

TENANTS TALK

SEMI-REGULAR CHICAGO TENANTS NEWSPAPER

Issue 8

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Chicago, Ill.

**CHICAGO TENANTS
ALL SHAPES AND SIZES**

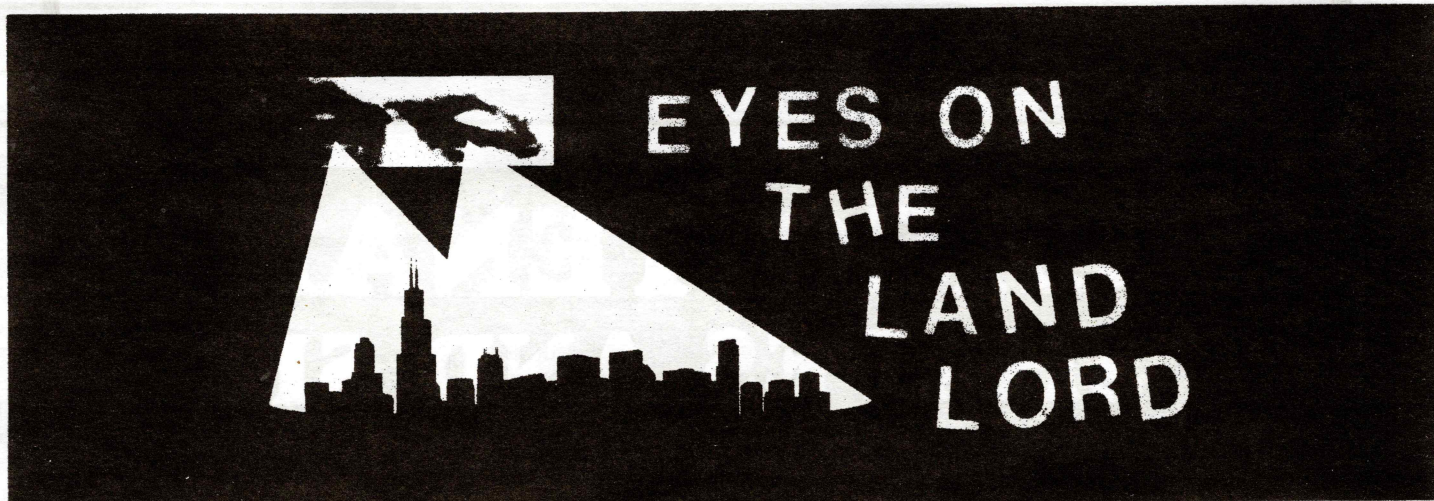


**STRONGER UNITED
★ ★ THAN DIVIDED ★ ★**



**THE TENANT UNION
★ IS THE WAY FORWARD ★**

★ NEWS FROM THE TENANT POINT OF VIEW ★



*All across the country we are witnessing a shift in the attitude of landlords towards their tenants. Following the most recent wave of tenant organizations, landlords are frightened. We can see it in the press, where they spew their propaganda to erode the few protections tenants still have. They will appeal to you as if you own a home—as if you are not a tenant. Do not listen. The landlords know that they must squash tenant resistance before it has a chance to take root. They have begun fighting tooth and nail against **any** tenant organization. To us, this is a sign of their fear. Now more than ever we must remain vigilant. Tenants Talk has its eyes on the landlords. **Do you?***

ONE, TWO, MANY WPDs...

Tenants at 3901 W Jackson and 301 N Springfield are heating their apartments with their ovens. This dangerous scenario is all the more twisted considering the slumlords who own the building, Jeremy and Kelly Schneider, live in oven-like Arizona. Luckily for the Schneiders, they have all the money in the world to turn their million-dollar desert mansion into a cool paradise. And where do they get this money from? They get it from the same tenants who call day after day about the heat but get nothing but a cold shoulder.

The Schneiders purchased the property in the fall of 2022 for just over

\$1 million. Since then, tenants have had to deal with not one, not two, but **THREE** different management companies. The first, our old friends WPD, still have fliers in the lobby with contact information—funny for a company that doesn't pick up the phone. The second, PIP, lasted long enough to evict a tenant who lived on the streets just three years ago. And now the current managers, Westward 360, are letting tenants freeze in their apartments, just like their predecessors.

ACTA wants to rally the tenants and force the money-hungry Schneiders to use some of the tenants' hard-earned money to bring the heat back. Unfortunately, the main tower of the building has been difficult to access, making it hard for neighbors, or ACTA, to reach other tenants. This will have to change in order to spread the good word between neighbors, so we hope that soon, a door might open.

