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Subject: My submission on unfair lease conditions

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My submission:

When I first moved to Melbourne I had the misfortune of renting a bedsit type apartment off a student housing group/corporation. It was filthy when I arrived - I scrubbed it wall to floor and even ended up getting a foot fungus from the filthy shower even though I cleaned it! When I left I got 15 dollars withheld from my bond for 'soap residue in the shower.' Now if there was soap it was invisible to human eyes and would have been microscopic residue of the cleaning products I had used to make the shower immaculate before leaving. In addition to this I forgot to take my very expensive IKEA Curtains down when I moved and then was refused them back when I realised my mistake - the landlord likes them, was the real estate agent's response. I miss them to this day - really nice autumn leaf pattern. I was too scared and inexperienced to speak up for myself so I lost my curtains, I lost 15 bucks and technically I was supposed to forevermore tick the box that I had, had bond withheld previously on any renting application from. This would have cost me any and all rentals I applied for after that. Real estate agents and land lords need to have reasonable expectations of tenants and be fair, not bullying and greedy.

This submission to the Victorian Government consultation on the RTA Regulatory Impact Statement was sent via Tenants Victoria's website. It represents the views of the author only and does not represent the views of Tenants Victoria.