afford market rent in 2017.

1/4 of renters in D.C. are severely cost burdened, meaning they spend more than 50% of their income on rent.

Sources: http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/OOR_2017.pdf; <http://www.makeroomusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/DC.pdf>



Impact of Airbnb on D.C. Housing

Airbnb and similar online short-term rental platforms are facilitating the widespread conversion of housing units into illegal hotel rooms, in a bid to profit from the District's already-scarce housing stock.

D.C. advocates and organizers are currently working on a campaign to curb the impact of short term rentals, particularly by preventing hosts from taking full units of housing off the market. Over 2,000 whole units have already been lost.

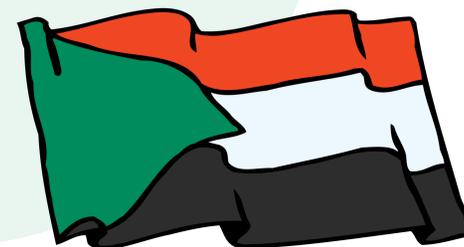
Sources: DC Working Families http://dcsharebetter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/D.C.-Housing-Report_Web.pdf; <http://dcsharebetter.org/>



NLG Commitment to the Boycott, Divest, & Sanction (BDS) Movement

AirBnB, recently began listing rentals in illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank, and thus both the websites and their users glean profit from stolen land. These settlements are in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits an occupying power from moving its civilian population onto the land it is occupying.

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/08/world/middleeast/airbnb-west->



However, AirBnB frustrates the goals of the BDS movement by allowing Israeli settlers to self-describe the location of listings. The vast majority of settler hosts list their rentals as located in Israel. Because these listings do not indicate that they are in settlements on occupied Palestinian territory, it is difficult if not impossible for people to make informed decisions about how to support the boycott.

Aside from adopting a formal zero-tolerance policy for discrimination, AirBnB has done nothing to change its ongoing presence in Israeli settlements or to mitigate its role in perpetuating displacement, human rights abuses, and widespread discrimination.