Highlights of findings from our research on restroom availability in Downtown DC

People for Fairness Coalition (PFFC)
Downtown DC Public Restroom Initiative

Study reports available at:
www.pffcdc.org//what-we-do-public-restrooms
Availability of Public Restrooms off the Mall in Downtown DC

**Methodology**

- Internet search/phone calls to identify public restrooms in downtown DC (museums, libraries, tourist sites, police stations, fire stations).
- Visits to sites identified to see if restroom(s) was/were: clean & safe, identify any logistical issues in accessing them, hours available.

**What we Found**

Five open during the day *(four with limited hours)*:
- National Portrait Gallery,
- National Building Museum,
- Union Station,
- White House Visitors Center,
- Restroom in Lafayette Square

Two open 24/7 *(far from areas populated late at night)*:
- Lincoln Memorial
- Jefferson Memorial

No signs to tell you where they are
Businesses with restrooms open to the public

Methodology

Selected five areas in downtown DC with high levels of pedestrian traffic:

• Georgetown (along M St)
• Dupont Circle (along Conn. Ave and P St)
• Columbia Heights (along 14th & Irving Sts)
• Gallery Place (along 7th St and H St)
• K St (between 13th & 17th Sts)

Between Jan. & Mar, 2015 visited 85 establishments with restrooms to see if locks/combinations on restroom doors, if could get in, if clean & safe, hours.

Repeated visits in 2016 and 2017 to see if facilities with restrooms open during the public during the prior year had decided to limit restroom use to patrons and. In 2016, to see if discrimination against housing unstable.

What we Found

• 51% (43 of 85) of private restrooms visited in 2015 open to the public
• 33% (28 of 85) of private restrooms visited in 2016 open to the public
• 13% (11 of 85) of private restrooms visited in 2017 open to the public
• No signs to let you know where they are
• Discrimination against individuals who are housing unstable