Wanna help? If you live at 3901 W Jackson or 301 N Springfield or know someone who does, give us a ring at 773-770-5650. Let's start the fight!

JANKO "JANKY PROMOTERS" PROPERTIES

Back in August, Injustice Watch published a series of articles about the power imbalance that exists between landlords and tenants. In it, they

highlighted the eviction of the Ware family, tenants who had lived in "one of just eight [buildings] citywide that inspectors cited for serious code violations in almost every year going back to 2007." The building is owned by Matt Janko, an out of town slumlord gobbling up properties all over the south and west sides.

After reading this article, organizers from the All-Chicago Tenant Alliance visited the building in Austin to investigate the situation for themselves. What they found was beyond anything the article had led them to imagine.

The first thing one notices upon arrival is that the front gate and most of the entrances are broken, as reported. While this is a major security concern for tenants all over Garfield Park and Austin on one hand, on the other it allows organizers to enter with little resistance. Thanks Matt! Once on the inside, ACTA was able to talk to a dozen tenants and learn about life on the Janko Ranch.

Every single unit has a rat, mouse and cockroach problem. The building is completely infested. Tenants talked to ACTA and showed them pictures of mice living in their stoves, in their refrigerators, and eating all of their food in the cupboards. One tenant told us that she once discovered mice in her baby's crib—with her baby! Two tenants told us that rats had chewed through the electrical system of their cars while they were parked in the attached lot. Every type of material

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has been used by the maintenance staff to hold the rats off throughout the building: foam, drywall, wood, aluminum, and steel. But rat teeth are able to chew through all of it. Rats and landlords have a lot in common, in this sense: when it comes to terrorizing tenants, nothing deters them.

One tenant showed us her ceilings leaking urine from toilets above them. Another tenant told ACTA that she has thrown out two mattresses and two sofas due to bedbugs. She also recalled how a 3' x 3' hole was left in the ceiling after a section of it crashed down onto the floor in the middle of the night. The same woman told us how when she was a little girl, this building was known as the Snake Building because legend had it that the rats were so bad, they used to keep snakes in the basement to eat them! That was well before Janko's time. But based on the number of rats living there now, Janko must have evicted the snakes.

Matt Janko is a damn criminal and he's getting rich being one. Crime seems to be acceptable in this city when the perpetrator is a property

owner and the victims are tenants. Do you live at 5645-5657 W Washington Blvd, or 525-527 N Homan Ave? ACTA is in the early stages of attempting to help the tenants form a union. Join them! Call 773-770-5650.

LAKESIDE MANAGEMENT AND BORUCH GOTTESMAN: A MATCH MADE IN SLUMLORD HEAVEN

In a quiet suburb of upstate New York, away from it all, slumlord Boruch Gottesman sleeps peacefully in his mansion on a tall bed of rent money. Meanwhile, a completely opposite scene plays out on the west and south sides of Chicago. Here, inside Gottesman's fifteen apartment buildings that are managed by the clowns at Lakeside Management, 100s of tenants can't sleep peacefully, if they can sleep at all.

Rats, cockroaches, black mold, broken appliances—all the typical features. Why is it that block after block, building after building, we find the same exact thing: tenants suffering while their landlord gets rich as hell?

