A man with dark hair, wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt and a backpack, is shown from the side. He is holding his right hand up, palm facing forward, in a universal 'stop' gesture. The background is a blurred landscape with hills and a cloudy sky. The overall tone is serious and cautionary.

HOW TO IDENTIFY ILLEGAL HOSTS

AUSTRALIA

SIGNS OF ILLEGAL ROOMS & PROVIDERS. **BEWARE!**

- No lease agreement / contract is signed on arrival (or they hand you a handwritten piece of paper). Once you check in they restrict access to certain areas.
- Keys are shared with other tenants/ guests
- There are no shared / social areas (people are sleeping in living and dining rooms)
- It is overcrowded. For example: A max 4 people in a 2 bedroom apartment.
- Rooms have no windows and/or doors
- When checking-in, after verifying your identity, they will also want to keep your ID documents with them (i.e. passport).
- They ask for more than 4 weeks of bond. They ask you to pay it in cash and they won't provide a receipt (therefore you won't have any proof of payment records).

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE YOURSELF INVOLVED?

- Please do take action. Many students don't share their experiences because they are afraid that they will have retaliation from the host, be deported or be in trouble. Rest assured that your wellbeing is at the top of your institution's priority list. If your host becomes aggressive or threatening look for help.
- We suggest you talk to your institution. Most education institutions have support teams prepared to help you. They will provide good advice on how to move forward.
- We suggest you talk to the police. The police force in Australia is trustworthy.

Unfortunately there are landlords taking advantage of students. Their only interest is making a profit by jeopardising the students wellbeing. These are some tips for you to be able to identify them. **BE VIGILANT.**



Be Cautious

Don't Jeopardise

Your Well-being

You already committed tens of thousands of dollars in order to come live and study in Australia.

Don't ruin your entire experience by trying to save a very small percentage in relation to your accommodation.

Or even worse by ending living in an illegal place or being a victim of a scam.

Think about it:

The difference between having a great or dreadful experience could be based on a few dollars every week.

Arriving to a decent room (even if its shared, basic or not modern), will bring you peace of mind. This is worth every cent. Your well-being since day one is a priority.

Remember this is temporary. Once you arrive in Australia you will have the chance to visit and inspect different rooms in order to find something that accommodates your liking and budget.

INTERESTING FACT:

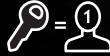
The contacts you make in Australia will not only improve your personal experience, but also help you get a job and get ahead faster. It all depends with whom you live with (you will make many of these contacts at your place or residence) thus try to live in places where locals live as well.



Warning Signs



SIGN A LEASE AGREEMENT.



ONE SET OF KEYS PER PERSON.



ID VERIFICATION IS OK, BUT THEY SHOULD **NOT** KEEP YOUR ID DOCUMENTS.



THE MAXIMUM BOND AMOUNT IS 4 WEEKS RENT.



PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE SLEEPING IN SOCIAL / COMMON AREAS.



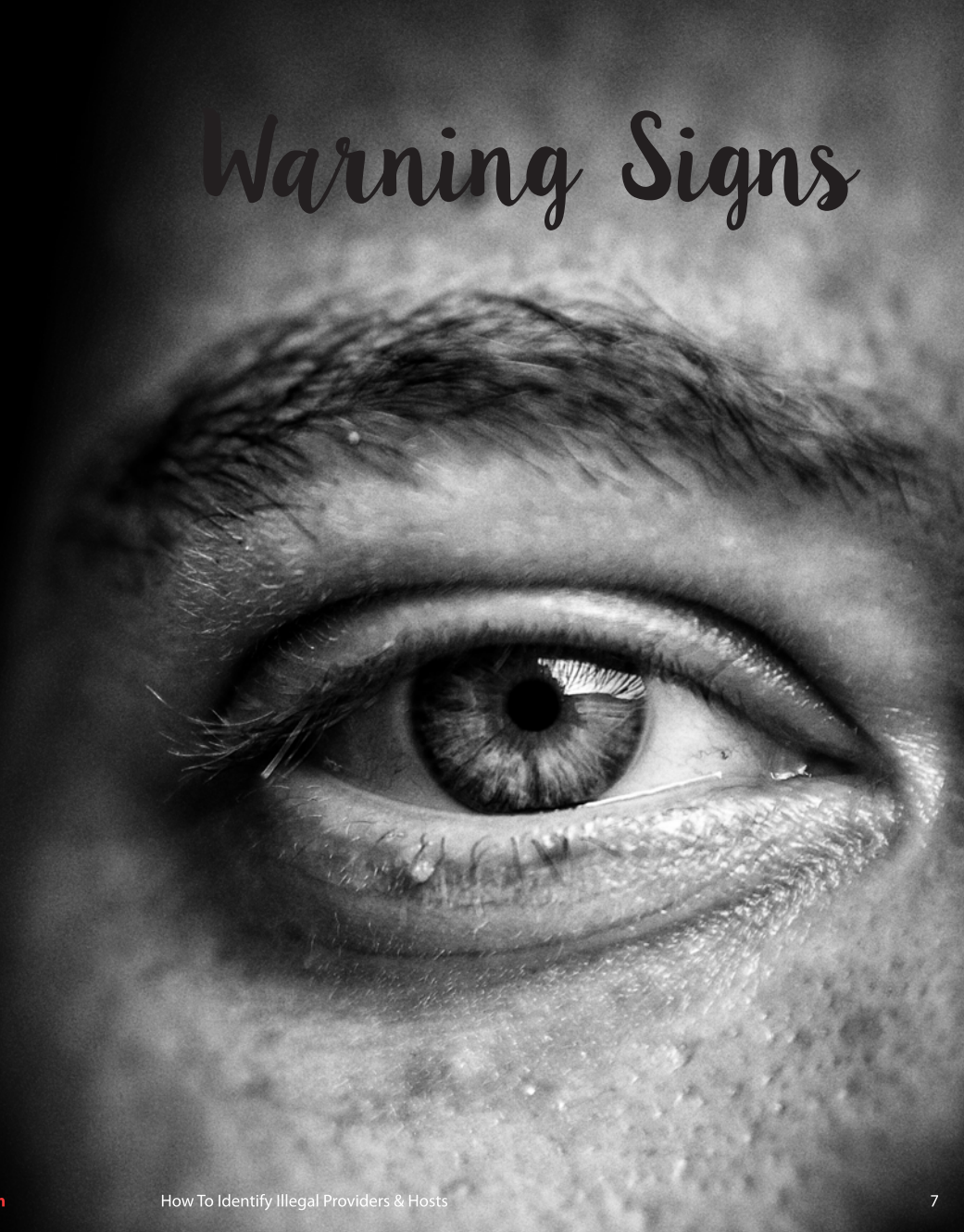
PLACE SHOULD NOT BE OVERCROWDED.



THE ROOM HAS NO WINDOWS OR DOOR




IF YOU FEEL THREATENED, ASK FOR HELP.



ENJOY LIFE IN AUSTRALIA

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ACCOMMODATION
EXPERTS
AUSTRALIA

BEDSSI.COM

A black and white photograph showing a person's arm and hand resting on a pillow with a wavy, abstract pattern. The hand is clenched into a fist. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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