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Rent Wars

BY SARA POLSKY · OCT 9, 2012, 11:55A

    REC



East Village landlord Steve Croman of Croman Realty is raising the rent on one East Village couple's apartment from \$2,100/month to **\$4,100/month**. The wrinkle in the story: the couple's son has cancer, and the landlord apparently refused to accept the couple's alternate offer of a 10 percent raise so that they don't have to move their son or

balance paying a \$4,100/month rent with medical expenses. [EVG; [previously](#)]

THERE ARE **21** COMMENTS.

guest



Awesome Dude is Awesome

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



Why don't they just move? I don't get it.

So if I have financial problems, or a family health crisis, I'm supposed to ask my landlord to subsidize my family indefinitely?

How about just moving to a cheaper apartment? Not really that big of a deal.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



Really, someone is supporting a jerk landlord who is nearly doubling a family's rent? In what universe is that fair and appropriate?

And where exactly are these cheaper apartments? In the projects in East New York?

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



[@guest #2](#): Let's see if you would still say that if that happened to you. Probably not. Almost doubling a rent? I am all for market rates but this situation is messed up. That Croman obviously has a huge heart, NOT

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



One might as well apply to the medical-industrial complex for a break on the price of treatment, citing high rent as the justification, as apply to certain landlords for a break on the rent for the sake of an ailing child.

Stones are pitiless things.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

particleman 

This is Ayn Rand style, objectivist/libertarian values in action. All actions are motivated by self interest, and charity is considered weakness. Nevertheless, the family should have seen this coming from a mile away.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

It is a terrible thing that this kid has cancer. Cancer sucks.

Landlord wants to make more money. He has every right to as long as he is not breaking the law.

A landlord is NEVER your friend. Not your psychologist. Nada. Just your landlord.

Should he be fair cause the kid has cancer? Yeah, but does he have to? No.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

I hope that the landlord eats sh*t and dies

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

AFineCo 

I'm betting Steve Croman comes to a compromise. You can call him an evil landlord and all, but I have seen him do charitable things in the past, and I would not be surprised to see it again. As commented before, this is indeed a capitalist country. It is not Croman's fault for this unfortunate illness. Hope the kid perseveres.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

The wild vortex of life sometimes whirls us up into the giddy ether, and sometimes hurls us down to the scouring center of things.

The moment when we are most done to is also the moment when we may, ourselves, likewise do the most.

The trick is to act.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

Owner Occupied Homes ONLY! U.S. Constitutional Rights always! What is right about a democratic government that does not allow it's citizens our constitutional rights?!

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

zuni 

You failed to report that the parents work at NYU. Let me see. Who is it around the village that might own one or two (or 3,000) apartments that might be provided at a reduced rate to a suffering local family. Maybe someone who really ought to give something back to the community. Let me see. Who could that be. Hmmm.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

Even if you believe that government should support people in this situation, forcing landlords to rent at lower rates is pushing the burden onto individuals, not societies. If you want to provide support, then taxes are the way to do it, not forcing an individual to lose money because they arbitrarily happen to own the building where these people live.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

Should we have food stamps or force grocery stores to sell milk to the poor for a nickel? Why is it any different when it comes to housing?

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest 

@guest #14: Home ownership occupation is a guaranteed constitutional right, all else is commerce, while bovine dairy ingested helps create conditions for cancer!

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



I feel bad for people who are suffering and nothing is more cruel than a child with cancer. However, if the landlord keeps their rent artificially low does he get a break on real estate taxes? How about fuel for heat? Or plumbers, or roofers, or painters, or electricians? Do they pitch in and reduce their rates because he is giving these folks a break on rent? Owning real estate is a business with risks associated with it and landlords should be compensated for the risks they take.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



@guest #16: The archaic term 'landlord' needs to become archaic in a country with constitutional rights that include owner occupied homes only!

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



@guest #15: do you mind letting me know where in the amendment or where in the constitution itself it guarantees the right to own a home? Oh, and where it says that one may take that home from another individual if the government does not supply it.

Thanks,
The Real World

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



@guest #18: I will not respond to retards, this is not a beginners league! Owner Occupied HOMes ONLY, U.S. Constitutional Rights, Amen!

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



@guest #19: Translated to mean it is isn't in there, thanks

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

guest



The cancer and the rent increase are unrelated, of course.

When it rains, it pours.

Posted October 8, 2012 | 8:00 PM

Something to say?

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