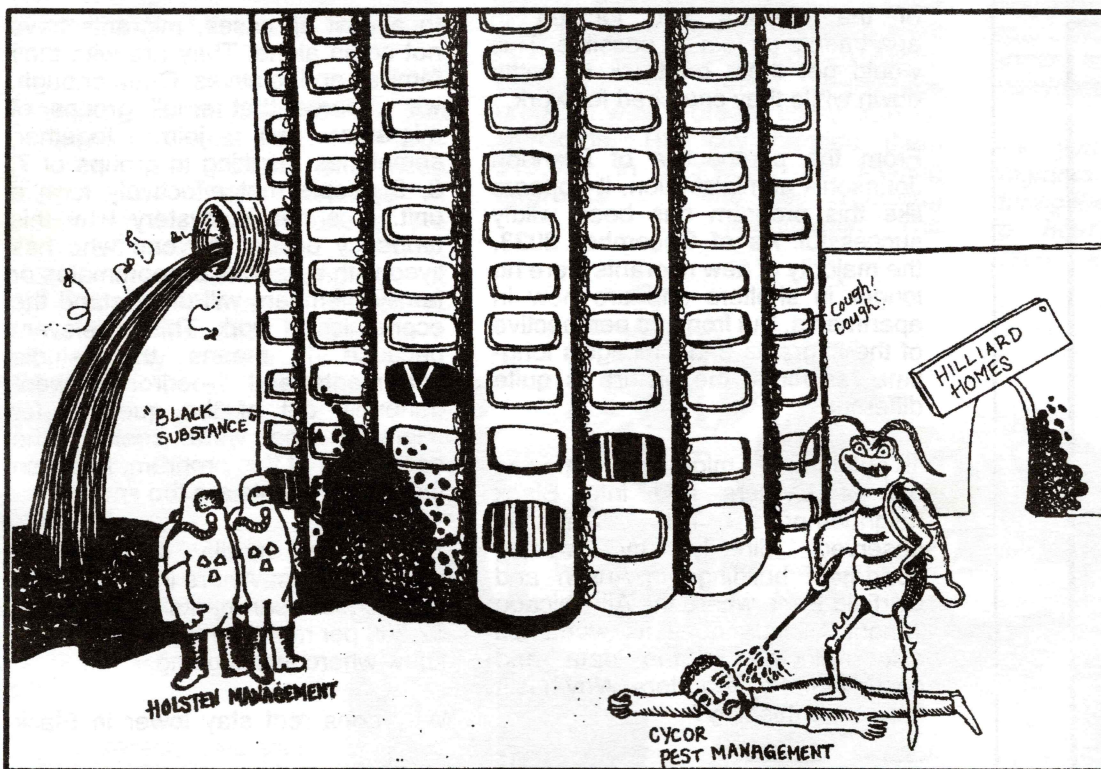
In one of these buildings in Austin, near Parkside and Washington, the tenants are making moves with the All-Chicago Tenant Alliance. A meeting was held in the entryway, a list of demands was put together. What will happen next? Stay tuned...

In the meantime, if you live at 114 N Parkside, 5334 W Madison, 169 N Leclaire, or 4200 W Washington, your landlord is Boruch Gottesman, too. Get in touch!

HILLIARD TOWER TENANTS HAVE HAD ENOUGH!

Tenants in the Hilliard Towers have unionized. Hilliard Towers is a 654-unit housing block that targets families and seniors in the near South Side. On November 17th 2023, a group of Towers tenants read and delivered a letter of demands to the on-site management office. Tenants also delivered their letter to the offices of the mayor, the 3rd Ward alderperson Pat Dowell, the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Signed by 49 tenants, the letter implored Holsten Real Estate Company to devise a proactive plan to tackle the incessant issues faced by the residents. Holsten Real Estate is the entity that owns and manages the Hilliard Towers, in addition to over a dozen others in the Chicagoland area.



Comic by Hilliard Tenant Association member, Nicole

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Tenants reported problems such as water and sewage leaking into their homes, cockroach infestations, mold that was repeatedly painted over, and security issues like key cards not working. Doors would also consistently be left unlocked, regardless of the security staff onsite. The tenants were not alone in finding issues, as building inspectors have issued citations for structural damage on numerous occasions over the past two years- an issue that ownership had disregarded. In stark contrast, the Holsten group boasts in their mission statement that they work to "strengthen at-risk populations by expanding their access to viable resources that promote self-sufficiency, wellness and stability."

The recently established Hilliard Tenants Association is fueled by optimism, stemming from the slew of tenants who are actively participating in their meetings thus far. They aspire to collaborate with seniors in the buildings and continue moving forward. ★

HAVE A SLUMLORD TO REPORT?

Are you living in a building with rats, roaches, no heat, or problems of the like? Do you know someone who is? Submit your stories to Tenants Talk!

**Text
(773) 770-5650**

ARE MIGRANTS THE ENEMY?

In early 2022, a wave of immigrants from Central America began showing up in Chicago on buses and planes sent by the Governor of Texas as a political stunt to protest Joe Biden's border policy.¹ Chicago is a sanctuary city, which means that our politicians will not inquire about immigration status, turn immigrants over to the federal authorities, or deny them public services.

At first they slept at the airport or the police station. When the numbers quickly reached several thousands, the Mayor had to intervene with a plan of action. Old vacant buildings were converted into shelters which are still occupied. Quickly the city and the state devised a program called the Asylum Seeker Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Starting in December of 2022, it offered to pay 6 months of rent for qualified migrant families. The intention was to get migrants out of the shelters and located in apartments as fast as possible. This would get them on track to settle down while they searched for work.

