

From: [GinA <peacivist@peacivist.org>](mailto:GinA <peacivist@peacivist.org>)  
To: ['timthewizard@comcast.net'](mailto:'timthewizard@comcast.net')  
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Subject: Response to Code

Here is my version:

I am not privy to an actual code number, however, this is simply a common sense issue! I have been a remodeling contractor for over 30 years. I have seen it all. Every electrician I have ever spoken with in the last 20 years have told me that kitchens and bathrooms or anyplace where water/water pipes and electrical outlets can be touched at the same time require a (GFCI) ground fault point of use outlet or a ground fault circuit breaker in the electrical panel. I have no reason to doubt them and it also makes perfect sense since electricity will take the easiest path to ground and if that happens to be through a human body then that is what it will do. Perhaps this rule is only for new construction and/or remodeling situations and that existing is grandfathered.

Let's look at it this way – would you want your inquisitive 2 year old child poking a paper clip into that outlet? In my humble professional and personal opinion, code or not, you should require the landlord to spend \$20 to insure the safety and well being of his tenants.

Upon inspection of the basement area (which is a disgusting mess by the way) I noticed in the corner of Kelsey's apartment a large concrete pier type thing, its purpose I am unsure of and which is also hosting a fairly good sized vermin nest. Next to this concrete pier is a post that is supposed to be for temporary use only, most of them say so on the box they come in, "TEMPORARY USE ONLY". This one sits on the edge of a 6"x18" round concrete pad and the screw part is extended to almost maximum. These two in combination increase the possibility of a "kick out". This post should be replaced with a permanent concrete-filled post perhaps incorporating this mass of a concrete pier in the corner.

On the other side of the building in the basement is a steel cable with a huge turnbuckle. Is this a permanent fix? I think not. Obviously the building has shifted causing someone to install this contraption in an attempt to bring the house back into place. This needs further investigation as to attachment points, what it is actually doing, is it keeping the building from "spreading" and what the permanent fix will be. I understand that older homes have problems, but this one has many serious problems that the slumlord, oops, landlord is simply doing as little as he can get away with.