

Dear Sir/Madame:

I am happy to be allowed the opportunity to tell you the positive economic effect Airbnb has had on my life. I am a recently retired school teacher living on a small pension and my husband's social security death benefits. Together these are not sufficient to make my mortgage payment and meet my other financial needs. I have been constantly faced with the dilemma of having to leave the home where I have lived for 29 years, and where we raised our children. For the last seven months hosting guests through Airbnb has made it possible for me to stay here. Airbnb is a great way for middle class families to earn extra income.

My experience with Airbnb has been only positive. They have a process whereby I get to know my guests before I approve them to stay with me. After "conversations" via the internet, I get to make the decision whether to approve them as my guests. I have *never* felt unsafe or even uneasy with *anyone* who has stayed with me. As a matter of fact, I have made new friends from around the world! This type of "sharing" is good for society and international relations!

While staying with me, my guests always ask for recommendations about places to go and restaurants to try. Almost all of my recommendations are for local, small businesses. It has been my pleasure to introduce them to my city and to some of my favorite eateries, which has had a positive effect on my neighborhood's economy.

Please consider that Airbnb is best new concept that benefits middle class families and small, local businesses.