From the perspective of Brandon Johnson's administration, it appears like this program has been wildly successful. As of December 2023, the majority of new migrants were no longer in shelters and are now in apartments. But from the perspective of the migrants and Chicago's long-time residents, the picture is quite different.

To put it frankly, migrants are moving out of shelters and into Black neighborhoods. This can be observed directly by visiting apartment buildings in Austin and Garfield Park, where the All-Chicago Tenant Alliance does its work. It's also reflected in the data and documented by reporters. Why has it happened this way?

First of all, the existence of Black neighborhoods suggests that there are white neighborhoods. This is a reality of Chicago. Racist segregation in the extreme is the guiding principle of city government. This is why there was a "Black Belt" from the first days of European and African migration² to Chicago over 100 years ago and why the pattern of neighborhood development has hardly changed since. So the more specific question is: why are migrants landing in Black neighborhoods and not white neighborhoods?

The Rental Assistance program provided rental assistance for 6 months up to a maximum of \$15,000. In other words, the maximum amount of time that rent could be paid was 6 months, no matter what. So if the applicant found an apartment that rented for a price that amounted to \$15,000 in, say, only 5 months or 4 months, that would be the end of it. In order to be housed for the full 6 months, the migrants were compelled to find the cheapest housing they could find. \$15,000 divided by 6 months is \$2,500 per month.

In almost all cases, migrants have not come alone. They are with their families and relatives. Often enough, we observe that small groups of migrants will join together, sometimes resulting in groups of 7, 8, 9 people that effectively form a unit. It is not a mystery why this tendency occurs. Anyone who has lived with a handful of roommates or family members will understand the economics at work. This is relevant because it means that studio apartments and 1-bedrooms were generally out of the question for migrants who were seeking the assistance of this program, because these apartments are too small.

So we can modify the question above like this: Where in the city can the biggest apartments be found for \$2,500 per month or less? I think you know where this is going.

Why does rent stay lower in Black

¹ See *Tenants Talk* 5

² It is worth remembering that we are all immigrants.

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neighborhoods? Because the residents are poor and therefore the amount that landlords can raise rent above value in these neighborhoods is significantly lower than it is in white neighborhoods. To be clear, this is a consequence of discrimination and the exploitation of Africans that has been ongoing since America was first settled. Landlords can't raise rents on Black tenants like they can on white tenants because Black tenants are typically also workers who are paid lower wages than their white counterparts. This is a mainstream fact and it is beyond dispute.

The consequence is a vicious cycle. Low wages are tied to low rents. Low rents cause low property values of apartment buildings. Low property values cause low profit margins. Low profit causes low investment. Low investment causes low economic activity (i.e. production, buying and selling). Low economic activity causes low employment. Low employment causes a further lowering of wages (i.e. bosses don't have to persuade workers with good wages because there's a long line of people desperate for jobs who will take what they can get). Round and round it goes in a downward spiral of increasing misery as the effects of this cycle compound and overlap.

All of this does not erase the fact that the south and west side of Chicago are filled with people who need houses. The critical shortage of housing in this town is one of the worst-kept secrets about Chicago. And, to speak in the language of capitalists, wherever economic "demand" comes out of balance with "supply", there is an opportunity to make exceptional profits for anyone willing to chase abnormally high "risk" investments. In other words, landlords can make excessive profits through buying apartment buildings in the Black neighborhoods—if they have the guts.

But we already said that landlords can't raise rents to enlarge their profit

margin to the same degree as they could if they owned properties in white neighborhoods. So where can these profits come from? The risk of investing in Black neighborhoods—or in landlord language, to "provide housing"—comes from the obstacle that profit has to be earned by an alternative method than incrementally inflating the price of rent. The solution is simple enough: instead of raising their prices, landlords have to lower their costs.

This translates into the practice of allowing buildings to decay and fall apart, this is how landlords decay into slumlords. Slumlords need to keep their properties at the bare minimum level of livability. They need to spend an amount of money that is as close to \$0 as possible. That's how they enlarge their margin. To put it literally: the misery of the tenants is the slumlord's profit. This is what exploitation means.

