
Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Michael Gubicza through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories on

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John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center
1315 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
archives@waygay.org
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### Summary Information

**Repository:** John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center  
**Creator:** American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania. Greater Philadelphia Branch.  
**Title:** American Civil Liberties Union, Greater Philadelphia Branch book production files for "Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania"  
**ID:** Ms.Coll.22  
**Date [inclusive]:** 1973-1981  
**Date [bulk]:** 1980-1981  
**Physical Description:** 1 Linear Feet  
**Physical Description:** 2 boxes  
**Physical Location:** Collections 14  
**Language of the Material:** English  
**Abstract:** The American Civil Liberties Union is a non-profit organization dedicated to defending and protecting individual rights and freedoms. The American Civil Liberties Union Greater Philadelphia Branch book production files for *Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania*, 1973-1981, are comprised of chapter drafts, correspondence, and financial records relating to the publication of the handbook.

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### Biographical/Historical Note

"Founded in 1920, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is the nation's foremost guardian of liberty. [It is] a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to defending and protecting our individual rights and personal freedoms.

"Through advocacy, education and litigation, [its] attorneys, advocates and volunteers work to preserve and promote civil liberties including the freedom of speech, the right to privacy, reproductive freedom, and equal treatment under the law. [The ACLU stands] in defense of the rights of women and minorities, workers, students, immigrants, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, and others who have seen..."
bias and bigotry threaten the rights afforded to all of us in this country by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights." ("About Us")

"The ACLU of Pennsylvania actively supports the struggle for lesbian and gay civil rights, participating in a broad range of legal, legislative, and public education activities. [Its] legal clients have included numerous high school students working to form Gay-Straight Alliances at their schools, while [its] legislative department works to secure passage of statewide employment protections, anti-bullying statutes, and other beneficial legislation while opposing measures like the proposed anti-marriage amendment. The Greater Philadelphia Chapter serves Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties." ("LGBT Rights")

Bibliography:


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Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of chapter drafts and correspondence with contributors, grant applications and fundraising materials, budgets and financial records, and various other papers relating to the writing and publication of Lesbians and Gay Men: The Law in Pennsylvania, A Handbook.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center

1315 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
archives@waygay.org
Conditions Governing Access Note

Contact John J. Wilcox Jr. LGBT Archives of Philadelphia for information about accessing this collection.

Processing Information Note

Summary descriptive information on this collection was compiled in 2011-2012 as part of a pilot project conducted by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to make better known and more accessible the largely hidden collections of small, primarily volunteer run repositories in the Philadelphia area. The Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories (HCI-PSAR) was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

This is a preliminary finding aid. No physical processing, rehousing, reorganizing, or folder listing was accomplished during the HCI-PSAR project.

In some cases, more detailed inventories or finding aids may be available on-site at the repository where this collection is held; please contact John J. Wilcox Jr. LGBT Archives of Philadelphia directly for more information.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials Note

Princeton University, Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, Public Policy Papers: American Civil Liberties Union records.

Controlled Access Headings

- Gays -- Legal status, laws, etc. -- Pennsylvania
- Homosexuality -- Law and legislation -- Pennsylvania
- Lesbians -- Legal status, laws, etc. -- Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania
- Philadelphia (Pa.)
- Sex and law -- Pennsylvania
- American Civil Liberties Union.