

Evanston-Niles Township Section
(Illinois)

July 18, 1967

POSITION STATEMENT OF THE EVANSTON-NILES TOWNSHIP SECTION
OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

RELATIVE TO A PROPOSED FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE FOR
THE VILLAGE OF SKOKIE

The National Council of Jewish Women is a national organization with a membership of more than 100,000 women. The Evanston-Niles Township Section has a membership of 450 women residing in the Evanston-Niles Township area.

Our National Resolutions commit us specifically:

- "To encourage the adoption and strengthening of federal, state and local laws to protect civil rights.
- "To support vigorous and constructive enforcement of civil rights laws at all levels of government.
- "To identify and work toward solution of those problems in community life which lead to the denial of civil rights.
- "To work for public understanding and insurance of the civil liberties guaranteed to all people by the Constitution of the United States."

We also support, encourage and participate in efforts toward public education in the area of civil rights which we feel can be instrumental in dispelling myths associated with housing patterns and can encourage positive attitudes in all areas of civil rights.

As Jews we are particularly sensitive to the injustices suffered by minority groups, and as Jews we are also morally committed to social justice, humanitarian ethics and equal opportunities for all people.

We believe that the Skokie Human Relations Commission's plan for a local fair housing ordinance serves to implement the Resolutions of the National Council of Jewish Women quoted above.

We believe that all people are entitled to the right to live where they choose. Equal opportunity is a basic right guaranteed by our Federal Constitution. We, therefore, are dismayed at suggestions of referenda as proposed by some realtors and residents.

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OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

As an integral part of the Chicago metropolitan area, Skokie, as well as other suburbs must assume its responsibility towards creating an open community. We commend the Skokie Human Relations Commission for their vision in taking leadership in this vital area. We are proud that the Commission is taking this opportunity to set this forthright example.

We most earnestly urge speedy consideration and enactment of an effective fair housing ordinance covering practices of the real estate industry to insure equal service for all homeseekers.

EVANSTON-NILES TOWNSHIP SECTION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

Evelyn Salk

Mrs. Erwin A. Salk, President
1110 Sheridan Road
Evanston

Selma Taub

Mrs. Zolly Taub, Education Vice President
8700 East Prairie
Skokie

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