There are no two ways about it: migrants find their way to these apartments in particular because the rents are low as a result of landlord discrimination against Black tenants. The housing shortage is created by and enforced by landlords. It means that, in these neighborhoods, a spirit of "beggars-can't-be-choosers" prevails. The rental assistance program was a dream come true for slumlords. The city handed them \$15,000 in exchange for stuffing migrants into their crumbling apartments. The

landlords know that no one is going to check on the migrants to ensure that their rights are being observed. The city is too eager to get the migrants off their hands in order to keep up appearances that the "sanctuary city" is in fact worthy of the name, so it rushed through the process and never inspected the apartments for quality.

Anyone who has ever rented from CHA knows well that the inspections are bullshit. In order to manage the "housing crisis", the city partners with private landlords, guarantees them rent checks then won't even give them a slap on the wrist when their tenants are living with rats in their ovens.

It's perfectly reasonable for long-time residents of poor neighborhoods to feel angry when they see the city helping out other people while they have been neglected for decades. But let's be honest: it's been over a century of racist segregation in this city. Does anyone really think that the government was saving that money for poor Black people? We think the government is to blame, not the migrants. We think the racist slumlords are to blame, not the migrants. In fact, it seems to us that long-time tenants and the new tenants could work together to direct their anger to their common enemy—slumlords!

Are you a tenant who has had migrants move into your building during the past year or two? We'd love to hear your opinions on this issue...★



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IT'S ALL BULLSH—!

Unless you have been living under a rock, you have probably heard of the so-called "housing crisis."

But if you have been living under the landlord, you have probably experienced the "housing crisis" first hand as rising rents and deteriorating living conditions and a seemingly permanent threat of eviction and homelessness. For tenants, the "housing crisis" isn't just statistics or panicked news reports. It is a problem of oppression experienced directly at the hands of landlords. It's a fight so intense that given the choice of living in one of their slums under their terror, some of us would rather live under a rock!

The "housing crisis" leads many tenants to experience homelessness outright. Many tenants have been made homeless indefinitely. If they are like the tenants living in Janko Properties (for more info on Matt Janko, one of the thousands of slumlords infesting Chicago, see issue 7 of Tenants Talk), they're forced to crowd 6, 7 or 8 people into two-bedroom apartments. They sleep with rats in their bed and eat with rats in their refrigerators and stoves. They sit and sleep on the floor because they have thrown away their beds and couches due to never ending cockroach infestations. Pests spill out of the floors and walls in endless rivers. They duck under piss leaking through the ceiling from the floors above them, or put buckets out to catch snow and rain water leaking from the roof.

All the while, tenants pay \$1,600 a month, \$1,800 next month, \$2,000 a month after that. No matter how fucked up these apartments become, on the first of the month, the landlord comes begging for our paychecks or our Section-8 vouchers—whatever fills his cup and empties ours. This is the nature of the so-called "housing crisis."

About this crisis, economists, aldermen, mayors, real-estate investors and their lobbyists all say variations of the same thing:

"There's a shortage of affordable housing, we need to build!"

"We need to make homeownership more accessible!"

"We need to encourage investment!"

"Lower taxes!"

"Red tape!"

"Zoning!"

"Blah blah blah"

This is all bullshit!

It is due time that tenants in large numbers begin to understand this. There is not a housing crisis, there is a landlord crisis. There is a private property crisis. There is a profit-seeking crisis, and that's all there is to it. There will never be a solution to the housing problem until landlords are suppressed, profit is eliminated from the equation and all housing comes under public rather than private control. **Houses for the people, by the people.** Every other proposed solution to the degradation, exploitation and oppression of tenants is bullshit. It's that simple.

Landlords exploit tenants.

Landlords oppress tenants.

Landlords exploit their private ownership over pieces of the earth to the increasing expense of the people who don't own, i.e. the tenants.

That's that. If you are a tenant, it is your responsibility to solve the housing crisis.

It's not the mayor's responsibility—he's a homeowner, not a tenant.

It's not the aldermen's responsibility—they are homeowners, not tenants.

It's not the economists' responsibility—they are homeowners, not tenants.

It is obviously not the investors' responsibility. They are the landlords, they are Matt Janko, Boruch Gottesman and David Pezzola—they are the oppressors of tenants!

It is your responsibility. The only way to do this is to join up into one big alliance of tenants, organized into unions in every apartment building.

The weapon that we will use in this formation to get our demands is the rent strike. And what should our demands be?

First and foremost, lower rent. From \$2,000, back to \$1,600 down to \$1,000, down to \$500 down to \$0 until rich investors learn that it is no longer safe to expect profits from owning the houses of other people. In addition to lowered rent, we must demand apartments that are without rats, mice, bugs, without mold, gas leaks, water leaks, extreme heat and extreme cold. All of this must be demanded and enforced indefinitely using the threat of the rent strike: the collective, mass withholding of rent. There is no other option.

