**Reasons to Consider Renting to a Man with a Sexual Offense History**

*The following are some reasons to consider renting to a man with a sexual offense history. The purpose of this list is to inform prospective landlord of some of the factors that are often present with men with this type of history. These are general statements and each individual should be looked at based on their own qualifications.*

1) **Accountability**: If the individual is on Probation or Parole for a sex offense, they will most likely have a number of conditions that they are required to abide by, which often include factors that involve how they conduct themselves in their home. These conditions often help to reinforce any rental agreements that the landlord may have.

2) **Longevity**: Stability is one of the factors that help an individual to lower their level with the Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB). That includes housing stability, increasing the likelihood that an individual will be a longer term tenant.

3) **Cautious**: As a registered sex offender, the individual tends to feel like he is “under the spotlight” and tends to be more cautious about the decisions that he makes. To have a tenant who thinks twice before they act helps to reduce accidents and damage to the landlord’s property.

4) **Tolerance:** Many men who have gone through the experiences of being incarcerated as a sex offender have developed the ability to tolerate negative comments and not react adversely. This type of person is less likely to get involved with conflicts involving other tenants and thus saving the landlord time and money by not having to resolve such conflicts.

5) **Gratitude:** A man with a sex offending history is more appreciative of finding a place to rent due to the fact that his choices are often more limited than the average persons. This gratefulness has the potential to make the individual an easier tenant to rent to, as well as possibly spread to other tenants in the building.

6) **Openness to Feedback:**  A man with this history has often had to deal with a great deal of criticism from various people in his life. Often, he becomes skilled at accepting the feedback and less defensive. With a new tenant, there may be times when the landlord needs to clarify some of the rules of the house. It will likely be easier to deal with this tenant as opposed to someone else who has had less experience with being corrected.

7) **Diligence:**  Working harder to prove that he is much more than just a man who has sexually offended is often something that occurs within this population. In jail, men with sex offense charges are often the best workers as well as easiest to manage. They will often be less likely to complain about small things and not cause complaints from other tenants.

8) **Behavioral Awareness:** Being aware of risk factors is something that is stressed in Sex Offender Treatment. These include not only the risk factors of sexual reoffending, but risk factors of any acting out behavior. This awareness helps the individual to engage in fewer risky situations in life and thus be less of a liability to the landlord, helping to protect the landlord’s property and reputation as a landlord.

9) **High Standards:**  Men with a sex offending history often learn to live by a higher code of ethics than the average person. Due to the fact that even an accusation of sexual misconduct could jeopardize their freedom, these men are often less likely to engage in any type of inappropriate sexual behavior. No landlord wants to deal with tenant sexual harassment issues if they can be avoided.

10) **Ongoing Treatment Support:**  Many men with sex offense histories are involved in a weekly treatment group where they receive the guidance and support of other men in similar situations. This consistent factor allows the individual a place to discuss issues that they may be having at home and receive meaningful feedback from others who may have had the similar issues in the past. Having this positive place to vent often helps the tenant resolve issues before they become larger and time consuming to the landlord.

11) **OTHER PROGRAMS:** In addition to having attended treatment for sexual offending, many men have also completed a variety of other self-development and vocational programs during their incarceration. Programs such as Anger Management, Substance Abuse Education, and Pre-Employment Training, among others. Having successfully completed these programs help them to increase their self-esteem as well as provide them with healthier ways of dealing with issues in the future.

12) **SUPPORT:** Through After Incarceration Support Services (AISS), men who have been incarcerated have ongoing support with various programs such as Mentorship, Housing, AA/NA Meetings, and a support group specifically for men with sex offending histories. They also work with a counselor who the employer can contact if the need arises. Having this support is beneficial to the landlord at times when they feel that a consultation about or with the tenant would be in order.