

I was a renter for many years prior to owning my own home. My circumstances changed [REDACTED] and I'm back to renting again.

My experience as a renter, previous and now current has had its ups and downs to say the least.

With regards to end of lease, I don't agree that a landlords needs to provide a reason for not wanting to extend a lease. The tenants signed an agreement for a certain period, therefore know that they are not guaranteed to stay any longer than the term of the lease. However, if a Landlord wants to end the lease during a fixed term or during a continued (periodic) lease, then I believe they should provide a reason.

Considering the current rental crises and rising rent, changes are to be implanted regarding termination of a lease, it should be the timeframes provided to tenants. Tenants need to be given more time when a termination notice is given, because the market is so bad, it can take ages to obtain alternative accommodation.

I was a pet owner, but with having to go back into the rental market, I've had to give my two small dogs away, because the rental property I've moved into stated "strictly NO pets". I did apply for other properties which only stated, "Pets accepted on application", but was never successful in obtaining that accommodation. Whenever I applied for these advertised properties, when talking to the agents about my pets, I always got the impression that applicants that didn't have pets got preference. I have no evidence to support these impressions of course, they are merely a feeling!

The reason I was given, for not allowing pets into the rental property I am currently in, is that it is a heritage listed property. However, being an honest and responsible pet owner, I fail to see how this is a reasonable reason. But because of the current rental market, it was the only rental available and the only one I was accepted for in the area I needed to be in for my kid's sake. So really had no choice but to give up my dogs. I note, I believe the agent helped me obtain this property as it is the [REDACTED] when I applied for this rental.

I feel that listing reasons that a landlord can refuse pets will not change anything for renters that have pets. Landlords will simply choose one of the reasons even if it doesn't apply to them.

I feel that having Landlords apply to the tribunal to refuse pets puts more onus on them to provide actual reasonable reasons. To help Landlords with this process, as I know that Landlords will not agree to this, I think the pet owners should pay the fees associated with the tribunal application.

I believe by having something like this in place, will help both parties because it will make the pet owners more accountable when wanting to bring their pets into a property, but also making the Landlords more honest when refusing pets.

I have two kids, and to be frank, my pets make less mess!!