What should be obvious is that we cannot take on the landlords alone. We know that the landlord can throw any one of us on the street. He is a dictator and finding a replacement for one tenant is no problem because the "housing crisis" creates a perpetual mass of people desperate for a house. We also know that if we are clever and lucky enough to escape tenancy and become homeowners (Do you have 50 grand in your pocket for a down payment?), all that will happen is the next tenant will take our place and suffer. We have to fight collectively as a class, not as individuals.

Landlords cannot throw all of the tenants in their building onto the street at once without going through an extremely difficult and expensive legal process. Even if the eviction process was not financially damaging in itself, simultaneously losing the cash flow from the whole mass of tenants' rent is. This is similar to the economic coercion that prevents bosses from throwing all of their workers into the street at once: because workers produce the value of the products he sells and therefore are the source of his profits. Tenants do a similar thing for the landlord. We are the source of his profit. And if the landlords could not profit from owning our houses, they would not own them. Nobody would have any reason to own a house except the people that need them.

Houses in the hands of the people that use them—that's exactly what every tenant needs! ★

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WHAT THE ANTI-GENTRIFICATION ORDINANCE MEANS FOR TENANTS

When rent goes up in neighborhoods and long-time residents are no longer able to afford to live there, they're forced to move. This is called displacement. Lawmakers in some neighborhoods of Chicago have a new tactic to deal with this problem they're calling the Anti-Gentrification Ordinance. Will it actually help tenants?

The ordinance will be going into effect on January 1st, 2025 for the Northwest Side neighborhoods of Hermosa, Logan Square, Avondale, West Town and Humboldt Park, but it is based on similar ordinances from other parts of the city and country, which suggests that other alderpeople on the west side might push for similar ordinances soon.

What does this ordinance include? It has two main parts. The first is a demolition fee for multifamily buildings and the second is the tenant opportunity to purchase.

The demolition fee is an extension of an existing ordinance which requires landlords and developers to pay a fee to the city to demolish multifamily buildings. This part of the ordinance requires a payment of either \$60,000 total or \$20,000 per unit based on which is higher when they want to tear down apartment buildings. This part of the ordinance disincentives tearing down large buildings suitable for housing many tenants and replacing them with small houses to be used by one family. Because of this it provides a minor benefit to tenants, even if it is indirect. With this ordinance, tenants are more protected than before from developers seeking to turn apartment buildings into single family homes.

But, let's look at the second part of the ordinance, the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase. The law will give tenants the right of first refusal when the landlord sells the building. It requires landlords to tell tenants about an impending sale and allows tenants to put in a counter offer to purchase the building. Supporters of the ordinance claim that this is an expansion of tenant rights while pro-landlord opponents immediately attacked the ordinance in the media. On paper it certainly looks like this ordinance is a win for tenants, but what about in reality? Will tenants actually be able to

put together the hundreds of thousands or even millions of dollars required to match a developer's bid and form a housing co-op?

For the average group of tenants in a building, the answer is unfortunately no. Actually buying an apartment building requires a large sum of money, legal assistance, and expertise navigating real estate transactions. If we look at other areas where similar laws have existed for a longer period of time, such as in Washington D.C. or some areas of Oregon, the truth is revealed. Successful purchases require intensive support from non-profits and investors with their own interests. In short, the road to a housing cooperative through the Anti-Gentrification Ordinance is similar to the road to a housing cooperative under normal conditions: a difficult and unlikely process that only helps a handful of tenants escape landlord terror.

The one major benefit of the Anti-Gentrification Ordinance's Tenant Opportunity to Purchase was that it bought time for tenants who would otherwise be pushed out to organize themselves and gather support to fight directly against their own displacement. A closer look at pro-

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landlord and developer articles criticizing the ordinance shows this minor benefit to tenants is exactly what they were afraid of. As an op-ed in the Chicago Tribune warned landlords, "You could easily have to wait over six months to even put [your building] on the market." A point which translates as "you might have to wait over six months before you can cash out and pass your tenants off to another slumlord looking to get his money's worth."

Tenants buying buildings isn't what worries the landlords, after all. The landlord selling his building is only after one thing: money. He doesn't care whether it comes from a group of tenants, another slumlord looking for rents, or a wealthy developer looking to turn the building into luxury apartments. That's the bottom line. The landlord just wants the sale done quickly, and that usually disqualifies tenants. The one useful function of the tenant opportunity to purchase was that it gave tenants the time to put together a real offer—or organize around another kind of response all together.

