
Ethnic discrimination in access to public housing in France

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Résumé

We measure ethnic discrimination in access to information for public housing applicants, based on a representative sample of 1,875 registration offices, i.e. almost two thirds of offices in France. Between April and May 2022, two female applicants sent emails to each of these offices, indicating that they wished to apply for public housing and requesting information on the steps to be taken. The first and last names of the applicants suggest that one is of French origin and the other of West African origin. We show that female applicants of French origin obtain 9% more positive responses than applicants of West African origin. An exploratory analysis shows that the level of discrimination tends to diminish with the share of non-French nationals in the municipality.

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