ear and embarrassment
he part of the victims.
an Aarstad, a volunteer
ie St. Louis Rape Crisis
er, says that many rape
ms who call the Center
feelings of guilt. (The
er is a non-profit in-
orated organization de-
ed to aid rape victims
ie St. Louis area.)
In one case, a woman was
ing down the street, and
an forced her into a ga-
and raped her. She felt
ty about even being on the
et. She felt she had pro-
d it. Because of the guild
ngs women have about
oking rape, they may not
rt the rape," Ms. Aar-
said.
r. Jane Brownstone, cli-
l psychologist at Malcom
s Mental Health Center,
that most rapes go un-
rted because of the stig-
attached to it:
The woman is worried
it what people will think
it her. And this is not a
asy. I know of a case
re a woman was raped,
her husband left her as
esult of it. He felt she
been spoiled in some
"
eporting a rape can lead
npleasant experiences for
victim according to Ms.
stad:
Many of our rape victims,
n they are questioned by
police, are asked several
s, "Did you enjoy it?'
think that someone could
y being threatened, being
in fear for her life, is
culous.
We've had cases where
police have not only treat-
victims coldly or without
ity but have even acted
atious. In one instance a
ceman asked the rape vic-
for a date."
Ms. Aarstad said that for-
ion of an all-woman rape
ad in St. Louis would help
situation a great deal.
he trail is often an un-
asant experience for the
im also. In Missouri, as
nost states, evidence tend-
to show that the victim is
mmoral character is ad-

since penetration [redacted] proach reality, since most
shown." (State v. Dalton) [redacted] rapes are not reported.
There must be evidence to [redacted]

Aldermen Propose Bill To Push Compliance Of Housing Code

BY GREG HOLZHAUER URBAN JOURNALISM CENTER

In an effort to halt the trend toward deterioration of good housing and to stimulate investment in areas beginning to show signs of blight, two St. Louis aldermen are sponsoring passage of a bill designed to force compliance with city minimum housing code standards at point of sale or rental. The aldermen, John Roach of the 28th ward, and Richard Gephardt of the 14th, first introduced the bill in the Board of Aldermen last term. They are now in the process of amending it to meet objections and budgetary considerations.

Basically, the bill requires the issuance of an occupancy permit before a new owner may occupy a transferred property. Issurance of a permit would require compliance with city minimum housing code standards, or the listing of improvements planned that will meet the code within a certain period. The seller is financially responsible for any needed improvements.

"Housing code enforcement has to be keyed to the economics of the transfer and rental of property in order to be effective," Roach said. "You've got to get the seller when he's refinancing. That's the way to get investment.

"You're causing the selling individual to fix the property up to be able to sell. And from the standpoint of the city that's good policy. Most of the people who are selling are severing their relationship with the city. What you want to do is force them to leave their property in good shape."

The bill's provisions for code enforcement would not affect all housing within the city. They provide that badly deteriorated areas where the cost of rehabilitation would be excessive are to be exempted from compliance.

"We could exempt certain areas from the operation of the law on the basis that they are so deteriorated that the law can't help them," Roach said. "What we're trying to do is to relate the use of the technique to the housing conditions that make the technique a viable enforcer of the housing code. And in bomb-out areas you just don't have the refinancing technique."

"Roach admits that some blacks feel the bill is aimed at inhibiting their movement within the city. But he counters with the reflection that the bill would actually help blacks by stimulating investment in areas that are in the process of changing racially. "This type law would have worked very well in an area like Walnut Park, for example, where so much property recently changed hands," he said. "Deterioration is most likely to take place when a great deal of property is sold within a short period."

In addition to exempting building in serverely deteriorated areas, the bill as presently written exempts rental units, except in two experimental areas yet to be chosen, where all units will be controlled.

These two exemptions, in addition to general philosophical and practical objections to city regulations concerning control of property, have led to considerable opposition against occupancy permit legislation. Whether the bill can survive the opposition within and without the Board of Aldermen will depend upon how well aldermen Roach and Gephardt can rally support and win over doubters.

The new program is designed to help those who have lit-

St Louis American Light Oct 25 '73