In order to take their "Opportunity to Purchase", tenants have to do two things. First, organize into a tenant organization with their neighbors so

that they can make an offer, and second, secure the funding to follow through and purchase their building. The initial wording of the ordinance provided 90 days for tenants to put together a tenant organization and decide to exercise their right to make an offer, and an additional 120 days to secure the funding to actually make the purchase.

Lo and behold, after complaints from various landlord interest organizations, the sponsors of the ordinance caved and weakened the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase even more. Just days after the ordinance was supposed to go into effect, Carlos Ramirez-Rosa announced he had been meeting with Erika Villegas, president of the Chicago Association of Realtors who is also a landlord with properties around the city. The alderman's negotiation with the landlords led to changes in an ordinance which had already been approved.

In addition to a three month delay, tenants who complete the first step and organize to exercise their "Opportunity to Purchase" now have to produce a letter of intent from a money lender, or be pre-approved for a mortgage for smaller buildings. This change effectively means tenants will

only have the first 90 days to secure funding. This change reduces the chances of any tenants exercising this "Opportunity" to near zero.

What leverage did Villegas and the landlords have which caused the aldermen to change the passed ordinance? We can only speculate, but given the indirect and ineffective nature of the ordinance, it is safe to say it is not the tenant-first ordinance that we really need. Once again, the supposedly "pro-renter" lawmakers have left poor and working class tenants to suffer. They continue to focus on homeownership schemes and building bridges with landlords, proving that in their eyes us tenants are not worthy of one ounce of their respect until we scrape together the cash to become homeowners.

The lawmakers and aldermen seem to forget that on the west side, tenants are the majority, homeowners are the minority. Tenants have paid millions of dollars already in rent for the houses we live in. No "Opportunity to Purchase" requiring even more of our hard earned cash will ever be as beneficial as cutting out the middleman entirely and taking direct, democratic control of our homes as the people who live in them and use them. ★

COLD TENANTS = LANDLORD PROFIT

Chicago winters are no joke. When landlords ignore heating issues, let old heating equipment go unmaintained, or pay for half-ass repairs when they do break down, tenants are the ones left suffering. Whether your heat is on or off, the landlord asks for your rent in full at the top of the month, and if he's giving you a 50% apartment and charging 100% prices, then he's doing his job right: more money in his pocket. **Your misery is the landlord's profit.**

Chicago has tried to keep landlords accountable with the Chicago Heat Ordinance. From September 15th to June 1st, the city requires that landlords supply heat to apartments where tenants don't have control of the heat. Chicago landlords are also

required to keep heating equipment within apartments in "good operating condition." Indoor temperature is required to be at least **68°F during the day** (from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.) and at least **66°F at night** (from 10:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m.) No matter the reason, if landlords do not keep apartments heated, they can face fines of \$500 to \$1,000 per day, per violation.



But the thing is, we've seen individuals fight landlords who break this law time and time

