

## **VIOLATION: RIGHT TO HOUSING**

The individual interviewed was a twenty-eight year old female and mother of two children. The woman stated that she lived in a two bedroom duplex with her husband and two children. Due to not having financial stability and the lack of credit the family lived in housing that they could afford and that didn't require a background check of their finances. The landlord did not do his part in making sure that the house was properly taken care of or for that matter even livable. The walls were infested with termites and had visible holes from them. The windows of the house were not able to be opened. The duplex only had one entrance/exit available to the family, if a fire were to take place the family would be at a huge risk due to this. The thermostat was only available to the family on the other side of the duplex, which meant that this family was unable to control their own heating and air conditioning. The family was paying a utility bill and had contacted the EPB who claimed that nothing could be done about this problem. This led to family having to purchase a kerosene heater for the winter months and sweating out the summer heat. The mother stated that when things went wrong with the house the landlord would not fix them causing the family to suffer. The mother felt that because they couldn't afford to live anywhere else that her family would just have to make due with what was going on.