

**2D) Great Neck Human Rights Committee**

(Newspaper clippings are from the committee's files)

**Rights Group to Picket Apartment, *Long Island Press, May 16, 1963***

The Great Neck Committee for Human Rights last night announced plans to picket the Barstow Road apartment building of the first local landlord to be cited for "probable" discrimination by the State Commission for Human Rights.

The landlord has been given until Sunday to reply to an offer of conciliation. The conciliation terms include offering the next available apartment to the turned-away Negro applicant, Herman Colar, and an agreement not to discriminate against prospective tenants in the future. The Great Neck committee has three other suits against local landlords pending before the State commission.

Herman Colar, who brought suit against the Barstow Road landlord, said he had been denied several vacant apartments in his two-month search. Colar, a Negro, is a taxicab company owner who has lived in Great Neck for 15 years.

Colar and his wife, who is now pregnant, were evicted from rented rooms in the Spiney Hills section of Great Neck. In an effort to upgrade the area, a town zoning ordinance was passed to prohibit rooming houses.

**Spotlight Turned on Landlord, *Newsday, May 1963***

Great Neck-- The identity of a Great Neck landlord accused of discrimination was made public last night at a meeting of the Committee for Human Rights. The landlord denied the charges. The landlord, identified as Jacob Skoblow, has until May 19 to comply with a discrimination ruling.

According to the committee, Herman Colar was turned away by the superintendent of Skoblow's Barstow-Grace apartment building, despite the fact that the superintendent had just told a white female member of the committee that an apartment was available.

**The Black Man Next Door, *Community, March, 1964***

Great Neck--The door of a beautifully maintained brick and shingle house on Wooleys Lane in Great Neck conceals one of the most timely tales of our generation. This is where Edward and Mary Simmons live with their two-year old daughter, Christine.

They are members of the "new breed" of colored people who are emerging as living pioneers of the nation's struggle for civil liberties. Yet they are one among thousands of couples who are quietly moving into white neighborhoods -- often with the aid of local human rights organizations -- and undramatically joining the main social stream.

An article in the New York Times dealing with the housing placement of the Great Neck Committee for Human Rights in select areas of that community brought them to the North Shore.

The committee had several houses to show them where the owner had indicated no aversion to selling to someone of another race. The arrival of Negroes in the previously white section came as no surprise to the neighbors. They had been appraised of the impending move by the committee, and in a neighborhood meeting, had talked out their fears.

**Questions:**

- 1- In your opinion, should a landlord be allowed to discriminate when they rent an apartment? Why or why not?
- 2- Would you have joined a picket line organized by the Great Neck Human Rights Committee? Why or why not?
- 3- Do you agree or disagree with efforts by the Great Neck Human Rights Committee to help African-American families buy homes in previously all white communities? Why?