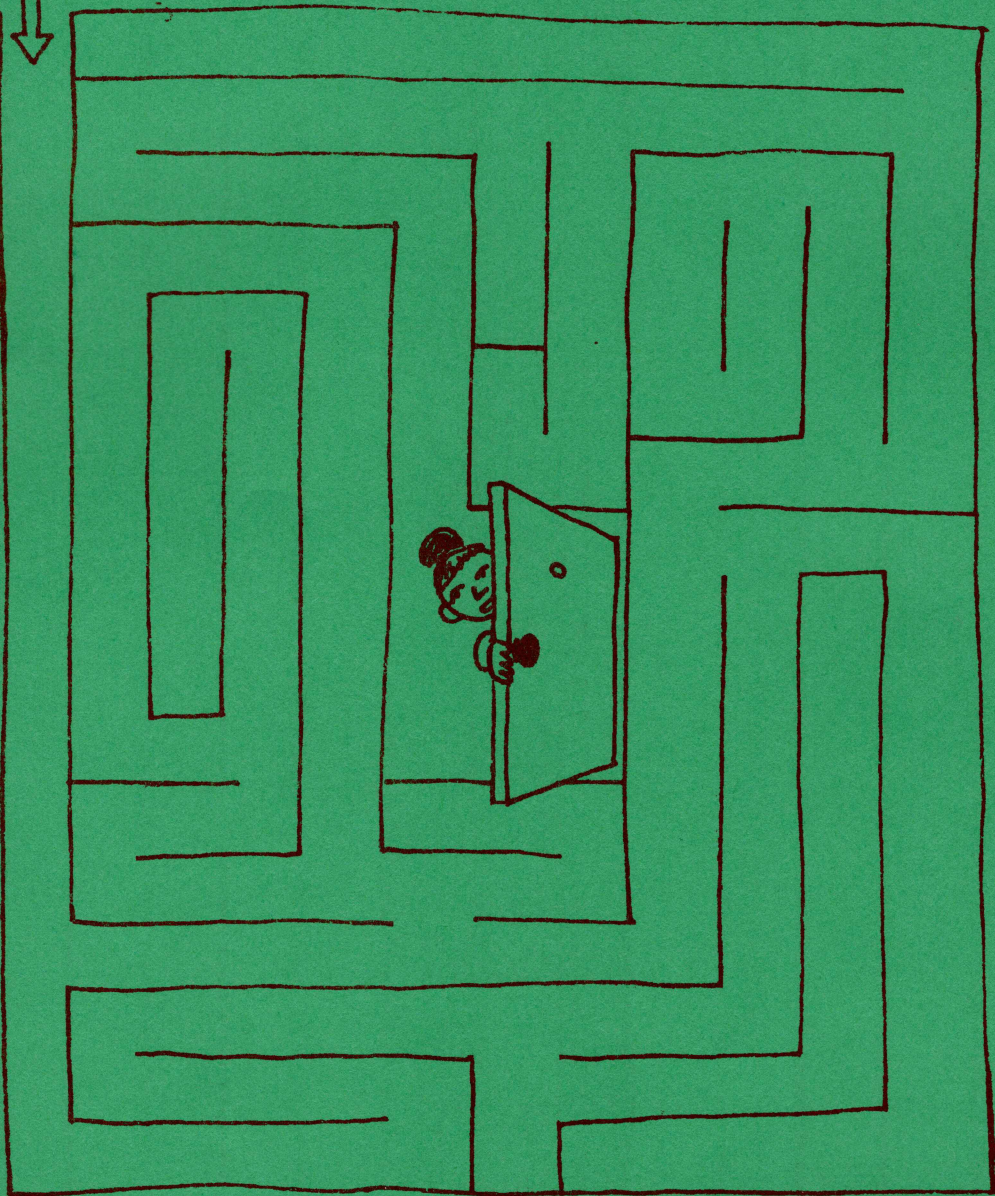
again, and come out the losers. Why? Because the truth is that the law is on the landlord's side. Landlords can afford lawsuits while tenants can't. And if you can, lawyers and judges side with private property owners nine times out of ten. Even if the threat of

lawsuits push landlords into heating repairs, tenants still get pushed out through rent increases down the line to make up the money spent on repairs.

So what can we do? **We need to make our misery not in the landlord's interest.** That means making repair the *less costly* avenue. That means making heating issues not save him money, but cost him money. How can we do that? Well, should we give 100% rent for 80%, 50%, or 0% apartments? If we aren't getting our end of the deal, then neither should he!

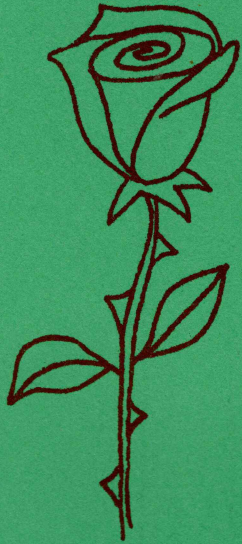
If your apartment heat is shit, call the All-Chicago Tenant Alliance @ (773) 770-5650. We are a union of tenants that will work together with you and your neighbors to establish a tenant union of your own to fight the landlord together.

What does the All Chicago Tenants Alliance do? We help tenants organize tenant unions to fight back against landlords. We knock on a lot of doors and deliver Tenants Talk to people. The hallways in this building are confusing! Can you help us deliver Tenants Talk to the neighbor?



TENANTS TALK KIDS PAGE

We all have things we do and don't like about the places we live. By the rose, write something you like about your apartment. By the thorn, write something you don't like.



Now, think of three neighbors you would like to talk to. Draw a rose for each person. Go find them and ask them what they like about their apartment and what they don't like. Write what they say by the rose and thorn you drew for them.

Did anyone say the same thing?
